

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
October 11, 2011**

At the regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Floyd County, Virginia, held on Tuesday, October 11, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. in the Board Room of the County Administration Building, thereof;

PRESENT: David W. Ingram, Chairman (entered the meeting at 8:35 a.m.); J. Fred Gerald, Vice Chairman; Virgel H. Allen, Case C. Clinger (entered the meeting at 8:55 a.m.), William R. Gardner, Jr., Board Members; Daniel J. Campbell, County Administrator; Terri W. Morris, Assistant County Administrator.

The Vice Chairman called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with the reading of the handicapping statement.

The Opening Prayer was led by Vice Chairman Gerald.

Board Member Allen led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of September 13, 2011 were presented to the Board for review and approval.

On a motion of Supervisor Allen, seconded by Supervisor Gardner, and carried, it was resolved to approve the minutes of September 13, 2011 as presented.

Supervisor Clinger – absent
Supervisor Gardner – aye
Supervisor Allen – aye
Supervisor Gerald – aye
Supervisor Ingram – absent

The monthly disbursements were presented to the Board for approval. A list of additional disbursements was presented for the Board's consideration.

On a motion of Supervisor Allen, seconded by Supervisor Gardner, and carried, it was resolved to approve the monthly disbursements and additions as presented.

Supervisor Clinger – absent
Supervisor Gardner – aye
Supervisor Allen – aye
Supervisor Gerald – aye
Supervisor Ingram – absent

Sheriff Shannon Zeman next appeared before the Board. He reported:

- Vehicle purchase has been made
- Bike patrol has begun, two bikes were purchased;

- Radio equipment install went smooth and we really appreciate that purchase.

Supervisor Gerald questioned the meth problem in the County.

Sheriff Zeman commented that we aggressively continue to go after the ones who are distributing it and using it. We did get another lab about a week and a half ago. There is expense in cleaning up the labs. There were children involved so Social Services had some expenses also. The meth and other drugs drive almost all the crimes we have. When you ask the people what made them do some of the crimes, they almost always say to support their drug habit. The Judge that we now have has already told folks in drug cases that they will be seeing the inside jail walls.

Chairman Ingram entered the meeting at 8:35 a.m.

The Vice Chairman turned the chair over to the Chairman.

Agenda Item 7a – Subdivision plats as approved by Agent for September 2011. Ms. Lydeana Martin, Subdivision Agent, appeared before the Board. She reported that plat numbers were up some in September.

In other items, she reported:

- Planning Commission will be voting on the Comprehensive Plan at their November meeting. We have added a definitions section and an update on TMDL. Mountain Ridge Construction Authorization was added to the list of tools if it is needed.
- Task Forces have been meeting regularly – one is specifically looking at land use.
- It is Floyd County's turn to host the annual Planning District Commission meeting/dinner. This will be on October 27 at Chateau Morrisette. Around 150 invitations have been sent out and invitations provided to the Board as well.
- Tourism – 30 members of the Virginia Tourism Corporation came to Floyd County a couple of weeks ago. They were doing a FAM tour, which is familiarization, so they can actually see communities and see what is in each area. We had about three hours with them. We walked around the town area and then had a video presentation of the outlying areas of the County.
- Advertisement was placed in the Blue Ridge Parkway magazine as the Board approved last month. We have completed numerous advertisements in other publications that were free.
- Received invitation from Heartwood for a one day showcase of the County for both artisans and the products they make.
- Destination Marketing organization board meeting was attended by Ms. Grim to try to stay up-to-date on the areas they are working on.
- Economic Development matters – the EDA has made two major research and development announcements recently. They received two grants from the Tobacco Commission: 1) a new biomedical start-up company that is opening an office in Floyd from their main office in the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center, received a \$700,000 grant. They have received numerous awards from the National Science Foundation. 2) for H&V, a \$750,000 grant was received which they will match dollar for

dollar with their own funds for development of the next generation of advanced filtration products. Both grants are very important, they are “innovation that creates value”. The EDA has worked very, very hard over the past year to receive these funds, especially the Chairman, Jack Russell who has put so many hours into meetings with companies, State officials and others, if you get a chance to thank him. I also want you to know that your Chairman has done a lot of work to build relationships with the Tobacco Commission members and other economic development folks in Richmond. We’ve had a challenge in getting Tobacco Commission funds. They have given out \$900 million in the last decade and Floyd had only received \$75,000 of that. I’m pleased to let you know that the work that your Chairman has put into building those relationships has paid off to the tune of \$1.45 million that Floyd has received for these two projects.

- The EDA has recommended a technology zone ordinance to you which will be provided when appropriate because of our close ties to Virginia Tech and our advanced technology with Citizens.

Mr. Campbell commented that the building permit values spiked up considerably in September, do not know the reason why.

Agenda Item 7b – Courthouse repairs – Mr. Campbell commented that a contract was awarded to Graham, Nolen and Underwood in the amount of \$118,660. This project will be financed by a VDOT refund to be received in the near future. The contractor has mobilized and begun work.

Supervisor Clinger entered the meeting at 8:55 a.m.

Vice Chairman Gerald extended an invitation to the Board from the New River Valley Planning District Commission for a tour of the Volvo plant on October 27 from 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Mr. Gerald Duncan, President of the Virginia Treasurer’s Association, next appeared before the Board to present a plaque of recognition and appreciation to Ms. Mary Turman, who will be retiring as Floyd County’s Treasurer at the end of the year.

The Chairman next called for the Public Comment Period.

Mr. Jesse Lawrence, Locust Grove District – I missed last month’s meeting due to some property problems. But I was told and I also noticed that you all discussed sending the meals tax issue onto the General Assembly. I appreciate you doing that. I understand that the request will go forward in late November with the legislative letter. I hope that it doesn’t get lost in the letter. I think what I would like all of us to do is get behind this thing and promote it in the County and talk it up and also to talk to all the legislative folks that are representing us to see if we can get them behind it. You all could be very useful in that. If we could some information in a letter form so that we could also contact them, we can try to push it forward. You know better than I that the revenue issue is upon us again for next year. We have a school district that is already clamoring for more money. You folks have got your challenges that are going to come

up in the next year. We've got to find a way to generate more revenue. I would suggest, and I'm not sure exactly what the way to do this would be, but I think you need to do a study, it wouldn't take much, just canvas what would a tax of certain percentages, get? So we can all understand what we're working for, 1%, 2%. I think some simple calls, I can't make those calls myself or I would do it, to go to businesses and say, tell me what your sales were last year so I can get some idea of the revenue. I think you all could do that, you'd get more cooperation, and get some idea; I wouldn't think it would be a big deal to do that. If we're going to go forward with this and request something, we have to be able to justify it to the voters and the public, then we need to have something that says what it is worth to us and how it will help us. In supporter of the school system and in support of all the other things that are going on that we're going to need revenue for. I would also challenge you to look for other revenue sources. I don't know what else is out there, sin taxes, or what else we can do in terms of generating other revenue. This meals tax, most of that revenue is going to come from other people coming through the County and utilizing our infrastructure and our facilities, part of the tourism thing. There must be, perhaps, some other opportunities. You folks know better so I'll leave it up to you but I think we need to get on with it. I was here a year ago when I started beating the band about this tourism plan. Well, what's happened in the last year? Not a whole lot. We continue to carry on, like what you heard a little while ago in terms of economic people. In terms of actually implementing that locally and using those revenues and so forth to benefit us by increasing activities, we haven't made a lot of progress. Here we are, we have another year rolling around to work on the budget. I think it is time that we need to be getting serious. I will be speaking at the School Board meeting tonight and challenge them to see that Dr. Harris, and ask you to do the same, when he gets up to speed, to come back and tell you how good the budget is, what has he found, what can he improve on it, that will give you some indication of what we're going to roll into next year. But we need to again, to start now, to see where he stands and what he has on his mind. I think that would be instrumental for everybody.

Mr. Jack Wall, Little River District – I am here this morning to invite the Board of Supervisors to come out to a training program that is being put on at 7:00 p.m. on November 10 at the Floyd Country Store. It is a program that was distributed by Billy Weitzenfeld, which is a presentation of the energy audit. I think you all are aware of this. We had a group of people come together, Shawn McGinnis from Virginia Tech primarily, to gather information and come up with an approximate amount of the energy being used in Floyd. That will be presented. So Shawn will be there among a number of other people. This is being done as a collective presentation; it is more than just looking at where we are now in terms of energy. But also what we can do in the future to reduce energy demand and find other ways to get energy produced in our County. There are really lots of opportunities. One of the presentations that evening is going to be Greg Lewis who is the new Executive Director for the Community Alliance for Energy Efficiency, which is a broad based weatherization program that provides opportunities for all kinds of homeowners and building owners to get access to independently verified ways to improve the energy efficiency of buildings. Building efficiency is a critical factor, particularly in Floyd, as energy prices go up, it is difficult for people to keep up with energy bills. There are a lot of things that can be done and this program provides some options. This program comes together with the comprehensive plan to assess by professionals who are trained in the field to work with ways to evaluate how buildings can be cost effectively retrofitted for energy efficiency and then have loan money to be able to do different things with loan funds. Greg

Lewis is going to present about that. There will be a general discussion, because Floyd does have excellent opportunities to become energy independent by using biomass, wind, and energy efficiency. We have a lot of opportunities to do that and improve our situation. Hopefully some of you can come out on November 10.

Ms. Lydeana Martin – there will also be a speaker there on the weatherization program. Many households in Floyd would be eligible. They have funds available for assistance so they wouldn't have to use their own funds to improve the weatherization of their homes.

Mr. Wayne Boothe, Courthouse District – I just want to turn in some more signatures opposing the windmills. Thank you.

Mr. Gary Ytema, I live on Ridgeview Road in the Burks Fork District – I am here to talk to you some about my concerns that I have on wind turbines that are being proposed for Wills Ridge. The land where I live, I don't know too much about where these potential windmills are going, but they potentially could be within 1100-1200' from my house on Wills Ridge. So I became interested once I read about this in the paper and have investigated some. I began looking on the internet and mostly wanted to concentrate on the noise problems with these things, and how we would be affected. I found several things that I was surprised about; one was how much you could find about how many wind turbines have been installed in our country and worldwide. I've got a few things here and some that I'd like to hand out to you. What I found first off was that there have been many community groups and organizations that have been formed as a result of wind turbines being proposed for their communities. About 2/3rds of them were formed after the fact, after they found out what the noise level would be and how it would affect their quality of life. They are describing a quality of life that has been severely affected. Most of these people have very little legal standing to do anything about it. The permits that were written don't give them much legal standing. They are expressing themselves and describing what their lives are like. I also found a web site that I thought was fair and unbiased, it is Acoustic Ecology Institute, it is a science organization and they dedicated some of their space to wind energy turbines, because it is such an issue and so much going on with them. It is very good. In this handout, I'll show you how you can look at it on the internet if you want. It has the address. I've also printed out some stories, which is mostly what I have here, stories of people and how they've been affected. I would encourage you to look at them. From what I can see, it is discouraging to me, and a concern, that our neighborhood is going to be affected. There is another site, an industrial wind action group. It is more dedicated, again, in an unbiased way, toward just wind turbines and how they affect people. Finally, I found from a pure science standpoint, an interesting document that came from some action taken by citizens in Oakley, Michigan. It is not a big place, a small community like Floyd. They had contacted and contacted scientists, to search for and find out scientifically what information is relative to noise of wind turbines. He found that NASA from 1980-1990, had done considerable research on turbines of this size, blades of this size, under different weather conditions. It makes for good reading. There is not too much technical to it but essentially some of the issues and the conclusions show that, from pure scientific research, that noise is a problem. It should be expected. I've looked some at what can be done. If you look at it, you'll find a common thread through all the research, that the setbacks are critical, they are not large enough. Most are a mile which seems like a lot but it is not enough. Have some grounds for the permits that in the

permits, I'm not sure how they were done but they were State Corporation Commission permits, I think possibly locally you would have an influence as to how those permits are written and what the contents of the permits are. But there should be something in there about the level of sound and from what I can find, for the most part, in a rural area, 35 decibels is about typical. If you go above that, and many wind energy firms are saying 50 is ok. But the difference between 30 and 50 is like four times. For every 10 decibels, the sound level doubles. The science of it gets to be difficult but it is important because it is definitive, and to me it is a way to eliminate a lot of the debate. I appreciate this time and I'd like to leave these handouts with you. Thank you.

Ms. Ramona Dixon, Courthouse District – on this gentleman's thought, I would like to read an article that was in The New York Times on September 28, 2011, and it concerns a place called Craftsbury, Vermont. She read:

Bulldozers arrived a couple of weeks ago at the base of nearby Lowell Mountain and began clawing their way through the forest to the ridgeline, where Green Mountain Power plans to erect 21 wind turbines, each rising to 459 feet from the ground to the tip of the blades. We were told recently that the wind turbines that could be possibly be 490 feet and this came from Nordex themselves. Back to the article, this desecration, in the name of "green" energy, is taking place in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom on one of the largest tracts of private wild land in the state. Here and in other places – in Maine and off Cape Cod, for instance – the allure of wind power threatens to destroy environmentally sensitive landscapes. Erecting those turbines along more than three miles of ridgeline requires building roads – with segments of the ridgeline road itself nearly half as wide as one of Vermont's interstate highways – in places where the travel lanes are now made by bear, moose, bobcat and deer. We don't have moose here in Floyd County but we have all the others. It requires changing the profile of the ridgeline to provide access to cranes and service vehicles. This is being accomplished with approximately 700,000 pounds of explosives that will reduce parts of the mountaintops to rubble that will be used to build the access roads. It also requires the clear-cutting on steep slopes of 134 acres of healthy forest, now ablaze in autumn colors. Studies have shown that clear-cutting can lead to an increase in erosion to high-quality headwater streams, robbing them of life and fouling the water for downstream residents, wild and human. The electricity generated by this project will not appreciably reduce Vermont's greenhouse gas emissions. Only 4 percent of those emissions now result from electricity generation. (Nearly half come from cars and trucks and another third from the burning of heating oil.) Wind doesn't blow all the time, or at an optimum speed, so the actual output of the turbines – the "capacity factor" – is closer to about one-third of the rated capacity of 63 megawatts. But in those same Green mountain ridgelines that attracted nearly 14 million visitors to Vermont in 2009, generating \$1.4 billion in tourism spending. The mountains are integral to our identity as the Green Mountain State, and provide us with clean air and water and health wildlife populations. I believe our tourism here is just as important. Vermont's proud history of leadership in developing innovative, effective environmental protection is being tossed aside. This project will set an ominous precedent by ripping apart a healthy, intact ecosystem in the guise of doing something about climate change. In return, Green Mountain Power will receive \$44 million in Federal production tax credits over 10 years. Ironically, most of the state's environmental groups have not taken a stand on this ecologically disastrous project. Apparently, they are unwilling to stand in the way of "green" energy development, no matter how much destruction it wreaks upon Vermont's core asset: the landscape that has made us who

we are. I think we can relate to that here. The pursuit of large-scale, ridgeline wind power in Vermont represents a terrible error of vision and planning and a misunderstanding of what a responsible society must do to slow the warming of our planet. It also represents a profound failure to understand the value of our landscape to our souls and our economic future in Vermont. This article was written by Steve E. Wright, an aquatic biologist, a former commissioner of the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department. I just thought it was important to share this with you. This is some of what is happening across our country as we speak. Thank you.

Ms. Cecilia Rudisill, Indian Valley District – I know each and every one of you has your likes and dislikes, that needs to be left up to each landowner. You all seen our article in the paper. I do not, and I have talked with different wind energy companies, I have went and visited Beech Ridge and seen these facilities, they are beautiful. And that is in each person's eyes. I know each and every one of you like to cut your lights on, we like our heat in the wintertime, we like to watch tv. But a lot of our elderly people are on fixed incomes, they haven't had the opportunities to have great paying jobs and stuff. Their husbands and fathers have had farms in their families for hundreds of years but the taxes are hurting them. I worked at a bank and they would open Christmas clubs to be able to pay their taxes. I know everybody thinks that the landowners will get something out of this. But what me and my husband are fighting for is not money for us but for the elderly who are struggling to pay their taxes and hold onto their land. I have only lived here in Floyd County for 7 years but I've lived in this area for almost 50 years. I have watched farms torn to pieces and subdivisions go up. We have bought land, and it really upsets me when people foreclose on land. They put huge restrictions on them, you can't put up a mobile home or this house has to be x thousand feet. That is wrong. God gave us this land and it is only ours while we are here. I hope that our children can hold onto it. My husband has lived here for over 35 years. I know Elmer Underwood, he has a beautiful farm, if he wants a wind turbine, he should be allowed to have it. We are only watching out for the elderly people, we want to see them stay there. If I have to pay a little more taxes, that's fine. I am for them and I understand. We're digging more than 10' to put in a basement, the bases for these structures will not be that deep. The bases are 45'x45'. I do not know anyone that has dug a well that is less than 10' deep. That is all I have to say, thank you.

Chairman Ingram presented six letters to be placed in the record today; all are in opposition to the wind energy.

Mr. Todd Robertson and family – My name is Todd Robertson and I live in the Courthouse District. My family and I relocated to Floyd County last summer. I grew up and resided in Christiansburg my entire life short of the time I served in the United States Army. When I was a child, Christiansburg was considered a small town with a population comparable to that of Floyd County's today. Over the past 40 years, I have witnessed over-growth, over-expansion, and over-development kill the Town of Christiansburg. I grew weary of the noise, flashing lights, constant construction, crime filled-deteriorating school systems, over population and ever increasing taxes. We traveled Floyd County extensively over the past several years. We love Floyd's God-given natural beauty. We enjoy the majestic mountains and ridges, the peaceful stillness of the river and the grace of the farm land. My wife and I wanted to provide a better environment for our children. We wanted them to attend a better and safer school and live

in a smaller and tighter community. I have numerous friends, within my age group, who have also relocated to Floyd County in recent years for the welfare of their families. In 2010, the Lord blessed us with a beautiful home on Ridgeview Road. My wife and I appreciate the serenity, closeness of community and much lower taxes. My children love their new school and are doing very well. We did not come here for a job. My wife and I willfully commute outside of Floyd to work. We know that having the opportunity to live in Floyd is worth the sacrifice. I am extremely concerned about the possibility of a commercial wind farm being constructed on top of Wills Ridge. Wills Ridge is a residential area, commercial wind farms do not belong in residential areas. I am not an engineer but have enough common sense to know that 10 feet of concrete will not sustain a 490 foot tower with a moving head. I have been on top of Wills Ridge and have talked with several of the local residents about this proposed project. Blasting will have to occur in order to erect such an enormous project. Given the close proximity to my well, what will this do to my water? I do not have the money to pay for a new well. Documentation shows property values for the area surrounding a commercial wind farm decrease 20-40 percent. I utilized a VA loan to purchase this house. With a destroyed well and an extreme loss in the value of the property (if the project is allowed) I would not even be able to borrow enough money to drill a new well. What then? I could not live here without water. I cannot sell the house without a well. What option does that leave me? I am confident that we are not the only ones in this situation. I believe that a landowner has a right to do whatever they want on their property, so long as it does not adversely affect their neighbor. I can only speak for myself. I will not do something on my property to make a few dollars that will cost my neighbor thousands. Unfortunately, in today's world we cannot always depend on others to do the right thing. That is why we must have rules, laws and regulations. Without these there will be chaos. I have seen it. I support a County-wide ridgeline protection tower height ordinance, just as Patrick and Tazewell Counties have. I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to do the same.

Ms. Yvonne Hodgkins – I live on the south side of Wills Ridge. I urge you to create height restrictions in Floyd County with regard to industrial development, including wind turbines that developers are proposing to build on Wills Ridge. In addition to the damage that building these wind turbines would cause to the landscape and wildlife by the removal of hundreds of trees and the grading of the ridge top, industrial wind turbines would ruin the quality of life of residents who live near or within viewing distance of the turbines. Developers of industrial wind turbine installations say that new technology makes them quieter than older industrial wind turbines. However, please consider the experience of friends of my family and others who live on Vinalhaven Island, Maine. Industrial wind turbines were installed one-half mile off the coast of Vinalhaven in November 2009. Residents were enthusiastic about the project for both ecological and financial reasons. Only three turbines were installed and they have completely ruined the quality of life for residents on that side of the island. Not only do the residents hear the wind turbines constantly, but they also feel the vibrations of turbine propellers. Many residents can't sleep at night because of the sounds and vibrations of the turbines, but neither can they sell their property because no one wants to buy it. Vinalhaven Island was a beautiful place to live, but it is now a place that is unlivable on that side of the island. Industrial wind turbines in Floyd County would lower property values and therefore, would reduce income generated for the county by property taxes. Industrial wind turbines in Floyd County would also hurt tourism, which has been generating income for the county. Tourists choose to vacation in

lovely, rural locations such as Floyd for beautiful views, which are becoming a rare commodity, and for peace and quiet – not for views or sounds of industrial wind turbines and their power lines. Most importantly, our water quality and quantity are at stake. The blasting and grading that would be necessary to install such tall structures, which I understand to be as much as 490 feet, could affect the quality and quantity of our water – our most precious resource. Floyd County is incredibly fortunate to have excellent water, which flows out of the county and, therefore, is not contaminated by water from neighboring counties. However, our water is a fragile resource. We do not have aquifers that store water for hundreds or thousands of years. Our water comes from fractures in the rock and is recycled and replenished over a much shorter period of just several decades. Where I live at the bottom of Wills Ridge, I have two streams on my property. One of those streams originates in a spring in my backyard and the other stream originates on Wills Ridge. The spring is one of two sources of water for my home. I also have a well, the water from which comes down through the ground from Wills Ridge. I have a pristine, healthy water supply that I believe will be ruined by blasting, grading, runoff, herbicides and water dispersal and by the introduction of thousands of gallons of water during construction and maintenance. Not only would it be extremely difficult for me to sell my home when property values decrease due to industrial wind turbines, but it would be impossible for me to live in my home if my water sources become contaminated or extinguished. Please do not let Floyd County become an experiment for industrial wind turbine installations that won't benefit our county residents but will only detract from what makes Floyd County such a desirable place to live. The assets in our beautiful county are too valuable to tamper with for such an uncertain outcome.

Mr. William G. Hackler – I am writing this letter to voice my concerns over the proposed “windmill” farm for the “Wills Ridge” area. I have 10.5 acres that are nestled at the foot of Wills Ridge. Debbie and I are near retirement age and we wanted to retire to this beautiful area in our last years. We do not have a well, as our source of water comes from an active fresh running spring located 400 feet from our house. Our house is over 100 years old and this spring is the only source of water that has provided good water for many families over many years without fail. If this windmill farm goes forth, and digging out and using explosives to accommodate passage to this project, what effect will this have on my spring? Springs are very tender and their flow can be interrupted so easily. If we were to lose our spring, our property would be worthless! Our lives would be changed forever as well; digging a well would be difficult because our property has a lot of rock, not to mention how deep we would have to go. Our neighbor lives below us and they had to go over 900 feet deep just to find a shallow supply. We cannot afford to lose our spring! Please consider this! In addition, I would like to mention that when Debbie and I first seen this property it has such a breathtaking view. The value of this property was based partly on that view. This windmill farm will definitely change that and lessen the value of our property. We are also concerned about the noise associated with these windmills. We have livestock that could be affected not to mention we ourselves. Please help us to live out our remaining years in peace and comfort by not allowing this windmill farm to proceed. We have worked very hard and have paid dearly to live here. Help us please! Thank you!

E. J. Lester – I was born and raised at White Rock. I went to a one room school until I went to Willis High School. As far back as anyone can remember, my family has lived in this area. We have hunted, lived on and loved Wills Ridge and the land around it. We still do. With

the army and my work, I have traveled a lot of the U.S. and overseas. God made a beautiful world for us to enjoy but no place more beautiful than Floyd County. I no longer live in Floyd County but I still love what it has to offer, family, the wild life, the beauty of the mountains, but I guess most of all I love the peace I find here that I haven't been able to find anywhere else. I hope and pray you will keep Floyd as it is, as God made it, so that when I visit I will find that peace and beauty and know that I am home.

Ms. Vada Reed – Trees turning from spring green to the reds and golds of fall, and then white with snow in winter or encased in ice. Can you ever dream of anything more beautiful? I can't. My mountains are a part of me as much as the air I breathe. Yes my mountains, because I've loved them for 92 years. I can't imagine a world without them as they are now. A world where my grandchildren and great grandchildren will not be able to know the mountains as I have. The wild flowers you can't find everywhere, the birds, the old rock walls or rock chimneys where homes once stood. Yes, I know things must change but must they be destroyed? Before you decide what to do, please drive Ridgeview Road and look at my mountains, see them as I see them. Thank you.

Ms. Barbara Spillman – My husband and I live on the north side of Wills Ridge on Low Gap Road. Our property goes most of the way up the north side of Low Gap Road. Our only water source is a spring just below our home. It is fed from Wolf Pen hollow which is behind our home, going up towards the top of the ridge. When there is a heavy rain, water collects in this hollow and eventually finds its way, both over and underground, down the ridge to our field and spring. The output of the spring varies with the seasons but in the eleven years that we have been privileged to live in Floyd it has never run dry – yet. When, if, Wills Ridge is turned into an industrial building site overrun by road construction equipment, huge trucks hauling wind turbine parts and subjected to blasting for the installation of the bases for these wind turbines, I fear for my water source and its quality. There is another spring on our property, just up the north side of Low Gap Road, right next to the road. Water from there goes down to areas below, owned by other property owners, with livestock. What would happen to this spring if an industrial company wanted to widen Low Gap Road? I hope that these concerns will be considered when the Board of Supervisors ponder the benefits or detriments of industrial wind turbines in Floyd County.

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

Mr. David Dixon next appeared before the Board. He commented: I'd like to give you some handouts. Over the last couple of meetings, you've heard the economic boom that is going to come to Floyd County because of the wind turbines. Thought I'd do some research on the financial issues as to what qualifies as an economic boom. I kind of found out in my presentation that I don't know if Floyd County can afford this kind of economic growth. First, I'll start with the 100 jobs that they say will come with the construction. These jobs will be contractor jobs of the company that can best perform the job at the lowest price. They may not be from Floyd, they may be from Roanoke, Christiansburg, or Danville. These people will come in and do the job and go home. I don't know of any companies in Floyd that have massive earth moving equipment required on that mountain, I just assume the contractor will come from out of

the County. If you look at the left hand side of the packet, I tried to figure out what the effect of the property values were going to be. By using some studies, a lot of the studies were from a mile to a mile and a half out but are not realistic. I used a three mile radius from Wills Ridge and said these properties will be affected and what types of things will affect the values. One thing is the noise but the view is the number one thing. If you destroy the view you destroy property values. If you look at the first sheet, what I've done, if you look at a three mile radius, there is over \$100 million in property values. The estimated loss would be huge. Look at the spreadsheet behind the green sheet. The real estate values for a one mile radius around Wills Ridge. I actually went to the Courthouse, got the maps, got the plot numbers, went to the internet and got the values, it is \$84,270,000. I increased that by three since I'm looking at a three mile radius which gives you \$252,810,000 in a three mile radius. If you take 40% of that value, studies show 20% decrease in property values. I realize that not everybody in a three mile radius is going to lose 40% value but I used 40% to try to give some value to the people that have the view that will be affected. The net loss to the property owners is \$101,124,000, that is real money, that is equity out of people's pockets. Equity that a lot of these seniors we were talking about had planned for their long term care. It is no longer there. It is also \$101,124,000 that the town can't collect taxes on when they reassess. It calculates to over \$500,000 in real property tax loss to the County. I took it one step further on the next spreadsheet. I added an equation in taking 10% of the current assessed value away, saying that the economy has already lowered our property values by 10%; we're already overpaying taxes by 10% since the last assessment. Which means that the property values that people have already suffered or will suffer is \$116,000,000 and \$581,000,000 in lost tax revenue for the County. These worksheets and values are conservative. If you look at the map which I included again, of the viewshed of Floyd County and see the amount of red that is on it, everyone in that red zone that was assessed for their view of Floyd County, which was a lot of us, which is an asset we're losing, their property values will go down. What we're looking at of 40%, I think is a very low estimate of the total value lost to the Floyd County because of tax revenue. If I'd had good data bases to work with, I would have come up with a more accurate figure. The data bases are tough, the numbers are hard to get. I actually had to go copy the maps, get the parcel numbers, then go to the internet and get each individual number to get my sample, it was very time consuming. There is a list of all the property values. I included the map, but I think my presentation is actually low because of the view. The next sheet is entitled "Do Wind Projects Adversely Affect Proximate Residential Property Values?" On the bottom of that page is an internet site that you can go to, I have it highlighted. If you go to that site you can access every one of the studies done on property values. I would have printed them but the studies were anywhere from 30-50 pages long. I have read them. The next thing down is an article entitled "Ontario wind power bringing down property values" and it talks about property values. I also included a copy of a Floyd Press article by Wanda Combs that was in Thursday, September 22nd paper in which she calls Greenbrier County's Commissioner's office to ask about their revenue from Beech Ridge Wind Farm. She stated that they get no revenue. The only thing they get is that they are allowed to tax some of the furniture in one of their offices up there. The State collects the taxes for Beech Ridge, there is no local revenue. The State of Virginia hasn't set that standard yet because they don't have any. I can assure you that big wind is lobbying to cut every tax that they can. They pay taxes on 5% of the cost of the windmill at Beech Ridge, to the State. It is industrial; the tax revenue goes to the State, not local. Will Virginia do that? We don't know but I don't think it is a gamble we can afford. I included some sections from the Comprehensive Plan that

basically say we need to do something; we need to protect adjacent property owners. We also need to protect Floyd County. The last couple of items are some light documentation to support wind energy. On the right hand side of the brochure, I took a look at what effects it will have on our tourism. There are numerous studies out there that say that tourism can be affected as much as 20% or more. When you read these studies, the ones that are affected are the ones that are actually marketing tourism. If you've got windmills out in the middle of Iowa that has no tourism, the impact is minimal, there is none. But areas where you've marketed the beauty of your mountains or coastline to bring tourists in, you are affected, and you are affected 20% or more. What I've done in this study is, Lydeana furnished me the latest copy of the tourism numbers, as to what tourism means to Floyd County. It is an \$18 million economy in Floyd County. It employs 205 of our citizens. A 20% reduction is \$3,667,000 in reduced tourism dollars. If you equate that to the number of people that we'll lose, you'll lose 41 employees in that segment. Wind energy says we'll add 5,6, maybe 7 after the project is done. I don't think that this is the kind of industry that the Comprehensive Plan is looking for to be in Floyd County. This is negative, it is not going forward. Floyd County is looking for an industry that can come in, take 10-15 acres and employ 50-60 people and contribute to our economy, not take from our economy. Behind that, I've got the Parkway study where they said that individuals come to the Parkway, but if the windmills are here, the chance is they'll go into another direction. We pull the majority of our tourists from the Parkway; this is not something we need to do. There is another study that mentions the loss of tourists in the Scotland area at 26%. There is another article here that talks about loss of tourism. There is another site which is [viewsofscotland](#), which was 50-60 pages long so I just gave you the site. I've included the comprehensive plan to outline the reasons why we need to protect our mountain ranges and what it means to our economy and tourism. Some more light support for your pleasure. Also included is a disk, that disk contains all the data that I've collected so you can look at it, it also includes the spreadsheets. As you look at this on your own, and want to do some what ifs, you can load this and be able to do that. I appreciate your time.

Ms. Kathleen Ingoldsby, Courthouse District, next appeared before the Board. She commented: I want to comment quickly on Jack Wall's conservation meeting. I think it is absolutely going to be required. As Mr. Dixon, my head is full of figures and the amount of energy that's projected that we're going to need is increased over what we're using currently, what they're projecting here for the industrial wind, is a drop in the bucket. Conservation, wind energy, and weatherization works, it just sounded perfect. On Mrs. Dixon's proposed reading of the Vermont area, my stepdaughter lives in Vermont and she pays 1.5 cents extra in order to use renewable energy through her electric bill. Over the past 30 years, I've worked to document, promote and study Floyd County's natural, historic and cultural resources, they are important to me. As an archivist, I digitized historical photos for the Historical Society and as a volunteer, I saw through the process of documenting and creating the Town of Floyd Historic District – the basis for the very popular Historic Walking Tour of Floyd brochure. I'm also co-director of the Old Church Gallery's oral history program which, along with Radford University mentors, currently work with FCHS students to interview WWII veterans. I have to say, we introduce the students to courtesy in the same way that Mr. Gerald went around the room this morning and shook everyone's hand and looked them in the eye. That was perfect. I believe in the values of Floyd County. I also assisted with the restoration of the Oxford Academy Building here in town through the Floyd County Historical Preservation Trust. I manage and run the Floyd Contra

dances, a newer version of the old-fashioned Virginia Reel. The long and short of it, is that I built my home here, placed my time and energies here, and like any good investment, I did this work to help preserve what I recognized as valuable resources and to help these resources grow and persist. Thank you for allowing me this time to speak to you. I know that it is definitely late in the board term, but it seems prudent and very reasonable to review several recent and unexpected developments that might impact the county and assumptions long-held about development and growth. The prospect of uranium mining, new methods of mining extraction, and the notion of developing industrial sites on ridgelines were not on anyone's radar nor were they included in recent community surveys, public input or focus group processes. Technology and Federal mandates have rapidly changes business as usual for many communities and Floyd is no exception. We cannot possibly anticipate every new development or technology and that's the issue. But we can and should provide tools to regulate these types of development for the benefit of our County. Quoting from the current comprehensive plan, to ensure "public health, safety, convenience and welfare of its citizens and guide growth and development through policy". Additional comments in the plan highlighted were "Protecting agriculture, forest and water were top community concerns – on this desired outcome, there was remarkable consensus". I would like to request that this board secure a way to provide regulation in the areas of industrial-scale development and mining. We have a three part problem in Floyd in the face of this potential development. 1) In the face of important climate issues, governmental environmental regulations have been relaxed or removed for the wind industry. The EPA, Virginia Fish and Game, US Fish and Game, VA DEQ, FERC and others have either removed requirements on siting, relaxed wildlife protections, or made former requirements voluntary. To compound this situation, the government created very generous incentives to provide generous subsidies for widespread development. 2) However, these same national, state and even wind industry guidelines all assume, and state clearly in their literature, that the siting of an industrial wind power plant will ultimately be guided by local regulations and placed according to local land use designations. 3) Since our planning process does not include any guidance for the siting of industrial developments nor guidelines for major mining operations, it is important, for the protection of Floyd citizens and for the preservation of its natural resources, to have such policies in place. Let me address the first of these three areas of concern, which include relaxes voluntary environmental guidelines on wildlife. A GAO study confirmed that bat mortality was greatest in the Appalachian Mountains. During a six week study period, up to 38 bats were killed per turbine, elsewhere it was up to 4. This is of concern, as insect control of forest and farm insects would be at risk. Bats are nature's pesticide, consuming as many as 500 insects in one hour or nearly 3000 insects in one night. According to Pennsylvania Extension "A colony of just 100 little brown bats may consume a quarter of a million mosquitoes and other small insects in a night". If one turbine here kills say, conservatively 75 bats in a year, that means 51 million uneaten bugs. And bats save farmers about \$74 per acre, according to a report in Science magazine. Beech Ridge Energy, LLC, is under court order to shut its overnight operations from April to October to protect the Indiana bat. Since that West Virginia site also provides a good example of governmental incentives, the Federal 1603 Treasury grant received by them on September 22, 2010, for their 67 wind turbines amounted to \$68,609,459. It should be noted also, that these turbines are smaller at 1.5 MW at 393 feet tall than those proposed here at 2.5 MW and 490 feet tall and also that Beech Ridge site is on cutover Westvaco land with a one mile setback to residences. Wind installations are also eligible for an 80% loan guarantee from the DOE, which creates a virtually risk free financial investment. Using Beech Ridge, LLC, as an

example once more, it has a twenty year contract with APCO to sell its power production, this feeds into the wholesale PJM market. New Jersey state officials recently complained of higher PJM prices that were partly due to extra capacity and congestion charges levied under PJM's Reliability Pricing Model. In its June 2011 reply to New Jersey, PJM warned, "Focusing only on new generation construction to meet future resource adequacy needs is too limiting and doesn't consider less cost solutions like energy efficiency programs". This is a complex area, multi-national corporations, electromagnetic fields, rare earth minerals, high voltage underground lines, wholesale markets, hedge funds playing with the odds of renewable credit and trading opportunities in the growing area of environmental commodities. On the third of those concerns – protection of citizens and natural resources, water issues in Floyd are well known: from the comprehensive plan draft, "our water is only 20-30 years old, is held in fractures and does not contain true aquifers". As I mentioned last month, I counted 49-50 primary water sources between Route 8 and 750 on the USGS topographic map of Wills Ridge and I'm told that this source was developed from aerial photos. Typically it underestimates by half the number of actual water sources on a site. This Board should provide insurance and remedies to the hidden costs that go with such an installation. Water issues are at the very top of that list, especially in a county where non-conventional drinking water systems – springs and shallow wells – abound. Hidden costs also include county road impacts of each 160-300 ton tower component transport, impact to bridges and hardtop, property value loss, electric rate increases on expensed transmission lines, generation facilities and system integration, tax abatement, liability insurance, possible abandoned machinery, decommissioning processes and, for compensation for loss of water, secondary or indirect impact, or other damages. Policy tools should be included to address mining and blasting issues. Any change in the fracture could result in a loss of water, pollution or a muddy intrusion. During the gas pipeline water study, it was projected that county wells two miles away could be vulnerable. From work regulations and permits in other areas for wind installations, "Applicant will follow all local, county and State regulations governing blasting, including an analysis of impacts on buried structures and wells within the vicinity of blasting activity. From a Mark Duchamp study, "A pollution incident during construction could have an impact of major magnitude on the water quality". From the New England Enxco representative, John Zimmerman, "mountain ridges blasting could possibly disrupt water sources for well downhill". Developers must be required to present explicit data on blasting or earth alteration that could impact those within that watershed. A measurable radius of impact – that is the depth, the width, in a proven manner that shows, in a report, the extent of the environmental impact. There will be environmental impact: from the cuts into a steep slope, concrete placed on the ridge and the thousands of gallon of water required to manufacture on site, from the herbicides, transmission lines, substations, electromagnetic field above and below ground, wildlife and forest fragmentation, removal of trees and the loss of an old and rich forest floor, dust control, emissions and waste generation. In addition, compensation measures should be included to explain how damages or liabilities sent into the environment will be mitigated and paid for. Thank you.

Mr. Carl Ayers, Social Services Director, next appeared before the Board. He reported:

- SNAP numbers and benefits are back up to where they were the month before last, 2100 persons on the program, with a payout of over \$250,000 for the last month. The expectation from USDA is that the participant numbers will continue to climb in the next 15-18 months.

- Meth issues and the challenges that are placed on the agency. As of this morning there are 23 children in foster care. We averaged 8 children in foster care before the meth problem became so bad. The prescription drug abuses also cause huge problems. We are trying to deal with the staffing issues when we have tripled the work. I ask the Board's assistance in dealing with this situation. I have discussed the matter with my Board and we know this is not the proper time to ask for additional assistance, which we will do at budget time, but we do request a \$10,000 transfer from the CSA budget to the DSS budget for a part-time aide position, just to assist with the mountains of paperwork.

On a motion of Supervisor Gardner, seconded by Supervisor Clinger, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to authorize transfer of \$10,000 from CSA to Department of Social Services for a part-time aide.

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

Mr. Ayers also reported that even though the number of clients has increased in the CSA program, the budget is still on target since more are being served through the 4E Federal funds.

Mr. Dan Huff, Mr. David Clarke and Mr. Stacy Keith, Virginia Department of Transportation, next appeared before the Board.

Mr. Huff reported that the Route 615 speed study has been completed. The study was only done for a portion of the road but traffic engineering has recommended that the speed be reduced to 45 mph for entire length of road. Also, a request had been received from one of the State troopers in the County for a speed study for the Rescue Squad building near Simpson. He also commented that the funding for these studies does not come from County-wide funds any more.

Supervisor Gerald reported that a speed study request was received for a section of Macks Mountain Road, from Route 730 to 892 Macks Mountain Road. Mr. Huff reported that a work order will be submitted.

Supervisor Allen – presented a request for a speed study on Moore Road, up to four miles out from Route 615.

Mr. Huff reported that the advertisement had been placed in the local newspaper for culvert replacement to receive public comment.

Mr. Clarke reported the following maintenance items completed for the last month: mowing, brush cutting, patching, and pipe replacement on Routes 690, 673, 653, 630, 603, 780, 610. He also reported on their preparation for snow season, shoulder work on Route 8 and limited sidewalk repairs in Town.

Mr. Keith reported that they are now at full staff at both maintenance centers.

Supervisor Gerald – appreciate the mowing, patching and lines.

Supervisor Allen – between Hale Road and Coles Knob Road, there is asphalt over one of the pipes. A large chug hole has formed; think the asphalt has dropped in one place.

Supervisor Gardner – nothing to report, appreciate the work done.

Supervisor Clinger – no concerns this month, appreciate all the work, especially grading and patching.

Supervisor Ingram – no specifics, some gravel roads need grading when possible. How many employees are at each site now?

Mr. Keith – about 12-13 at each area.

Mr. James E. Cornwell, County Attorney, next appeared before the Board. He reported:

Update on delinquent taxes collection: last time that I reported to you, in August, on delinquent taxes. Since that time we have collected, net to the County, an additional \$30,000 so we're now up to \$158,000 worth of taxes collected since it has been turned over to us. We have not finished the closings yet on all the ones from August sale. It looks like we'll have another sale in February or March with the holidays and amount of paperwork.

Proposed Height Ordinance: Last month the Board asked me to research options that the County has in the regulation of wind turbines. I think you have my letter. Basically, my research and that of others has shown probably, at least for Floyd County's point of view, the less complicated way to handle this is pursuant to 15.2-2295.1 what I think is called a ridgeline protection statute. It has definitions in there about mountain ridges, tall building and structures. A locality can adopt such an ordinance and regulate, that doesn't necessarily mean prohibit, but regulate tall buildings and structures which are building structures or units with a vertical height of more than 40', measured from the top of the finished grade or the natural finished grade of the high side of the slope. That statute has been used by some jurisdictions already. To my knowledge, it has not been litigated but it appears to be a clear and valid law. It also appears that you can adopt such an ordinance without adopting a comprehensive land use regulation ordinance. You can do it by stand alone ordinance.

Mr. Campbell – can you discuss the minimum elevation above sea level and the differential it involves?

Mr. Cornwell – a protected mountain ridge that has an elevation of 2000' or more and an elevation of 500' or more above the elevation above the adjacent valley floor. I think Lydeana has some information on the parts of Floyd County that might lie under such definition.

Ms. Martin presented a map for the Board's review indicating the affected areas.

Mr. Cornwell – the only other tool the County would have would be under zoning regulations or comprehensive land use regulations. We could not find any other tool that would permit a locality to regulate height of structures or building structures without a comprehensive zoning ordinance. The height restrictions are included in the provisions that are permitted when you adopt a zoning ordinance. There was no other authority that we could find to regulate heights, the building code obviously regulates structures too, but that is all.

Supervisor Clinger – are there exemptions, like power lines for example?

Mr. Cornwell – yes there are. There are exemptions for tall buildings, do not include radio, water, telecommunications or television towers, or any equipment for transmission of electricity, telephone, cable TV, structures of a relatively slender nature and minor vertical projections of a current building, including but not limited to chimneys, flag poles, flues, spires, steeples, cupolas, belfries, antennas, poles, wires or windmills where any building or structure that is designated as a historic landmark building, or structure of the United States government. In other words, if there were a windmill attached to a house, for example, of a relatively slender nature, that would be exempt. Or, a belfry or cupola, or steeple of a church. They have to be connected to a house or structure, not freestanding. We grappled with the language about transmission of electricity as one of the ones exempted. We took some time to look at the State Corporation Commission regulations and the Small Renewable Energy Projects Rule by regulation that the Commonwealth has adopted. We believe that there is a difference between transmission and generation. We believe the wind turbines as being discussed are generators of electricity not transmitters; therefore they would be dealt with under this ordinance. There's another issue that I bring to your attention because, again, there's no law on this. You may be aware that there is a section under Section 15.2-2232 of the Code of Virginia. You have a Comprehensive Plan. There is a requirement that is part of that Comprehensive Plan that the statute says that no public utility facility or public service corporation facility may be constructed until it is shown on the plan and certified by the local Planning Commission. It goes on to say that this in effect whether the public utility facility and public service corporation are publicly or privately owned. This comes up sometimes in public service authorities, or siting of landfills and structures of that nature, even though the landfill may be privately owned. If it is used by the public, it is considered to be under the comprehensive plan. Whether a wind turbine farm comes under this rule, I think the strong argument could be made that it would. If it does, regardless of whether you do anything or not, there should be application to show it on your comp plan. You can determine to not allow the comp plan to be amended, or to do so. But as far as, again, no law, no applications, nothing. So all we can do is handle the applications that are submitted. Again, on regulating the turbines, the only statute we found, other than a comprehensive zoning ordinance, would be the Ridgeline Protection Act. The Comp Plan amendment would be site specific. You could amend the Comp Plan that you do support electrical generating facilities or renewable energy facilities, but the plat would still have to show the location. That's like an on/off switch, it is either in the plan or not. If this type of facility, if it is one turbine, it may not be necessary to amend the Comp Plan. But if it a farm, with 20-30, it may very well become a public utility. You kind of have to wait until we get an application to see what the proposal what the safest route is to follow and what is necessary. We also grappled with the State Corporation Commission, because as you know, they have specific jurisdiction over transmission lines of over a certain voltage. Also on electrical generating facilities. And

power lines, if the application is approved by the State Corporation Commission, it takes it out of your hands. The way we read the statutory code at this time, when they make the presentation to the State Corporation Commission to build a line or this facility, it requires them to certify that they've met all local ordinances which would include this ordinance. Of course, a building permit could not be issued either if it didn't comply with our ordinances. We're dealing in the dark here. None of the issues have been decided by any jurisdictions who have adopted these types of ordinances. Highland County has a farm that is already built or about to be built, so we may talk with them further. I would suspect that the investor or company that determines to construct this type of facility will make sure they have all appropriate approvals. If I were investing a lot of money I would want to make sure I have complied with all regulations.

Mr. Campbell questioned what would happen if a company has already purchased land leases or that type of thing.

Mr. Cornwell – they could argue that they were vested, but vesting is a highly technical argument based on what they've done. I've argued vesting procedures in the Supreme Court and it all comes down to whether permits have been obtained.

On a motion of Supervisor Gardner, seconded by Supervisor Clinger, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to authorize the County Attorney to prepare a draft ordinance on ridgeline protection for the Board's review.

Supervisor Clinger – aye

Supervisor Gardner – aye

Supervisor Allen – aye

Supervisor Gerald – aye

Supervisor Ingram – aye

Dr. Kevin Harris, School Superintendent, next appeared before the Board. He reported: Would like to introduce myself to you, this is my 6th day on the job; I've had the opportunity to get out into our school system and see what a good system we have. I'm looking very forward to working with you in the coming years to make sure that the school system is what the citizens of this County deserve. As way of introduction, I've been in education for 30 years. I've done just about every job that there is to do in education except for the one that I have now. I've been a teacher, coach, athletic director, assistant principal, worked in the central office. I've seen the system from a variety of perspectives so I'm hoping that perspective will enable me to be the type of leader that this board and our board, led by Mr. Phillips, and our citizens, want us to have. I believe Dr. Arbogast reviewed with you the highlights of the School Board meeting from last month. We're a bit out of sync at this time; I'm reporting on a meeting that I was not a part of since I hadn't begun my employment. Hopefully, next month we'll be back in sync where we have our meetings on Monday and I'll be able to be here on Tuesdays and bring you the highlights and answer questions. I have reviewed this with my staff and if there are any questions I'll be glad to attempt to answer them or get the answers for you. I've included on the front of the highlights my business card, and on the back I've included some information for you, how to reach me in case of concerns or just to speak with me. You're welcome to call either of those numbers at any time and I'll be glad to respond as quickly as possible. The main reason that I'm here today is to request that this Board appropriate a sum as requested by letter form.

This appropriation is \$149,590.23 for funds that we have received since the budget was approved. This is a result of grants that have come into our office from various sources since the budget was approved and I would request at this time, that you approve these additions and appropriate this money for use by the school system.

Supervisor Clinger – I appreciate you breaking down the revenue portions for us as to where the funds came from. I think it would be good to have a detailed breakdown of the expense side of it rather than \$25,000 going to transportation and the other various items.

Dr. Harris – I'll certainly try to do that in the future. I know already that we will be receiving a grant that will be awarded in food services in the amount of \$6500. We'll be using that money to buy a steamer for Willis Elementary School so we can prepare healthier meals for the students. In the future, I'll make sure to itemize what we're using this money for so you can see what is being done. One of the things that I hope to do for our board and for this board is to make things as transparent as possible. Any time that you have questions I'll be glad to answer them. At this point in my career as Superintendent, I'm not sure I have all the answers. This is a very complicated job and one that I'm learning each day. I told my finance person before I left that every time I speak to her, I see another piece of the puzzle and it is very intricate and I'm learning how it all fits together. I may not have all the answers when I come to you in this capacity, but I'll always go back and find those answers and make sure that you have a clear understanding of what I'm asking this board to do.

Supervisor Allen – we appreciate that.

Dr. Harris – I intend to start on the right foot and with the guidance of the good people of Floyd County, I intend to follow that direction for quite some time.

On a motion of Supervisor Clinger, seconded by Supervisor Gardner, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the receipt of \$149,590.23 as additional revenue for the FY12 School Board budget.

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

Mr. Dean Gall next appeared before the board to give an update on the task forces work in the last month. He reported: As I had mentioned to you all when you gave us this assignment, that we would report back to you. To bring you up to date on the agriculture/forestry task force, they are still in information gathering mode. At the last meeting, it was decided that they wanted to focus on two or three topics that they could get their hands around. There were so many topics to look at and address, they didn't feel they could get much accomplished without narrowing that down some. The topics that they were giving a lot of consideration to were water supply studies, looking into environmental services, one of the ones that really jumped out at a lot of people was developing a process list for individuals that want to get a small business loan. So if you're a farmer and you want to take on another business operation and you need to finance

it, what steps do you need to take and where would you start and who would you talk to. Also a process for the permitting, what is required for some ventures, who are contacts, what needs to be done to connect all the dots to make future plans. What seems to happen is that you get involved in this process and you run into a hurdle that you're not expecting or not prepared for, and we'd like to streamline that. The other topic that they were looking at was envisioning where the County would be in 5, 10, 15 and 20 years under the current processes that are occurring today. People are really interested in seeing where Floyd County is going along different pathways.

The Policy Task Force is also still collecting information on various topics. We've had presentations brought to us concerning ag forest districts; we've spent some time looking at the County's subdivision ordinance. Two of the Planning Commission members are serving on the task force so they're helping us with what is working and what is challenging for them. That has been very helpful as well. We've looked at the methods that other Counties in Virginia are using to evaluate their agricultural and forestry land. We've had some more presentations on trying to understand, and rank, uses of land and how that has worked in other Counties. We've spent some time talking about special use permits. We've had discussion, especially in the light of interest and concerns on wind turbines and uranium mining. The group has been concerned and had some discussion as to does the County want a voice at the table, do we want to be able to have some type of influence in what land use opportunities there are. We've spent a great deal of time discussing these issues. In the future, there is going to be a joint meeting with both task forces since both of them are very, very interested in the water resources here in the County. We're looking to set up a meeting in the next month. If you all have any interest in attending, we'd love to invite you. We'll have a couple of geologists attend who are familiar with the water resources to make a presentation. We've had scheduling issues but if we can pull this off, it looks like it will be on a week night. We'll send you a notification if you're interested in attending. I'd also like to thank Joe Powers, he's a retired planner from Montgomery County who has volunteered his time and has put a lot of time into helping us look at what other localities are doing with their agricultural and forestry lands so we don't re-invent the wheel.

Agenda Item 7c – E911 Road name request. Mr. Campbell presented a letter request from residents requesting that their private road be named Greenacre Hill. This road is off of Goff Road. There are no conflicts with other County names and they are aware that the total expense of signs and installation will be at their cost.

On a motion of Supervisor Allen, seconded by Supervisor Gardner, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the road name of Greenacre Hill, as presented.

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

Agenda Item 7d – November meeting/Election Day. Mr. Campbell questioned if the Board would like to modify the November board meeting date since the regular meeting date falls on Election Day.

On a motion of Supervisor Gardner, seconded by Supervisor Clinger, and carried, it was resolved to adopt a resolution moving the November regular meeting to Wednesday, November 9, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. and authorize the County Administrator to advertise same (Document File Number).

Supervisor Clinger – aye
Supervisor Gardner – aye
Supervisor Allen – abstain
Supervisor Gerald – aye
Supervisor Ingram – aye

On a motion of Supervisor Allen, seconded by Supervisor Gardner, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to amend the agenda to include discussion on the Route 58 project.

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

Chairman Ingram – I wanted to bring up the item of Route 58. There is some money that is being moved around. A few years ago, this Board passed a resolution in favor of the project. I think it might be a good time for us to readopt that, if you will, to keep that project moving forward. I think it would be good in a lot of ways. I understand that funds for the improvement of Lovers Lane are being discussed to be moved.

On a motion of Supervisor Gardner, seconded by Supervisor Clinger, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to reaffirm support of the Route 58 project by resolution (Document File Number).

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

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

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

Daniel J. Campbell, County Administrator

David W. Ingram, Chairman, Board of Supervisors