

Minutes
Floyd County Board of Supervisors
Regular Meeting
April 26, 2022
7:00 PM

1. The meeting was **called to order** by Chairman Turman.
2. **Opening Prayer** – An opening prayer was offered by Supervisor Bechtold.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** – The Pledge was led by the County Administrator, Dr. Millsaps.
4. **Quorum** – The roll was called by the County Administrator. A quorum was present as all members of the board, except Supervisor Boothe, were present. (Supervisor Boothe had notified the body in advance of a family health issue).
5. **Approval of Agenda** – On a motion by Supervisor Bechtold, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and passed unanimously, the Board approved the agenda as presented.
6. **Approval of Minutes**- On a motion by Supervisor Cox, seconded by Supervisor Bechtold, and approved unanimously, the minutes from March 29, March 31, and April 5 were approved as presented.
7. **Approval of Disbursements** – Members of the board asked clarifying questions about checks for the Babe Ruth League. On a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded, by Supervisor Cox, and passed unanimously, the disbursements were approved as presented.
8. **Presentation and Public Hearing for the Six Year Road Plan: Mr. David Clarke, Resident Engineer, Virginia Department of Transportation.**

Chair Turman opened the public hearing and notified attendees that” it is our intent that all persons attended meet one board for handicap and conditions shall have an opportunity to participate. senior person present requires any special assistance, please let the board know, in order to and arrangements can be made.

David Clark -

Good evening, everybody. This is the public hearing for secondary roads six-year plan, the construction plan and the draft budget construction budget for the upcoming year, Fiscal Year 2022 to 23. A draft plan has been sent. I'll read that plan. It is basically last year's plan minus

the roads that we're working on or have come off the plan. After the public hearing the board can change the priority order if they so choose or keep it as is I don't think there's enough room still for additions. If there were to be, if you really wanted to do in addition to the end of the plan, you are free to do so - you can probably add one. But then next year, you wouldn't be able to add one so, and it'd be at the end of the plan over about five or six years from reaching the end of the plan anyway. So, we do need roads at the end of the plan, because they require us to put the money in that plan that in the sixth year.

That plan, it's called a six-year plan, because it's really a six-year spending plan. How do you plan on spending your money over the next six years, even though the other part is, is just projected money to pretend money, the only real money we have is what's coming out next year. But it's it tends to stay close to what is predicted. So, I'll read the draft plan as it stands. Again, that's just what the board passed last year in the same order as it was passed last year. I'll talk about the construction budget, which is how we're planning on spending the roughly \$900,000 that were coming up for this fiscal year.

So, in the draft plan, number one is Firehouse Road. Because Roger Road is now off, we're very close to getting everything squared away at a Firehouse and it's it should be advertised next year for construction. Number two is Starbuck Road are just now starting a little bit of work on that we've had some funds on that to begin our preliminary engineering on Starbuck and start talking to property owners and I'm deciding wherever we might need some widening and drainage and so forth. Number three on the plan is Hope Road, I have not done anything on that yet. It's too far down the plan number four to Silverleaf and that's an interesting one it's for the plan but we're going to build it this year it's a very short compared to the others especially compared to Firehouse it's not as difficult as hope as much drainage issues as hope we have the money already so and we can do it with the VDOT crews putting it out the contract probably adding money adds time to the to the process this we just recognized probably earlier or late last summer late last year that would be able to fund it and perform the work with the Vita crews mostly from checker headquarters. And so, we're going to move forward that and the building of that does not affect the schedule for any of the others on the list either Firehouse or Starbuck, so we have so believed this for because that was a priority of the board but it's gonna be finished probably about three or four months. Next draft plan is Reidsville Road. Number six is an all-intersection project. On Merrifield, we're looking at present gets wet and rotted out there's a lot of heavy vehicles on there. So, it's not really a very long project. It's more of an intersection project to address running out issues that require a lot of maintenance of when we can get to it and a lot of inconvenience for the trucks that use it when you can. And then last on the list is bear ridge. And again, we really don't know the schedule for that until we get a few more down the road. But at least six years in the future bear ranch would be our construction budget is how we're going to spread the money out that we're getting to this coming fiscal year to the projects that are currently on the plan. So,

Firehouses need the bulk of that \$470,000 We're putting on Firehouse Road that would give us enough to advertise it. Next year, Starbuck is getting \$300,000 and that'll get us good ways towards building up enough to advertise it the following year. And Hope Road we're just starting with putting the remainder of that on the hook as just under \$23,000 on Hope Road, just to start building so that when we do finish Starbuck are getting very solid, we can go ahead and send our engineers out and start designing. So that brings you to 893. That's an estimated the allocation for you. Most of them don't have it broken out into tell a fee to get two different sources of funding of that. Probably 80% of that \$800,000 is earmarked must go on unpaved road. Paved road has over 50,000 vehicles a day. The remaining 20% or so would be here. It's coming from a statewide fee that's collected from telecommunication companies that locate their utilities on a right of way we collect the fee from them right away. And then that fee is dispersed among all the counties on a population basis. So that can be used on anything. So, there's a little project somewhere we could, it's not an unpaved road, we use a little bit of money on that we've used it for. But it's not enough to do any kind of major work on a paid secondary. The last major work we did was out Hallam ridge. And that was like that was leftover go a long time ago. So that's the draft plan on draft construction budget. Yeah, the board can take comments from the public, and you don't have to pass a plan tonight, would you like it before the end of this fiscal year. So, we have the beginning of next fiscal year, you can pass it as presented or take your time and think about the priority list. And there really is a burning project you want to put at the end, and you might get to it in seven years, you could do that. Step aside, and you would like me to call these names here.

Public Comment

Benny Quesinberry - I'm a taxpayer farmer on Quesinberry Road. You know, you all built half of it. And my sister feel they have their own place. And she reminds me of this meeting. And I so that's the reason I'm here. I can get done. But it's really been nice, some of the improvements been made on that road. And but we'd love to say finished. I know. But I'm old enough to remember when it was built from a dirt road to a gravel road. That's what they did. Then they built high fence and the next finish I guess one thing, I don't know if they don't build it, there's a culvert down next to the creek that if you don't know the drive in the center of the road, you might run Oh. And there has been people have been pulled out. I just appreciate what they can do for us. Like your free time.

Jim Newell - Thanks for opportunity to come here and talk with you about CERN for the traffic conditions on our roads. As we said, I think it was number five currently on the priority list. And my main request tonight is it's stay as far as we have to say in the deposition, testimony request. Thank you for your consideration.

Rob Campbell - Again, request is just that it stay there unless you want to move it up. He said you can take that. But that reasonable road project is son there's a lot of safety concerns. So, thank you for putting on with us. Thank you for your time and all that you do and all that beat up. Thank you.

Chris Reed - I live on Griffith Lane next Haycock now. Richard Griffiths and Larry. wife Heather. It's Danny in a row. I don't know what we got a maybe 200 yards and state maintained. And I guess there's three houses in that little portion. And there's traffic it goes back up in a mountain up in there. There's traffic 24 hours a day seven days. Week in there, Richard knows a lot more than me there's probably eight or nine houses up there. That sound the unmaintained part and we're out one tractor and two three scraper blades in the past keeping an up yourself, so we've got a whole list of names here. And there's also the woods gap cemetery back there. So, there's 17 families and households on that road and I've said it's we got about 200 yards maybe a state-maintained road and it's you know up with landowners and there's so much traffic and when the VDOT has a chance to come out I mean they do a good job and I know they're strapped in Kingdom for so much. Just if there's like I said, I don't know the format or anything here, but we could petition for something to get Griffis lane, possibly put on the list or maybe looked at little more often.

Route 60s Pain is discontinued it's still on the map is 615 year is discontinued after the petrous cannula years he took the path to county while there was at one time yeah, they dropped it for summary, I'm not sure why.

Chris Reed - But like said, if there's anything if we could just petition to have some more work done to it, as traffic up and down through there, seven days a week, 24 hours a day. And me and my wife Heather happen to be the first place on the road and kind of the way it is just water gonna run down here we all know that and it's kind of like this and if we get a half inch of rain our driveway is a pond out there and we've scraped, and Richard does work on. I went out there some equipment you know and tried to make a crown on the road and some culverts really help but it's a narrow dirt road you know and everybody's on the same track and even if you scrape and do something with you know eventually you don't take long you know the waters following the same path downhill but yeah, we got 17 houses and people out and families out there.

Larry Griffith - Yeah, that's the biggest thing on that road belly of kindness and hammer that road. And the biggest thing is it is it is common for county land landmark that when they always get cemetery I don't know if y'all familiar with the woods gap cemetery or the landmark there. There are tremendous people that comes there. From year to year, I have people stopping and asking directions how to get there. And there's a lot of them that come say hey, you know, he's the pioneer for one of the pioneers of Floyd County. And there's tremendous people that come

from Carolinas I mean, just from everywhere that comes out I want to go to that cemetery. And you know, it is a lot of traffic comes in you know, I probably have during the summer there maybe I may have five or six each. Somebody stopped by just trying to find the cemetery to go into there. But we do we'd like to have that road upgraded and it is let's say it is discontinuous state my pain right 615 And it did go to the Patrick county line that they managed as a short portion of that who'd like to see that upgrade because there's a lot of areas a lot of people on them had to park and walk and stuff like that because Arabia is a little bit rougher as it gets up to Patrick decent shape to my place but from my place on the school.

Steven Wade – I live at 329 Griffith Lane. Thank you. And so, I'm on the other side of the road, which is the Little River District. And yes, I would like to see some improvement made on the road myself be willing to help move advance or do whatever I got to do to see that is improved. It does wash, we try to keep belts and whatever to turn the water out of the road. And, of course, we're constantly sharing the gravel expands ourselves too, as well. To keep it keep it up in shape. Been several times my wife has gotten stuck in there because of snow and where the water sometimes always seeps in. But be glad to see that road improved and willing to help anywhere. Thank you.

David Clark – If that's it I'll wrap up, there's just a few comments on that there is a process that private road or a non-VDOT state-maintained route could become a state-maintained roads called rural addition. There are some funds I think in a rural addition accountant employee County, just in case you haven't done one in a long time, I've never seen one done. I know we had an interest of several years ago and the place but if it were to be done, and we did, there had to be an estimate on the length and how much it would cost how much money there is an account, you're only allowed to put 5% of your construction budget towards the relation fund per year. So that's not a lot of roads cost and billion dollars a mile in general, just a rule of thumb to build, that's when we're taking a beat-up state-maintained road and turning it into a paved road. But the process does exist. And we've had interest in other parts of the county for the same kind of thing. So, if the board were to choose to pursue a rural addition of some kind. If they were to do what other counties tend to do, they just have a list of priority list of state-maintained roads and rural additions that they would like to do just have to decide on which one to work on first, but over the last several years here and there. He's had people have the same kind of request. That'll do it. I guess for the six-year plan, public hearing part.

Chairman Turman closed the public hearing and stated that the board normally postpones decisions for a while until we discuss it amongst ourselves. And since Mr. Booth was unable to be here tonight for family emergency, we'll be discussing later. He thanked everyone for coming out and let them know how much the board needs citizens input on this.

9. Board Time -

Supervisor Bechtold wanted the citizens to know they are working very hard to get this budget worked out. She wanted everyone to know that they are doing their best. All other members agreed.

10. Old Business –

10a. New River Valley Rail Agreement – County Administrator Millsaps reviewed the structure of the New River Valley Rail Agreement. She reminded the board that they have \$5,800 in their budget, a carry over amount from the previous year, to participate in the Authority created by the Agreement, if they county chooses to participate in the Authority. The board discussed the benefits of participating in the regional effort but expressed concerns about joining the Authority given the inability of the county to exit the agreement if they effort becomes too costly. Dr. Millsaps shared that all communities in the region have signed on including Giles, Montgomery, Pulaski, the City of Radford, the Town of Blacksburg, the Town of Christiansburg, the Town of Pulaski, Virginia Tech and Radford University. And that each community will get two votes on the Authority. After discussion among the board members, they decided to delay a final decision until a future meeting and receiving advise from legal counsel.

10b. Radio Update – Dr. Millsaps spoke to the board about continuing and updating the county’s agreement with Federal Engineering (change order #4) to help with contract negotiations. The extension would include work through the end of December 2022.

On a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Bechtold, the board voted unanimously to approve the statement of work from federal engineering incorporated for change on order number four, public safety radio system contract negotiations support. And authorize all necessary signatures.

New Business

11a. Permit and Planning Fees Update – Dr. Millsaps presented the updated and clarified recommended permit and planning fees. She noted that they are in line with the fees charged in similar and surrounding jurisdictions. And that items questioned in previous meetings as unclear have been revised. Board members made additional suggestions and agreed to address the fees at the upcoming budget meeting.

12. County Administrator’s Report – Dr. Millsaps offered an update on several staff items including a very successful ACES student fair, where two of our departments were represented

and have several students who signed up to work with them, as well as eight of our county's nonprofit organizations.

12b. Virginia Juvenile Community Crime Control Act certification form – Dr. Millsaps reported that the form allows us to continue to serve as a fiscal agent for this program. And so, this would just allow us to be essentially the pass through for this. Apparently, this is something the county has been doing for a while.

On a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Bechtold, and a unanimous vote, the board voted to approve the awarding of the plan from the Department of Juvenile Justice and the funding allocated for our locality and authorize Dr. Millsaps to sign all the appropriate forms.

13. Correspondence – Dr. Millsaps pointed out the update from the Partnership for Floyd as to their efforts on the DoD Creek Trail educational upgrades.

In addition, Dr. Millsaps reported that we will deliver this week the final check for TechSquared. The board thanked Mr. McNabb for all his hard work in this process.

14. Adjournment – On a motion by Supervisor Cox, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimous vote, the board voted to adjourn.