

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
ADJOURNED MEETING
MARCH 28, 2011**

At an adjourned meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Floyd County, Virginia, held on Monday, March 28, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the County Administration Building, thereof;

PRESENT: David W. Ingram, Chairman; J. Fred Gerald, Vice Chairman; Virgel H. Allen, Case C. Clinger, William R. Gardner, Jr., Board Members; Daniel J. Campbell, County Administrator; Terri W. Morris, Assistant County Administrator.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the reading of the handicapping statement.

At 7:00 p.m., the Chairman called for the Public Comment Period.

Mr. Gary Bradshaw, representing Check District, Vice President of PTA, also have a 3rd grader, 4th grader, 7th grader – as you prepare the budget for next year, I'd like to thank you for your hard work and difficult decisions that you're about to make. On behalf of the PTA and the parents of Check, I ask that as you move forward that you remember the excellent work and the results that our teachers have already attained. We ask that as you look at next year's budget; keep in mind the class sizes. Really, that allows our teachers to excel now but next year as well. Our 4th and 5th grade classes currently have a ratio of greater than 1 to 25, those are pretty big classes. I have children in those grades and I know the challenges that they have with 1 to 27 and 1 to 28. As you look forward to next year, if you'd take that into consideration I would appreciate it. I know you have some hard decisions to make and I just wanted to thank you for what you've done and keep that in mind as you move forward.

Ms. Penny Ernest, Willis Elementary School PTA President – I highly support and am very concerned about our schools to not cut the budget, but to increase the funding to our schools for the betterment of our students. Giving a raise to our teachers and staff who have worked so hard to meet all the requirements for our students. Giving a raise to our teachers to keep them in Floyd County, I would hate to lose any of our skilled teachers because they know what is needed for our students. I think it is chief anymore with the rising costs of gas, medical expenses and insurance, they need to be able to make ends meet as well, they haven't had a raise in 2-3 years I understand. Smaller class sizes, just what Gary Bradshaw said, to the ones that already have 26-30 students in the classroom; students have a hard time learning and getting aid from the teachers when they need it because the class sizes are too large. Let's not forget the No Child Left Behind. Keep all the teachers and teachers aides, they are important as well. I realize there is a decrease in enrollment and possible cut of \$200,000 in State funds is a concern of a shortfall of over \$800,000 for the next school year. There has not been a tax increase since 2006, the proposed tax is a 3% increase, but an increase of 5% would enable you to treat our schools better and do things that are needed for our schools. We need to support and fund our schools, our

children's education is very important and they need the funding to help them learn and mature. Their future is at stake. Thank you.

Ms. Angie Gallimore – pretty much what they have said, I will back them on that also. I appreciate what you do and I know what you have to do is hard; it is hard to distribute this money and feel like you're making a difference. I'm a parent also at Floyd Elementary, have two second graders, I'm also in the PTA. I'm here to give my comments concerning teacher salaries. I volunteer and substitute as a teacher and teachers assistant. I see what teachers and their assistants do on a daily basis. Each year they have been asked to deliver quality education and get high test scores, to be evaluated on a State level. I've seen teacher assistants leave and the positions not be filled. When an aide is sick or needs to be out, other aides are moved in and out of regular classrooms which disrupts the planned lessons and they are being asked to adapt constantly to work the schedules. I've seen them schedule parental conferences during their planning times and after work. We've asked them to have more children in the classroom and still provide the same quality education year after year. I do think they need a raise. I think as a taxpayer and parent, I'm perfectly willing to see that happen, I think all of the parents would, grandparents included. Our children are an investment. I don't want to lose the teachers. I did some research and found that 15 teachers in our schools drive to Floyd with the high gas prices. I just want you to think about it and really consider giving them that raise. Thank you.

Mr. Douglas Phillips, Chairman Floyd County School Board, Indian Valley District – we've had meetings and conversations with all the Board members throughout the budget process. We're faced here with times that young people have never faced before in my 23 years on this board. Education is not what you can gauge from one day, or one week, it is the rest of their lifetime and what we can all do for them. You've all heard the saying it takes a village to raise a child; Floyd County has done a good job at that. I'd really like to ask your support to help us keep doing that. It all lays right here with our two boards, with what we need to do for our young people. This will follow them all their lives, it is a global economy as we all know and it is really going to be a challenge for our young people today after they graduate high school, making a living and functioning in this world for a lot of years. Thanks.

After no further comments from the audience, the Chairman declared the Public Comment Period closed.

Mr. Dan Huff, Virginia Department of Transportation, next appeared before the Board. He presented a list of three possible projects to add to the proposed six-year secondary road plan for the public hearing. These three projects were still pending from a previous plan: Route 646, allocated \$317,707, spent \$4199; Project 635, allocated \$107,826, spent \$15,653; Route 768, allocated \$39,000, spent \$0; County-wide traffic services, allocated \$1,222,465. He reported that the advertisement will run in the paper on Thursday for the public hearing on April 12. The Route 750 project will be listed in the draft plan. The Board requested accident data on the three projects listed for possible inclusion in the plan. These funds can be used for any secondary roads; these are not required to be used on the federally funded connector routes such as the other funds were.

Agenda Item 4 – Discussion on proposed redistricting/ordinance – schedule public hearing. Mr. Campbell commented that the draft ordinance can be prepared for the Board’s review once the new boundaries are decided by the Board.

Consensus of the Board was for staff to prepare the draft ordinance from the last draft map as discussed. A public hearing will be scheduled after the ordinance is reviewed by the Board.

Agenda Item 5 – Work session on proposed FY12 budget. Mr. Campbell commented that in reference to a tax rate, the Commissioner needs a rate by April 15 if at all possible. Discussion followed on different tax rates for the public hearing.

On a motion of Supervisor Gardner, seconded by Supervisor Allen, and carried, it was resolved to authorize the County Administrator to advertise for a public hearing on April 20, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the County Administration Building, on the proposed FY12 budget including a real estate tax rate of \$0.52/\$100 and a personal property tax rate of \$3.45/\$100.

- Supervisor Clinger – nay
- Supervisor Gardner – aye
- Supervisor Allen – aye
- Supervisor Gerald – nay
- Supervisor Ingram – aye

On a motion of Supervisor Gardner, seconded by Supervisor Allen, and carried, it was resolved to adjourn.

- Supervisor Clinger – aye
- Supervisor Gardner – aye
- Supervisor Allen – nay
- Supervisor Gerald – aye
- Supervisor Ingram – aye

Daniel J. Campbell, County Administrator

David W. Ingram, Chairman, Board of Supervisors