

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
ADJOURNED MEETING  
FEBRUARY 24, 2010**

At an adjourned meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Floyd County, Virginia, held on Wednesday, February 24, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the County Administration Building, thereof;

PRESENT: David W. Ingram, Chairman (entered the meeting at 7:15 p.m.); 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 Vice Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Vice Chairman called for the Public Comment Period.

Ms. Carolyn Quinn, Indian Valley Elementary Principal – I thank you for just a moment of your time this evening. I was thinking today, I've been in the school system for 17 years now, started out at Floyd Elementary. I was thinking about the children that I taught or those who I've interacted with and where they are today. They are parents of children that are back at Indian Valley, they are students. One of the students that I had at Willis Elementary did the security system recently for all of our schools. He's an electrical engineer and came back and did the security system for all of our schools. When he walked into my office, we were talking pleasantries back and forth and he said, you don't remember me, do you? I said, well your eyes look so familiar. When he said his name, I instantly remembered. I think about the students we had who are now employed at Citizens Telephone, the children that we had that are now running the banking system at the Bank of Floyd. Our children are not only educated within our school system, they go out and they come back to us as thriving citizens who want to put back into their community. Education has been my passion for thirty years. I have grandchildren in Montgomery County. Education is the way to success. We say success every day at the valley, but we truly mean that. In order to accredit our schools and maintain the high standards that we have so proudly done over the last 8-10 years with the State and Federal requirements, we utilize every single person. I went around the school today and I watched, there was not a minute of down time. I even saw people eating on their way to the next assignment. Teachers Assistants help us immensely by implementing our reading programs. They are trained; we have done a really good job of staff development. They work alongside our classroom teachers, but they are working with small groups while our experts, the teachers, are implementing the strong lessons. Our special ed children are equally as important. Teacher Assistants assist our Special Ed teachers so that our special ed children have equal opportunity to grow and be that they can be. We are all products of education. We wouldn't be here today without a firm belief in education. My passion, I hope that rolls and extends into you. I know it requires a great deal of money, but can you put a price on a child, or the future of Floyd County? Thank you so much for your time.

Ms. Sandy Montgomery, Willis Elementary Principal – I just wanted to speak to you briefly about how I feel about children and how all of us here tonight have a passion for children or we wouldn't have chosen this as our profession and we wouldn't be here speaking to you about our passion. I think what I want to address tonight is children in poverty. At Willis Elementary, I checked today to see how many children we have on free or reduced lunch. Of 237 children, 118 of my children are on free or reduced lunch, 50% of my children are in the poverty area. It made me think about training that we've all had on poverty awareness and an expert whom we've all studied, which is Dr. Ruby Payne. One of her passions in dealing with poverty is something that we think about every day. There are only two bridges out of poverty, one is relationships and one is education. Our goal is for our children to succeed, even our children in poverty. Our goal is for our County to grow and succeed with technology and quality teachers. We all thank you for your time, we think that you have a daunting task and we appreciate the opportunity to address you tonight and to share with you our passion about our children.

Mr. Barry Hollandsworth, FCHS Principal – first of all, to echo the statements before me, we really would like to tell you how much we appreciate you guys for serving the citizens of Floyd County. We understand the enormous responsibility you have to the citizens of Floyd County. With that said, I also want to make a comment on the potential losses that we face in our school system and the impact that it will have on our students and staff. These potential losses could be programs, either technical or advanced placement courses, our core academic classes; the enrollment could certainly increase in those with the potential losses that we're looking at. We even face potential reduction or elimination of programs and we certainly don't want to see that. I graduated from Floyd County High School in 1983, have served as a teacher and coach, and administrator for the last 21 years. I can certainly attest to the education system in Floyd County. I think it was a bridge for me, having had two parents that did not graduate from high school. I was one of the first in my family on both sides to graduate from high school, one of the first to attend college, one of the first to obtain a master's degree, and currently trying to finish up my doctorate. With that being said, the staff that we had at Floyd County while I was attending certainly impacted my wanting to continue my education. They are the type of people that we want to keep around here. However, we face potential losses and they may have to pack up and go elsewhere. We certainly want to keep our quality teachers and staff members. When I speak of teachers and staff, I'm talking about everyone. Our custodians keep our schools immaculate. Our cafeteria workers do a wonderful job of feeding our students. We just have really great people in Floyd County. Of course, I'm preaching to the choir, you folks all know that. As a parent, I've had three children, one graduated two years ago, one graduates this year, one has four more years. I feel like they received a world class education. I have one on a full scholarship at the University of Maryland. Academically, she is doing wonderful there. I feel like the high school certainly prepared her for that. My other two children have performed wonderfully in the school system. What we're here for is to ask that when you are making these hard decisions, is just to remember not only our teachers, but obviously our first thought is children. We truly believe children first. I think every staff member believes in our children, Floyd County and the potential that we have. It may sound corny, I know it is the theme of the time, but we certainly do not want to leave any children behind. With the potential cuts that we face, I'm afraid some of those things may happen. To echo what I said before, we really appreciate you guys serving in the capacity that you do. I certainly wouldn't want to be sitting in

the position that you're in and having to make the decisions that you're going to have to face in the next month or so.

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

The Vice Chairman turned the chair over to the Chairman.

A work session on the proposed FY11 budget was next held. Mr. Campbell brought the Board up-to-date on changes made to the budget as the Board requested; solid waste reductions, reduction in the number of green box sites, 10% cuts to agencies, etc. Considerable discussion followed on the proposed changes. Consensus of the Board was to cut the green box sites to 45 with more boxes at each site. Consensus also for no tax increase, with the rate to remain at the equalized rate of \$0.45/\$100 after the recent reassessment.

On a motion of Supervisor Clinger, seconded by Supervisor Allen, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn to March 9, 2010 at 8:30 a.m.

Supervisor Clinger – aye

Supervisor Gardner – aye

Supervisor Allen – aye

Supervisor Gerald – aye

Supervisor Ingram - aye