

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
ADJOURNED MEETING  
MAY 19, 2010**

At an adjourned meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Floyd County, Virginia, held on Wednesday, May 19, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the County Administration Building, thereof;

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

ABSENT: Daniel J. Campbell, County Administrator.

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

Chairman Ingram called for the public hearing on the proposed FY11 budget and tax rates.

Ms. Morris read the call for the public hearing and noted that it had been properly advertised on May 6, 2010.

Ms. Morris gave a brief synopsis of the proposed budget's highlights – lowered real estate rate; other tax rates held current; greatly decreased State funding for education, public safety, and constitutional officers; 10% cut in funding for outside agencies.

The Chairman called for comments from the audience.

Mr. Olin Griffin – I know you all are proud of the accomplishments of the County. Channel 10 was here this week and did a nice review of what Floyd is all about. I was on the computer and found that the Richmond Gazette had a video of Floyd, the Country Store and all the highlights of what we see every week. Field & Gun Magazine had an article of 20 places you need to visit and Floyd was there, a one page summary of what goes on in the County. It makes you proud and I know you guys are proud as well. Actually, the Town and County have turned into a tourist attraction. Thirty years ago, Gail and I moved to Floyd, and there have been a lot of changes in those 30 years. Gail used have a story that when she was asked how did we get to Floyd, she said crying. It was kind of a quiet, non-eventful town at that time 30 years ago. It certainly is not that way now; something is going on about every day. During those 30 years, we bought a house at Myrtle Beach and had every intention of retiring there someday. When the time came to retire, we looked at everything carefully and decided to sell the beach house and stay in Floyd. We think there is no better place in the world than to be where we are, beautiful country, wonderful people. Since then, I've puttered around with real estate. I see a lot of people that are looking for a place to retire or have a second home and Floyd is right there at the top of their list. We wonder why. It is because of the reasons I said, beautiful country and

wonderful people. They are impressed with the things we have done and are doing, Floyd Fest, Friday Night Jamboree, etc. and want to be a part of it. I have had the occasion to meet people from all over the country. One couple I remember very well, they were talking about Boston, where they came from. They were so impressed with our library here. They said it was equal to anything they had in Boston, if not better in some ways. They were impressed with the Jacksonville Center and the art. They were impressed with us putting that much effort into having art here in the County. We know that times are tough and it is a real struggle, and we appreciate everything that you all have done to balance the budget. But I want to remind you that back when we built the addition onto the library, there were about 600 people involved in raising \$600,000. The County came forth with \$1 million and we certainly couldn't have done it without that. But the public raised \$600,000 and that shows you what they think of the library. We hear that we'll have to cut back on services and reduce the number of books that we can buy. I kind of look at it as something we can't really afford to do without. It is like building a barn and not having any cattle to put in it, or building a garage without having a car to put in it. We don't have books to put in it, we can't buy the books or provide services or maintain the staff, it is not the best use of our money and efforts to erect a good library system. I just want you all to look at that, be bold. I know you're committed for no tax increase but it won't take but just a few pennies and we could afford to do the things that we should be doing.

Ms. Susan Mayorga – I actually live in Christiansburg but I'm here to represent Brain Injury Services of Southwest Virginia as the Case Manager for the New River Valley area so I serve the clients in Floyd County. I wanted to take the time to share with you a description of our important work here in Floyd County. Ultimately, what I'm doing today is a version of what we do every day. And that is advocate for brain injury survivors and their families. We do this as a means to help them return to be active participants in their communities. Brain Injury Services of Southwest Virginia's goal as it is stated in our mission statement is to make a positive, measurable difference in the survivors' ability to obtain their service potential and to reintegrate into their families and into their community. I am personally very proud that at any given time, 50-60% of our clients are actively pursuing work, school, volunteering or participating in a vocational program. And that is including the New River Valley area. We also facilitate survivors and their families to engage in their communities, anything that their communities have to offer them. Brain injuries can be a very isolating injury. We facilitate getting them back out and participating in their communities. In the past year, a local group of survivors have been able to enjoy each other's company by gathering at local restaurants, learning about organic gardening, enjoying public parks, touring art galleries and museums together. And I'm citing areas right here in Floyd County. The dynamic in tapping into what the County of Floyd has to offer its citizens with brain injury as well as those citizens giving back to their service potential to their community is an ideal situation that warrants your encouragement and support. I thank you. One of our Board members is also here tonight and she would like to speak to you also.

Ms. Tammy Young, Brain Injury Services Board Member, Burks Fork District – I do live in Floyd County and some of you might know me. Six years ago, my husband experienced a brain injury; my husband did just recently pass in February. For the last six years, we have used the Brain Injury Services of Southwest Virginia services; they have been invaluable to us as a family. This organization is a non-profit organization. It is the only organization, there are

several other brain injury organizations throughout the United States and in Virginia, but this is the only one that case manages families and they not only help the client but the family members as well. This was a very invaluable resource to me. I'm a nurse by trade. My husband was a teacher. When he had his accident, I had to stay home with me. I felt very isolated. Brain Injury Services came into our home and helped us in a lot of different ways. They helped me emotionally, but they also helped with cognitive training for my husband, with computer programs, respite care funding. That was the most necessary thing in my situation, the respite care. Over the past year, Brain Injury Services has serviced nine clients in this area. That is a large amount of clients. It does vary. People can have brain injuries from accidents, I'm sure you're very aware, such as when my husband fell off the roof. At the time, we lived in the Courthouse District. We did move further out of Town because my husband always wanted to cross the road and I was afraid he would get hit by a car. First off, I want to say that I appreciate so much the support that you gave Brain Injury Services last year. That meant a great deal to me and also to the clients that are serviced by Brain Injury Services. Without your support, sometimes brain injured people feel that there is nowhere to go. It is a very important and valuable resource and I appreciate you considering it this year as well when you are considering your budget.

Ms. Mary Beth Lanier, Little River District – I have campaigned for the library for many years. My husband and I moved here 30 years ago from the medical community of Roanoke. We came to Floyd not as hippies, we came to Floyd as citizens who wanted to see Floyd in some way stay the same as it was but still grow. I'd like to remind you that the library here has grown tremendously from the little room in the Courthouse all the way up to where it is now. I would also like to remind you that the library is yours. It is part of the County and as you guys are looking for new industry to come into Floyd County, industry looks at buildings such as the public library and how it serves its citizens. We would just like to have you keep that in mind as you're looking at your budget. I know it is very difficult this year and we all have to take a little cut here and there. One other thing that I'd like to mention which Olin did bring up. You asked us to raise \$300,000 for the library expansion, the Fundraising Committee went beyond that and raised \$600,000. We doubled what you asked us to raise. Now, I would like to challenge you fellas who have not been in the library and don't know anything about what it is in there, to come and ask for a tour. We'd be glad to take you around and show you what we have. While you're there, I would like for you to look at our donor board which has listed every person and family who donated to the library, and that was almost 600 families. You'll be surprised, many of those donors are long-standing Floyd County families who realize that the library is important for all of us. Try to keep us in mind as you're doing your budgeting.

Mr. Lauren Yoder, Locust Grove District – I really appreciate you giving me the opportunity to speak tonight, I don't have that much to say. Thank you, you have really done diligence this year on trying to keep our taxes low. There are a lot of good organizations that need money this year and trying to even the money out is hard. I'm also a small business owner and volunteer firefighter in Locust Grove. So we're facing cuts there too, it is understandable, everybody is feeling the pinch. I simply want to say that I encourage you to continue holding the line on taxes for us as small business owners, we're feeling the pinch from the economy, and money is getting tight. A few extra cents on raising taxes would really hurt us this year. I know

a lot of people are really having a hard time to find money to pay what we're already paying. I want to thank you and encourage you to continue that.

Ms. Amy Ingram, Voter Registrar – I appreciate the opportunity to address the Board tonight. My first comment is to thank you as others have in working this year to balance the budget and manage the limited resources that we have to work with this year. My budget concern is one of funding for my office. I currently have 33 hours of part-time help per week. I'm the only full-time employee in the Registrar's Office. I requested \$17,500 to maintain the hours of the part-time help. In 2008, this level was at \$19,500. In 2009, the \$19,500 was reduced to \$17,500. In the proposed budget this year, our funding stands at \$13,500, or about 25 hours per week. I have two very good employees; one has worked for the County 25 years and the other for 19 years. Throughout the year, some hours are saved each week so that during our busy election times, there can be two people in the office for 4-5 day periods. In the proposed budget, it provides for just over 25 hours per week. By saving some of those to get through the busy absentee period, that would only leave about 2 days of help per week during most of the year. This would make it very hard to accomplish our duties. This coming year promises to be busy with implementation of electronic books, the beginning stages of redistricting, improving the handicapped accessibility at our five county polling places, and daily management of a data base of 10,000 voters. My part-time staff is critical to the function of my office since they are the only staff besides me. They are not seasonal or temporary employees. I'm asking you to respectfully reconsider your proposed budget and fund my office at \$17,500, which is an increase of \$4000. Tammy has provided you with some information on our duties.

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

Agenda Item 3 – Draft letter of support for Sustain Floyd's community energy survey. Ms. Morris presented the draft letter as per discussion from the Board's last meeting. Supervisor Gardner noted one mis-use of a word.

On a motion of Supervisor Gardner, seconded by Supervisor Gerald, and carried, it was resolved to authorize submission of the letter of support for Sustain Floyd's community energy inventory study, as amended.

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

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

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