

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 15, 2016**

At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Floyd County, Virginia, held on Thursday, December 15, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. in the Board Room of the County Administrative Building thereof;

PRESENT: Case C. Clinger, Chairman; Joe D. Turman, Vice Chairman; J. Fred Gerald, Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch, Lauren D. Yoder, Board Members; Terri W. Morris, County Administrator; Cynthia Ryan, Assistant County Administrator.

Chairman Case Clinger called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. with the reading of the handicapping statement.

The Opening Prayer was led by Supervisor Gerald.

Vice Chairman Turman led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item 4.

On a motion of Supervisor Gerald, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the minutes of November 17, 2016 as presented.

Supervisor Gerald – aye
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – aye
Supervisor Yoder – aye
Supervisor Turman – aye
Supervisor Clinger – aye

Agenda Item 5.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Gerald, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the monthly disbursements and additional bills as presented.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – aye
Supervisor Yoder – aye
Supervisor Gerald – aye
Supervisor Turman – aye
Supervisor Clinger – aye

Agenda Item 9. – Old/New Business.

Sheriff Brian Craig gave a status report on the Sheriff's Office. He explained that a priority of his is moving forward on getting accreditation. For the past six months the office has been working on getting their policy manual up-to-date. Certain things are required to be in the policy and procedure manual. To get accreditation is about a 2-year process. Once I get everything set up with our department – and it may require some changes and different systems might have to be purchased – then it takes another year actually doing the work to make sure we

are following the policy. The State accreditation review team comes in and reviews us. Hopefully at that point we can have an accredited Sheriff's Office.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if we have never had an accredited Sheriff's Office?

Sheriff Craig responded no, we have not. You don't find too many small agencies that are able to do it because they lack the manpower. But it is one of those things that we are right on the brink of. I think it could be huge for our County. It poses a lot of transparency in having a policy manual. We have to have our own website and will have some of our policies posted so the public will know how we have to handle situations. Hopefully it will open up some grant opportunities for us. It will be nice to have someone outside of our agency to say we are doing things the right way. This is a huge thing for me that I want to make sure I get accomplished.

Staff wise we still have one person deployed, Michael Wade. We have one person currently in the Academy who will graduate in the next week or so. We have one person, Chase Vaughn, who will be starting the Academy in January. Rachel Mullins has helped us out as a bailiff sometimes three times a month. Starting in January we will hire Mario Morgan, a retired Montgomery County officer, as a part-time employee to help out three days a week. He will be a great asset to the department. Mr. Morgan will be used specifically as a bailiff. We are looking forward to this much-needed help in the courtroom for security.

Mr. Sowers has been working on a CAD vendor. We are optimistic that he may get a grant that will pay a significant cost portion of changing to a new recordkeeping system. We have a system now through ID. That company has been bought out and is going out of business. Within the next year or so we have to find a new program. We have been searching and have it narrowed down to a couple. Hopefully with this grant and the prices from the vendor we will include this in the next budget cycle.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked what this system does?

Sheriff Craig explained that at the Sheriff's Office we have to maintain warrant arrests, weapons logs, evidence, subpoenas, and 911 calls. The grant will be for the 911 side of the work. I'll have to budget for the portion of the recordkeeping that is not 911 specific. Looking at it that is the minimal side of purchasing the system. As I continue to get more information on that, I'll keep you up-to-date and let you know.

In 2012 we did a drug seizure with the Drug Task Force. It was a significant seizure in Montgomery County. As you know with seizures made by the Drug Task Force the memorandum of understanding has us split the proceeds. It was a significant seizure and we got a significant amount of money. You are going to see some things that we would like to purchase with this drug seizure money. One priority is another vehicle. Even with the two new vehicles we got, we still have three we use daily that have over 150,000 miles. I believe I told you some time ago that we have had weapons fail. My personal-issue weapon was the first to fail. Brand new, out of the box it broke on the fifth shot. I don't want to put officers out with weapons that fail. Out of 6 weapons we have, 5 have failed at the range. Firing pins and springs are breaking. The weapons have to be sent back and repaired. Part of this money will go to purchase different

weapons. If something were to happen to one of our officers because of their weapon failing, it would kill me.

Vice Chairman Turman asked what is the average cost of these weapons?

Sheriff Craig said to swap the weapons out with new holsters would be about \$6,000.00. This will come from the seizure money.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if the vendor were supplying cheaper quality weapons?

Sheriff Craig replied no, the weapons that are failing are Sigs and we want to get away from those. There are two types of Sig Sauers and one of those types, the P239, is failing. They are the small weapons the investigators carry. We are going to go with Glocks. A nice thing about the Glocks is they come with different hand grips and it can be changed to fit the officer. I have talked to other sheriffs and officers and no one has ever heard of a Glock failing unless an officer did not take care of it by cleaning it. The Sig Sauers we have now are about 8 years old and their life expectancy is only about 10 years.

Our computers are starting to get outdated so we'll start replacing those. I would like to get Live Scan which would cost about \$16,000.00 from our seizure funds. Right now when we fingerprint people after arrests, we send cards off and don't get results as to their readability until months later. With Live Scan we will know immediately if the fingerprints are readable. If we get this we can also do fingerprints for school employees and they won't have to worry about that big headache of tracking people down.

I also want to get raincoats for our officers which they don't have now. I'm also interested in doing the seizure lot over at the Transfer Station. I might be able to purchase some gravel. That lot will be used for vehicles seized in drug deals. Sometimes we have to give the vehicles back and if they are destroyed, the Sheriff's Office has to pay for them out of its budget. It would be helpful to have another locked, secured area which the Transfer Station employees won't have to worry about. Now they have to work around seized vehicles.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if he would be buying a big metal building?

Sheriff Craig responded, no, just basically a fenced-in area with some gravel and maybe a pad down the road. The biggest thing is to not have grass growing up through the vehicle and the Transfer employees on the backhoe don't have to worry about backing into vehicles.

Most of the items I mentioned we would have had to budget down the road. I am pretty excited to get and use some outside funds for those.

Chairman Clinger clarified that was our cut from a substantial seizure?

Sheriff Craig said I don't remember the exact amount. They stopped a tractor-trailer in 2012 on I-81. They had a training on what to look for on tractor-trailer seizures. They stopped one vehicle and got about \$1.3 or \$1.4 million out of the vehicle that was all drug related. It was

the only vehicle they stopped. It was a pretty good training. The money is split between the Task Force and the Drug Enforcement Agency. The training was on interdiction.

Chairman Clinger said that tells you how good that trainer was.

Sheriff Craig agreed and said we need to get that trainer back.

Supervisor Yoder asked if the Sheriff's Office could do background checks for coaches at Recreational Authority?

Sheriff Craig said I can't run a criminal history for you. From my side it has to be for law enforcement purposes. There could be a few things we could do, but not an extensive background check.

Agenda Item 6.a. – Mr. Kevin Byrd, Executive Director, New River Valley Regional Commission.

Mr. Kevin Byrd explained that he was there to provide an update from the New River Valley Regional Commission (NRVRC). Mr. Byrd stated that Mr. Fred Gerald has been a member of NRVRC for quite a while and has done a great job representing Floyd County. This past year Floyd County appointed a citizen member, Mr. Mike Maslaney, and he has been diligent about participating. He has been accessing the resources we provide. We appreciate the representation Floyd County has.

This past year we wrapped up a study on passenger rail in the New River Valley. Passenger rail service is coming to Roanoke in 2017. There has been a group in New River Valley who has come together to see how we can advance this up the line to the New River Valley. Our office looked at a study on what ridership might be in the New River Valley to see if it warranted service and where a station location might end up. We felt comfortable that we might have 40,000 riders per year based on looking at trips northward on I-81 and also through some surveying work we did. We also went to Lynchburg and talked to people who were catching the train there and asking where they came from. There is a lot of ridership that is leaving our area and boarding at other places.

In terms of station analysis 29 sites were identified between Montgomery and Radford and Pulaski along the rail corridor. They narrowed it down to 6, and then 3 and then the Metropolitan Planning Organization, the transportation planning for the core part of the region identified a site in Christiansburg next to the Aquatic Center as the top site. The Town has already purchased a piece of property over there. It was advantageous for them to do it at that time with the hopes this would be a passenger rail station for the region. The next step in this process is a Rail Traffic Control Modelling Study that the State conducts with Norfolk Southern. It looks at how you put in passenger rail service when you have a busy freight corridor. That is budgeted in the State budget for FY19. The New River Valley is working hard at getting this into FY18 under the current gubernatorial administration. That way we have the same people in place to try to advance the project. Hopefully that will happen in a budget bill amendment. We will find out for sure once we get into session. We feel like we have the ridership. We feel like we have the support for the station. We just need to try to get it through the funding mechanisms.

There is a passenger rail website if you want to check on it. There will be an update to that website in January.

Another regional item we are working on is called Building Collaborative Communities for New River Valley tourism. For the past five years all four counties and the city now have someone dedicated in whole or part of their job is to promote tourism in their community. Our office has been supporting them in an informal way. We have a website for the region. There are a variety of grants and we are looking at different models where they can collaborate. We will come out with a report in the spring which we will share with the local government managers and with elected officials soon thereafter. As part of that funding they tasked us with a demonstration project to show how well we work together. We recruited the Southwest Virginia Outdoor Expo to the New River Valley for that demonstration project. For the past two years it has been held down at Heartwood in Abingdon and they had around 2,000 people come out each year. It is a showcase of all the outdoor recreation and amenities in southwest Virginia provided to visitors. We are hoping to have 4,000+ people this year. It will be April 22 in Bisset Park in Radford from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We are currently seeking sponsors and participants. We have great registration so far. We are excited about how that is shaping up right now.

I hope you have heard about the Renew the New Expansion. For the past 14 years Giles County has done a great job of cleaning up sections of the river. We reached out to Giles and asked if they were willing to be the trainer to show how they did this. It took five months for it all to come together. We had an impressive river cleanup in August. We had 450 volunteers, 150 canoes were donated from the Boy Scouts of America and all the outfitters in New River Valley. We cleaned up 10 miles and removed 4 tons of trash between the I-81 Bridge and 114 Bridge. All of this was done within 4 hours. It was pretty remarkable. It was all because of the planning and organization that goes in on the front end. By the times the volunteers arrive it is seamless. They go out and have a great time and come back and have a quick lunch, celebrate and go home. We debriefed after the event and it was impressive to see local governments not just collaborating but bringing resources to the table. Next year we are talking about a centralized registration process and then decentralized cleanup. 450 volunteers is a lot to have at one site. All of our communities are interested in having volunteers help. We centralize registration and find out where they are coming from and we can assign those places in Floyd County, Christiansburg, and Giles County. That is our intent for next year. We want to have as much widespread impact as possible for cleanup.

In that same vein we had the Watershed Roundtable funding from the Department of Environmental Quality secured this year. The last time this group came together was over six years ago. The purpose of that group was for everybody who had any interest in water to come together and discuss what the needs are and what is happening. We pulled them together a couple of weeks ago and there was a lot of interest in continuing to come together and talk about the different needs that are out there as well as activities along the watershed. Our office was asked to continue to facilitate that. We will do that going forward.

GO Virginia is a statewide economic development program. The concept is that 9 different regions in the State would have a per capita allocation of funds for projects and there is a statewide competitive pot of funds as well. On December 5 the State Board met and approved the map that was proposed. The New River Valley is aligned with the Roanoke region and

Lynchburg region at this time. The next step is to populate the regional council that would sit over that. Once that regional council board is formed they will identify the economic development priorities. There is a meeting next week in Roanoke that the state board members that represent this greater area are calling. That is Nancy Agee and Heywood Fralin, the State Board members for that area.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked how he felt about New River Valley being associated with Roanoke and Lynchburg rather than southwest Virginia?

Mr. Byrd responded that this was debated for about a year on where to align the New River Valley. The leadership came out on this about a future economy in higher education, health care, and technology. Advanced manufacturing we certainly bleed a little bit with southwest but it does not preclude anyone from partnering outside of your geography. It is just that your project funds would come through this.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if he was pleased with it?

Mr. Byrd replied that he thought it would work well. There are certainly relationships both ways. I think New River Valley can work with both sides of it. It certainly went up to the top of political leadership. We were not involved in some of those discussions. We just gave them what we saw as potential project areas for them to consider.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if he understood why she was asking? We don't have a Virginia Tech, Radford University, or Carilion sitting right here in Floyd. I know it will be wonderful for Blacksburg, Radford, and Montgomery County. I think it is a great concept.

Mr. Byrd answered sure, I think everyone is wondering how this will work out in the future.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said there are already partnerships between these areas but there is a lot more to the New River Valley. I don't want Floyd to be a stepchild when it comes to funding and projects.

Mr. Byrd replied absolutely. If you have someone in this County you would like to be considered for that Regional Council Board, it has to be majority private sector led. They want to see a strong business presence. If you have a name that I can take next week, I would really appreciate that. We have had communities reach out to me to solicit names. We will find out next week how that State Board wants to populate this. I'll keep you up to speed on this.

Convening is a big role the NRVRC provides members. We just had a Mayors/Chairs bi-annual meeting and you were well represented and I hope you found that worthwhile. At each meeting we don't go in with much of an agenda. We go around the table and the Board Chairs say what is happening in their community. Inevitably every time we get together there is some common interest. This time it was Rescue and Emergency Services and how you have a volunteer base and support their needs.

We have the same type of meetings with our local government managers and get together quarterly for those discussions. Over the past 12-18 months we worked with Floyd to wrap up the Solid Waste Management Plan. We worked closely with Lydeana Martin on a Market Feasibility and Access Study for the Commerce Center. We involved our transportation staff and economic development staff and worked on some opportunities. It looks like that is advancing forward for some potential grant funds to improve the Commerce Center. We did some trail count collections on Buffalo Mountain and we looked at the data yesterday. We saw from the middle of October through the middle of November there was an average of 50 people a day on Saturday using the trail. There is a definite interest and need in outdoor recreation that we are seeing. I think the low during the week was around 20 people that were using that facility. We can continue to monitor that if you are interested in it. That was the first trail count data we've pulled off of the Buffalo Mountain. It is a one-page collection of data we pulled for you looking at the days of the weeks and the counts.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if that could also be done on federal land like Rocky Knob?

Mr. Byrd said we can talk to the property managers ahead of time and let them know we are going to do a count. They are always willing for us to do that.

We are always available for advisement and administration of grant funds. We have a grant we will be administering with you soon. As you identify these needs in the community, call us and we will identify how to point you in the right direction.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch thanked Mr. Byrd for his leadership at the NRVRC and how he worked with such a diverse collection of communities in a fair and equitable manner.

Mr. Byrd said he appreciated how often Floyd accesses the NRVRC.

Agenda Item 6.b. – Public Comment Period.

Chairman Clinger called for the Public Comment Period. After no comments from the audience, the Chairman declared the Public Comment Period closed.

Agenda Item 8.a. – Subdivision plats as approved by Agent for November 2016.

Ms. Lydeana Martin reported that there were not too many plat reports signed in November, but it feels like we have been busy with inquiries. It is odd to have this pick up at this time of year so I am not sure what is going on with that.

Vice Chairman Turman asked about the lot line revision where a section was going to be moved and become Patrick County on the tax map. Where is that? It shows as Slate Mountain Presbyterian Church.

Ms. Martin explained that one has been referred to the Commissioner of Revenue's Office because almost all of that property is in Floyd County but for some reason it is counted on the Patrick County side. I haven't heard back from them on it.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch pointed out there are quite a few others like this out there.

Ms. Martin concurred that we see it all the time, but usually it is closer to an even split. Previous Commissioners have told me there is an understanding between them that if it is largely in one county it gets assessed there. But this particular parcel doesn't meet the criteria because it is almost entirely in Floyd County, but was counted and taxed in Patrick County. It is a great question. I will touch base with the Commissioner of Revenue about it again. I often wonder if Floyd County gets the short end of the stick on a lot of those things. The only way to make sure we are getting a perfect count would be to survey the entire County boundary. That would be a very expensive proposition. As we see individual ones come up, we do refer them to make sure it is as fair as possible.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said she has wondered about as you leave her line and head down towards the river, it gets a little odd.

Ms. Morris pointed out there are a lot of areas like that between Floyd and Franklin Counties. I think it is within the Commissioners' purview to compromise and work it out between them.

Ms. Martin said she always asks the surveyors to show the county boundary when it is there and they will put very light approximate lines because they don't want to be responsible for nailing that exactly. I know on the Patrick County side it has something to do with the escarpment and where a raindrop would flow.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said it is the same concept with Franklin County. We have more pertinent things to spend our money on but if there were ever grant money it would be nice to know the count boundary lines.

Ms. Martin said we might want to ask our County Attorney if we can require when surveying is being done along the boundaries that they survey the exact property line. That way we could build the information piece by piece. I don't know if that is something that we can require.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said that is an interesting point.

Vice Chairman Turman said I didn't think the Patrick County line came up that high on this piece of property.

Ms. Martin concurred and said Patrick County touches this property but it doesn't take most of it. It is a great question and I will follow up with the Commissioner of Revenue on this.

Ms. Martin referred to concept plans and cost estimates that she provided for the Phase II Development of the Floyd Regional Commerce Center. We broke it out for the benefit of the grant process. The first page is the estimate on the utility work and there would be a redundant water route, which is a helpful thing for businesses. It would essentially get water and sewer to the top of the hill. That application was submitted this past summer to the Tobacco Commission.

They have given conditional approval to it if we get the matching funds for the roadway. The Phase II – Stage 1 Roadway (ARC) cost estimate is the estimate for constructing the road and because there would be a lot of cut and fill involved a 2.3 acre parcel would be created out of the dirt that is moved. I have submitted this grant to Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC). I told them it wouldn't be an easy project to phase because it is a relatively short road route anyway. So they told me a few months ago to go ahead and ask for the entire amount needed. But then when I was ready to submit it since it was a little over \$1 million, they told me they usually only grant \$.5 million. I'm just cautioning you that I have no idea what the chances are that we will get it. If we do get the ARC funding, we will get the Tobacco Commission funding too.

These grant applications pending are just for the road. In a perfect world someday if we get the funds and resources to do all this we will have about a 17 acre parcel and four 2-3 acre parcels all on approximately one grade. They could be used in combination.

I asked Anderson & Associates to be optimistic and assume that we are able to do the work for Stage II and then break the whole rest of the project down into a couple of pieces that might be more manageable. Stage IIA would be moving dirt from one area to another to create usable parcels. There would be a stormwater management pond involved with Stage IIB. One of the hopes I have is that the National Guard or some of the reserve units would have the equipment. I haven't spoken to them recently. I talked to them about 10 years ago and they were interested but then they became otherwise engaged in overseas deployment.

The cost per acre will be expensive, but it will be some of the only land in Floyd with public water and sewer and adjacent to a substation and right across the street from Citizens 200 gigabit pipeline. It is a good place to be creating space.

Supervisor Yoder pointed out that wherever you want to put industry, stormwater management has to be included.

Ms. Martin agreed with his statement and added that people who are newer to business or haven't built facilities before don't realize what it takes on the stormwater side. You are exactly right. Until people go out and try to do it they don't realize the value of something like this.

Chairman Clinger added a lot of businesses are looking for a place that is pad ready.

Ms. Martin said that what businesses want when they are ready to do something is to move as quickly as possible. That might be finding an existing building that works for them. If there isn't an existing building somewhere that works for them, the next best thing is to have something shovel ready. A lot of what the State works on in regions are 1000 acre sites or 200 acre sites. That is not something that works here. I would be shocked if a 250,000 square foot building could not be built on the site and have room for the needed parking. We would get the flexibility if some of the small businesses in food processing or wood development needed smaller sites.

Supervisor Yoder asked how those sites would compare to the existing sites?

Ms. Martin explained that the existing site behind H & V Plant 2 is about 3.5 acres of graded land. That site is in good shape in that it still has some gravel and it is easy to bush hog and keep clean. It was not done to stormwater quality standards so that is the final thing that would need to be done on it. I don't think compaction testing has been done there either. Those are the two things needed on that site.

Lot 9 has a total of 9.4 acres but only about 5 of it could be used for a pad site. That property is in pretty bad shape. It was prepped 15 years ago. Left over gravel was dumped in a small area, but the whole thing was never graveled. Pine trees and autumn olives have grown up and a big gully has washed through it. If we wanted to focus on a shovel ready site next year, I think that might be the site to focus on. It will be at least late spring before we have an idea from ARC on whether state staff will recommend us for funding. Even if are approved for the funding it will be August or September before we would be under contract to start work on that project. I think in the nearer term to focus on Lot 9, but if you wanted to focus on the smaller parcel we could.

Supervisor Yoder asked if compaction, stormwater and gravel was included in Phase II?

Ms. Martin confirmed that it does. The cost estimates are for preliminary engineering. Final engineering would have to make some assumptions about what size building and parking area would be on the land. The more impervious a surface you have the more stormwater capacity you have to build.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked what is the acreage for the Floyd Innovation Center?

Ms. Martin replied that the Floyd Innovation Center sits on about a 5 acre pad.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked what is the acreage for H & V Plant 2?

Ms. Martin answered it sits on a 10 acre pad but it is not all at a flat grade. It is narrow and stretches out to where Floyd-Floyd County Public Service Authority has a little well house and goes all the way to Commerce Center Drive on the other side. Out of that site there is probably only easy potential to expand that 50,000 square feet to maybe 80,000 or 100,000 square feet because so much of that parcel is not usable. It has a stormwater management pond right on the 10 acres whereas what we are talking about here would be to keep as much usable as possible. This is a 20-25 year proposition in having sites available and filling up the park. As you know, in order to do anything you have to develop the sites. It is not likely to happen quickly. The more variety of parcel sizes we can have and the closer they are ready to use the better.

Chairman Clinger asked if the other rough graded parcel access was through Pioneer Way?

Ms. Martin replied no, there is a little drive off of the cul-de-sac.

Chairman Clinger said that means roadwork is needed to get that site prepped.

Ms. Martin confirmed his statement.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked what size site does Dreaming Creek have?

Ms. Martin answered about 12 acres, 2 acres and 10 acres. A lot of it is usable. Jon Beegle met a couple of trustees out there about cutting some trees down.

Supervisor Yoder said this is some of the most important work we can do in the County, economic development. It is the key to so many other things we are trying to do. I appreciate how much time and effort you put into these preliminary engineering reports. This is where it all starts...schools, solid waste, everything springs out of economic development.

Ms. Martin thanked him and the Board members for funding the preliminary engineering report so we could take advantage of this opportunity. Hopefully something good will happen.

Chairman Clinger said he echoed Supervisor Yoder's statements. But he would also like to see us not waiting on someone else to build it for us. It is nice to have grants but if we had a plan to develop it on our own.

Supervisor Yoder said I would love to see us get a site ready.

Chairman Clinger said that was why I was asking about the 9 acres so we could develop it, sell it, get someone in there, and have money to start developing others on our own.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch agreed and asked if Dreaming Creek owns their lot?

Ms. Martin confirmed that they do.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked about H & V.

Ms. Martin said H & V has a lease to purchase for about \$100,000.00 in the 10th year.

Ms. Morris said she and Ms. Martin had been discussing how this would fit in the budget.

Chairman Clinger replied that he would like to see something toward that 9 acre development.

Supervisor Yoder said when the building came available that H & V got, multiple businesses were interested. The Floyd Innovation Center has attracted interest. It just seems that you become more attractive as you make more and more progress. We are at a disadvantage in a lot of ways so we have to build our own advantages where we can.

Ms. Martin replied that is very well said.

Chairman Clinger asked if she could get back with whoever did the original site prep work and find out how much it would cost to get the 9 acres up to standards?

Ms. Martin replied that she was pretty sure that Anderson & Associates did the original work. Ms. Morris and I were just talking about this. If we are not having to do the paperwork that is required for outside funding, we might be able to simply ask them to do the engineering on the work that needs to be done. Let me find out what it would take for them to lay out that plan and costs for us.

Chairman Clinger said it would help to have that information in a month and a half when we go into budget time.

Ms. Martin said it will cost something for them to do an estimate for us. Do you want us to bring that cost back to you?

Chairman Clinger said I think we have consensus to pursue it, but I don't want to give you a blank check. Come back and find out what it would encompass with that estimate.

Ms. Martin said okay, we'll come back to you with an estimate for the estimate.

Chairman Clinger said tell them we are getting ready to do this and want to know what it would cost so we can act on it in our February meeting.

Ms. Martin said yesterday Ms. Angie Covey at New River Community College submitted the application for a Floyd County ACCE program. We had to make a lot of assumptions in terms of estimating the number of students and the programs they would pursue. Some Floyd County employers like H & V are expanding and Crenshaw Lighting has bought a bigger building. Those businesses have expressed interest in people with certificates like industrial maintenance or manufacturing tech, maybe something that could be done in 1 year or even 6 months. The Tobacco Commission is also very interested in workforce credentials not pursuing 2-year degrees that are going on for 4-year degrees. New River Community College has had a lot of focus on the 2-year pass through students. The Career Coach at Floyd County High School encourages our students to go for 2-year degrees. There is nothing wrong with that but I think some students might be willing to try a certificate that would be easier and there would be an employer waiting for them. I have incorporated a little bit of that in there by estimating 6 or 7 certificates as opposed to assuming all of them would do 2-year degrees. I am hoping that we can encourage that. New River Community College has confirmed that certificate programs would be eligible for federal financial aid as well.

The grant application is for \$78,500.00. The assumption we went with is that 45% of the costs would be covered by federal or state aid. Ms. Covey has talked to private individuals and employers who have pledged \$30,000.00 in donations. This would be for starting the program. If it is funded and there is a second year then you would have the first year students plus the next year students. We will need more money the second year. Because the Commission was so late putting the application out this year, they've promised to turn it around in a month so the funded projects can start marketing to students and parents by late January.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if this would go into effect for the FY18 school year?

Ms. Martin said that it would.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked where the matching funds come from?

Ms. Martin answered that each student will have to fill out the FAFSA application for federal and state aid to be eligible for this program. The best estimate we came up with is that 45% of tuition would be covered by that. The \$30,000.00 from private donors would also be part of the match. The remaining part of tuition would be through this grant if we got full funding from the Tobacco Commission. The student would still be responsible for books and their transportation.

Vice Chairman Turman said businesses and private citizens have asked him where the program stood.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if Ms. Martin had consulted with the Superintendent and school system?

Ms. Martin said she has not discussed this with the Superintendent. I understood I would be in a supporting role on this grant application and a week before it was due, I found out I would be doing much of it. I have had to scramble. I apologize for not following protocol.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said this could be really important for a lot of our students.

Ms. Martin agreed that it is an important opportunity. The Tobacco Commission is trying to figure out how to make their money last longer. A lot of the community colleges that are entirely in the footprint have gotten up to \$450,000.00 each year before but the maximum request has been cut to \$350,000.00. That sounds like a lot more than what we are asking for or even would next year but this is just for our County and others serve multiple counties. I think we made a strong case. We got letters of support from 6 major employers in the County.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said this is the best private-public partnership along with our students. I love it.

Supervisor Yoder asked if this was one time funding from the Tobacco Commission or is there a possibility it would continue?

Ms. Martin answered this is unusual in that the other community colleges have gotten this funding for 4-5 years in a row now. The Tobacco Commission is willing to invest in this ongoing. As I mentioned they cut the maximum request from \$450,000.00 to \$350,000.00 so they are looking on how to stretch it out. So far they have been investing in it each year. They are really focused on economic development and they've seen that workforce development is absolutely critical.

Ms. Morris said we can also come up with some innovative ideas to raise money locally. Giles County has a very successful program. They just had a mud bog a month or two ago to raise funds for their ACCE program. They netted about \$82,000.00.

Vice Chairman Turman said they had a lot of fun doing it and it was a community effort.

Ms. Morris agreed and said they already have people signing up for next year.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said this dovetails with my personal desire for our Career and Technical Education program and how important it is for many of our students. Many students shudder at the idea of 2 more years of school. Six months to a year in a program that leads to a certificate and a job is doable. The Governor just announced a grant to the New River Valley Workforce Development. This is having us at the right place at the right time. Thank you for taking the lead on this.

Ms. Martin said the BEE and AFID grants have been announced. We hope to do our kickoff meeting in January. Lastly we will be meeting with the consultant on the cluster development planning grant at 2:00 p.m. today and talking about that. There will not be a Planning Commission meeting this month. We will meet again in January.

Agenda Item 6.c. – Ms. Elisabeth Willis, Housing & Community Development Project Manager, Town of Blacksburg and New River Valley HOME Consortium.

Mr. Matt Hanratty provided the New River Valley HOME Consortium 2016 Highlights annual report and a PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Hanratty explained that Ms. Willis had an emergency so he came to provide information in her place. This is a good way to allow all the boards and councils throughout the New River Valley to see what we have been doing. The New River Valley HOME Consortium is made up of all four counties in the New River Valley, the City of Radford and the towns incorporated within the counties. We have a board of directors and Ms. Morris and Mr. Clinger are part of that board. It is a cohesive working group.

We have accomplished a lot since our founding in 2007. Since our founding in 2007 we have either completed or are in the works of completing 343 affordable housing units throughout the New River Valley, which is impressive considering how small we are. We have been able to leverage our funds exponentially so every dollar we get we leverage over \$7.00. That is the best in the State by far. We highlight that because we don't get that much in annual funding from our respective counties, cities, and towns. We have to get a lot of additional federal and state grants, private foundation donations, and developers to make these projects workable. The best part of what we do at the HOME Consortium is that the program is tailored individually for each county and what each county is seeking to do. It is not a one size fits all by any stretch. Blacksburg is very different from Floyd which is different from Giles. They all have different needs and interests.

In Blacksburg we built an Age-in-Place community. Community Housing Partners was the developer there. This was a Net Zero Ready development which means each home produces as much or more energy than it uses. Some of the energy use in the homes is negative which means they give back to the grid because of the use of solar panels. As we move forward we can utilize this technology for other projects. It really comes into play with affordability because energy costs can be astronomical for some folks who have a house that is not very tight. Energy costs from utility companies are not going down; they are going up.

In Pulaski we did a neighborhood improvement project in Baskerville. This is the third one they decided to do. We have been successful with getting funds from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. It is a comprehensive approach with housing rehabilitation; we fixed individual's houses that do not have the financial means to do. There is also infrastructure work in the way of water and sewer upgrades that the Town and County participate in. There was some paving and sidewalks necessary. There is new housing development as well which Community Housing Partners and Habitat for Humanity have or will be participating in. One of their Town Council initiatives was housing improvements because their assessment was that housing was older and deteriorating. They wanted to try and get it back to what it once was.

In Giles County we have an Assisted Living Facility which has 23 rooms, single occupancy. Each room has its own private bathroom. This is for folks who are more aging and they need a little bit of assistance but a nursing home is far more expensive and not what they need. The facility provides 3 home cooked meals a day. There is common space. There is an interior garden space. The building is a square with a hollow middle. They can leave the building. Many residents still drive. It is a wonderful space for those who need a little bit of assistance but don't want to go to a nursing home. It bridges that gap.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said the County's nonprofit operates this. Could it be done with a commercial operation too?

Mr. Hanratty replied absolutely. Here in Floyd we just finished the first Habitat for Humanity house in Floyd County. This house isn't net zero but it is highly energy efficient. This helps with affordability because when you have a small energy bill you have more disposable income. It is a beautiful house. I encourage you to drive by it if you haven't.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said she was at the ribbon-cutting and it is a fabulous home.

Mr. Hanratty said we are working on doing some more projects in Floyd with Habitat for Humanity. Radford has chosen to go with downtown revitalization, with lower floor retail and upper floor housing. They have put an emphasis on trying to revitalize some of their older, decaying buildings. This is the third one we've done in Radford. Kibbles is in there. There is a coffee shop on the bottom floor. There are tenants above. It has had an amazing impact. The first building houses River City Grill. New River Community Action offices are in the second building. This is the third building. They have chosen to go with a mixed use route. These are the City Council goals.

The last thing we have been working on is supporting Aging in Place initiatives. One of the big things we kind of knew but quantified it a little bit is: in the New River Valley over the next 20 years our older population will double. What does that mean for our community and the services we provide? We have an Aging in Place Leadership Team to help figure out what that means for our communities. We have taken part in a lot of different initiatives. We just launched a time bank which helps people exchange services. I might teach guitar but need help with handyman work. People list their talents and trade services. It has been very successful in other areas of the country and in rural areas too. Being largely rural in New River Valley has presented some challenges to providing services, particularly for folks who are in rural settings

and want to stay in rural settings. How can you get them services as they age in place? This is a cost effective way to do it. While they may not be able to do a lot, everybody has something they can give. It can be reading to children. This is one of the initiatives we've started.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said this has been going on in Floyd in a private kind of way.

Mr. Hanratty agreed and said we've talked to those folks and they are onboard with coming together to broaden this. We are really excited about that. We talk about the bricks and mortar side of housing, but there is also the service side of housing. Survey data shows most people want to age in their home, in their community. How can we help them do that? It is much cheaper than nursing homes and high levels of care if they don't need it.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said Summit Place in Giles County is the future in my opinion, some people can't remain in their homes but want to stay in their communities. You work with Habitat for Humanity, Community Housing Partners and Taylor Hollow. Those are the ones you've highlighted here as working with HOME Consortium. Who else are you working with?

Mr. Hanratty said as far as developers those are the three.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if there could be others?

Mr. Hanratty replied possibly, but there is a very steep learning curve for the rules behind the programs. Community Housing Partners and Habitat for Humanity are nonprofits and they are structured to do this. Taylor Hollow was new to this in 2008. They had a steep learning curve. We've talked to other developers and in most cases after we talk to them about what they need to do with the affordability requirement, they are really not interested. If a developer is interested we are happy to talk to them. But there is a steep learning curve for all the rules and the monitoring and the follow-up that happens.

Agenda Item 6.d. – Dr. John Wheeler, Interim Superintendent, Floyd County Public Schools.

Dr. Wheeler said I am here to provide you with an overview of education in Floyd County. We are in a very good place compared to where education is and where we need to be and where the State Superintendent wants to take it, which is a good place. Things are going well. One of my objectives and the objective of anyone who has a superintendency is to be able to communicate a clear vision and just give information. You have some great opportunities, whether I am here long term or not, that only happens every so often. I have been in this 27 years. I have been through all the federal government regulations; I've taught before; I've taught after. What is happening in instruction is a great thing. We are on top of that right now and we are continuing to improve that.

As far as a vision of what a high school graduate should look like, it is the best I've ever seen it. If I had 40 years in I would stay another 10 just because it is so exciting at this time in education. For Floyd and for us here, you have a unique opportunity where things are aligned because the needs, the resources, meet the supports. And it doesn't happen very often. And it doesn't happen in education very often because of the accountability. I've lived through the

accountability a long time as a teacher and building principal. We've got some great opportunities here. Even if I am not here for the long term, I would strongly advise on these directions, but the biggest thing is what we offer to the students and we can encompass that. But the other thing is you look at what you want your graduates to look like. For the first time the State is doing that too. CTE and career ready is it. That is why I am thinking right now we are better off than some school divisions that has new buildings that are five years old because it is changing. The only way to keep it going is to stay ahead of the curve. The two things in any business – and I've lived this as a building level principal and as an administrator in school divisions – you get behind money, you get behind time; it takes too long to recover. We are staying ahead of the timepiece right now with instruction. However long this process goes I will talk to you after the process with the budget. We make the decisions now for next year. We make decisions now that we need to look at and it is CTE.

We have a great opportunity. You will hear me talk about the Six Year Plan. Every school division has a Comprehensive Plan. You don't hear about it a lot. You've probably never seen it. That is what we have to look at and it is a great time to look at that. You have great people. I've been in this area for a very, very long time and you have some great opportunities, probably better than many school divisions. The time that I am here my job is to give you enough information, the School Board and you, to let you see and help create a vision that is going to help our kids here.

Chairman Clinger said I appreciate that. I think we've realized for the last few years that CTE is evolving and needed, and now we are hearing it from you and the state level as well.

Dr. Wheeler said as we go forward I'll give you information on education, facilities, resources, and some of that gets into the budget. One of the things is the accountability and that restricts you so much in any organization. Accountability makes you get behind in time and budget. Once you are behind in time and budget, it takes five, six, seven years to recover. And I've lived through that. The accountability is changing. That's the difference. That is one of the things that is lining up. It is going to start changing with the incoming class of 2018, with the 9th grade class. We're looking at things right now. Whether I am here or not there are some good things we are looking at doing to stay ahead of that curve. There will be much more information coming your way and the School Board's way.

Supervisor Yoder said I also serve on the Recreational Authority and we are working on spring sports. One of the things I was thinking about is getting an idea of when testing would occur so we wouldn't schedule games and keep kids out late the night before a test.

Dr. Wheeler said that would be helpful. The testing schedule is easily gotten and publicized. We are looking at the information on our website for better communication. For now, I will be more than happy to get that to Dustin Hollandsworth. It is important to avoid scheduling sports during testing for the readiness of kids. If you ask me as an educator, I'm not big on high-stake tests. I want learning to take place. I am fortunate to teach graduate courses at Virginia Tech along those lines. I have gotten to hear some of the best people in the country on these things. That is definitely a bottom line way to lessen anxiety. We can get you that. The more partnerships the school division has will help the ultimate goal.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if there was anybody in administrative staff with a proclivity to write grants?

Dr. Wheeler replied no, we don't have anybody that has experience writing grants. Most of the grants here that I've seen, to my knowledge, have been done by teachers or administrators in schools. We see all the grants. They come through. Since I have been here – I have a good relationship with the grant writer in Montgomery County who does a great job – she sends me things and says you may be interested in this. I usually have my eyes on most of them. I disseminate the information to the people who would be interested in doing it.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if this would be a worthwhile investment?

Dr. Wheeler replied probably not because the resources could be used elsewhere. The communication is extensive with everything. The State wants you to see every grant. Every organization wants you to see every grant that comes in. If there were a grant that we need specific help with, there is no question we would get it. Based on my experience in school divisions I've been in, it is a position that gets questioned when things get tough because it is not busy all year long. When you have a human resource you can put into another position that directly affects kids instantly, that is where you want to use your resources. I don't think it is detrimental to the grant writing process.

Chairman Clinger expressed his appreciation to Dr. Wheeler for the update.

Agenda Item 6.e. – Ms. Tracie Brewster, Director of Social Services.

Ms. Brewster provided a copy of the caseload statistics for November 2016 and the CSA Expenditure Report for the past two fiscal years.

Family Services Programs:

Adult Protective Services (new): 7

Adult Protective Services (ongoing): 1

Adult Protective Screenings (new): 4

Companion Cases: 4

Guardianship Reporting Cases: 34

That number has gone down because a few individuals have passed away.

Child Protective Services Investigations (new): 2

Child Protective Services Investigations (ongoing from previous month): 3

Child Protective Family Assessments (new): 6

Child Protective Family Assessments (ongoing from previous month): 16

As you can tell in our services caseload, Child Protective Services is the hardest hit of all of those. One worker handles the entire caseload you are seeing. We have tried to shift the caseload around a little bit. Our new worker that handles VIEW, Child Care, she came to us with a Child Welfare background so we are using her skills to do some Child Welfare ongoing cases.

Child Protective Services Ongoing Cases: 4

Prevention Child Protective Services: 2

These are cases we are not mandated to serve because there is no abuse or neglect in the home, but they are still high risk cases. Some of those cases are court ordered by a judge or the family feels they need support and ask for it.

Court ordered supervised visitation: 1

Other Court ordered or ICPC cases: 1

That child was removed from custody from Washington State and the family that adopted the child lives here in Floyd. We are just doing some monitoring visits with the family.

Foster Care: 9 cases (w/ 9 children in care)

View: 10 Child Care: 2

Trolinger: 19 total applications, all of which were approved

Benefit Programs:

SNAP: 802 cases

SNAP (new): 31 cases

TANF: 45 cases

TANF (new): 8 cases

Medicaid: 1388 cases/2494 participants Medicaid (new): 28

Fuel: 440 Approved, 63 Denied, 105 Closed, 7 Pending because of help desk tickets called in because of problems with our system.

Crisis: 60 cases

At this time of year we also provide some additional support to families.

- 26 children served with Coat (26) and Bike (6) Program provided by West End Market
- 5 children referred to 5 slots with the New River Valley Shop with a Cop Christmas Program
- 19 Seniors served by our Silver Bells tree that was placed at Floyd Pharmacy
- 8 Foster Care children will receive Christmas presents from the Foster Care Christmas fund from donations from community churches.

Vice Chairman Turman asked what dictates your staffing level?

Ms. Brewster explained that it comes down to Administrative funding. It also comes down to space. Right now even if we had the funding, we physically don't have the space for another individual. We are trying to be really creative and watching his caseload very carefully. We don't want worker burnout. He does a fabulous job with his cases. It takes a lot of time to work with those cases.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked why the 63 Fuel cases were denied? Did the individuals make more money than the guidelines allowed.

Ms. Brewster confirmed that was the reason. We try to refer them to other programs which they might qualify for or other resources out there that might help them. The CSA Expenditure report shows that FY16 expenditures were less than FY15. We can always have 1 big case that can increase costs. We have one child right now with severe special needs.

Chairman Clinger said during budget time when we reduced CSA expenditures we were very aware that one or two cases could cause this to go up.

Ms. Brewster said we are being very mindful and the FAPT team is doing an amazing job of looking at Medicaid first and then at other resources that might be available.

Supervisor Yoder said you are using conference room space up here aren't you?

Ms. Brewster confirmed that they are using Administration conference rooms. A lot of agencies have the luxury of a visitation room with a two-way mirror. We don't have that luxury. We have to reserve the conference room. Our workers have to sit in with the families which is not the ideal situation because you can't get a true sense of the parenting.

Chairman Clinger asked if we could use the library?

Ms. Brewster replied we do use the library, but again that is a public space. I'm not trying to be negative about everything. We try to make the most of our resources.

Supervisor Yoder said I wanted to bring it up so we keep in mind that space is an issue.

Ms. Brewster invited board members to come tour the DSS offices. We have installed a lot of safety things downstairs. We have created a safety committee. We have installed video cameras for our staff in case we ever have an active shooter. We installed smoke detectors. We are looking at replacing the glass in windows with something more protective. Clients can open our current windows and stick their body halfway through. That is scary when you are the only person up front. The safety committee is looking at all those things. Thank you for all you do for us. We appreciate it.

Agenda Item 6.f. – Mr. David Clarke, Virginia Department of Transportation.

Mr. David Clarke said he wanted to provide an update. We've done some basic maintenance things. I have a long list of roads that they had the motor grader on. I believe they got to Sams Road.

Chairman Clinger recalled that it had been graded but needed gravel.

Mr. Clarke replied I think they've put gravel on it and I'll check and see. We had some warm weather and we were able to get hot asphalt patching on Rt. 221, Laurel Branch Road, Shooting Creek Road and Poor Farm Road as well. We did get the pothole fixed at the entrance to the park. We've done some brush cutting. We had some complaints here in town around Food Lion. They did a good job of getting those cut but leaving the residence with a little bit of screen from the street as well. There was also some cutting on Laurel Branch Road, Sandy Flats

Road. A lot of our Willis crew has been working on taking out the slope on the curve on Laurel Branch Road. That is being done with some of the Safety money that got allocated to the County. There might be a little more work to do on one end of it and to get some seed on there. We are trying to keep up work on shoulders of roads that have been impacted by hard rains. This is on both Rt. 8 and Rt. 221 and Barberry Road. We are also doing some ditch line work on Rt. 221 as well. There are a couple of pipe replacement projects on Haycock Road and Smartsview Road and Stagecoach Run as well as a few others. Those are some of the maintenance things we are working on.

There are two construction projects in the works. Vaughns Mill Road is an unpaved road project. We will probably start sometime after the beginning of the year getting some of the trees and brush cut so when weather gets better we can start grading and eventually surface treatment. The other project is Alum Ridge Road which won't start until the end of 2017. We will advertise that in late summer or fall. I hope to have either a public meeting or outside of a board meeting if you want to attend, and I will give you an update and show you the plans. This is a project that is going through planned development with our design office in Salem because it is a curve project on a paved road and there is a lot of federal money involved. This will be a full project put out to bid to a contractor. It is maybe a half mile section near the church and old store on Alum Ridge Road. We are going to do some curve work and shoulder work.

Supervisor Gerald asked if Mr. Clarke had checked out the culvert mentioned by Mr. Bishop on Indian Creek Road?

Mr. Clarke replied that he had sent that on but he wasn't sure if it had been taken care of or not. I'll check and see if they have done that work.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch stated that a woman lost her life at a crosswalk in downtown Floyd.

Mr. Clarke said he had not heard about that.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch continued the crosswalk is no longer there on either side as you head north to south. You put the new ones in, but the old ones disappeared. They are not there anymore. There was a bad accident last Friday. I don't know how we make the intersection safer. It needs to be made safer. I'm not sure what exactly needs to be done there. But it needs to be safer. I would like to see us, and I know this is the Town of Floyd, but when someone loses their life it is a tragic consequence. It weighs heavy on me about that intersection not being safe. We have a lot of people walking through downtown Floyd, a lot of people. Even though it is bitter cold out there right now, there is probably a lot of people walking through downtown Floyd. We've got to do something.

Chairman Clinger said I know we discussed this a couple of months back about getting walk, don't walk signs which actually tells pedestrians when they can cross. This might help push that along if you could point out that the request was made previously and since then we've had a fatality.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said this was one of those things where everybody was doing everything right, but there was a lot of congestion, it was right around noon. We've just got to make that intersection safer.

Mr. Clarke said we have a very experienced Traffic Engineering and Safety division in Salem and they investigate all traffic fatalities. I'll make sure they take a look at this one and get the police report. We will work with the Board and try to figure out something to make that better.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said she tried to get the State Police report but it is still an ongoing investigation.

Chairman Clinger said since this does encompass the Town it would help, if you know you are going to have people up here, if you could let us know ahead of time so I could arrange to have some of the Town members in as well.

Mr. Clarke said that he would do that.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said cars pass on the right when someone is making a left. There is a lot going on there. Whatever we can do to make our Town and County safer it is incumbent on us to do that. Speaking of which, Franklin Pike near the Blue Ridge Parkway where that pavement has slid, it has gotten worse. I don't know how that is possible, but it is. When I am driving in my Suburban and I go over there, my car starts to move. It will be worse when we get snow or ice or anything; that has got to be fixed. I don't know if you can hot patch it. Band-Aid it for right now. That is going to be one of those issues that is going to cause a problem and someone will get hurt. I am now literally moving over in clear line of sight so that I don't have to encounter it.

You did a great job on Sunny Ridge Road, but now it is a mess. I don't know if there wasn't enough gravel put down. I don't know what is going on and what it would take to fix. They don't really want it paved. It is becoming a more travelled road as a cut through from Bethlehem Church Road to Stonewall Road to Rt. 221.

The shoulder right near Canning Factory Road on Rt. 8 on the northbound side if a car drops in there, they are done. It is a gully. That has to be fixed.

Also which curve on Shawsville Pike is being straightened?

Mr. Clarke replied the big horseshoe.

Supervisor Yoder added it is the one below the one where the fatality occurred.

Mr. Clarke said we will see how that turns out. It should score well. We have a lot of secondary road money, not unpaved road money that we have to put somewhere. That will help us in the scoring. We are only asking for 50% of the total cost of it from the new Smartscale funding process.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch reiterated anything you can do with this crosswalk issue, put it on the fast track. You hate to have something happen so tragic to get us to act but sometimes that is what it takes. This is something I will watch. Thank you for everything you do on the positive side of things. I think there will be a lot of ice this winter. If there is anything you can do ahead of time, in this County when ice hits it is bad.

Mr. Clarke said some weather is expected this weekend and we have a big conference call tomorrow.

Vice Chairman Turman expressed his appreciation for the machine work in his area but now gravel is needed. I see signs going up at Mira Fork Bridge so I guess that is a go.

Mr. Clarke said it is still a little bit away. They are in design and right of way now.

Supervisor Yoder said he reiterates the Franklin Pike issue. I appreciate the shoulder work done on Rt. 221 in the Locust Grove District. It has improved the safety there. I appreciate the patching at the Recreation Park. The road going into the park, which isn't very long, is starting to get cracks in it especially up at the top. We probably get more traffic on that road than a lot of other roads in the county. Hundreds of vehicles a day go in there. Would VDOT repave that?

Mr. Clarke replied that he would look into it. I can't remember if it has a route number on it. Some of those were built as a recreational access road. It is just a matter of putting it on our schedule. If it is not in too bad a shape we can put a seal on it to keep the cracks from getting worse.

Supervisor Yoder said that as you get cracks in it there is a lot of foot traffic on it as well so a smooth surface would be nice. Thank you for all your work. You've been doing a great job.

Chairman Clinger said as I've brought up before we need a walk, don't walk at the main intersection. I would like to see that. I know we've been looking at the sidewalks to the high school. Do you have any updates on that?

Mr. Clarke said it would be nice if the weather holds to do it while they are not in school. We are going to try to get the part that is on the high school property first. The other part will be more problematic because of right of way. There are trees we have to take out. We had a good meeting with the school. Our contractor who does concrete work for us and who did the ADA ramps in town, it is just a matter of getting them scheduled.

Chairman Clinger asked what funds were you looking at using, Safe Schools?

Mr. Clarke said the problem with that is the match for it. I think you have enough in your six year plan to cover it with that if you would like.

Chairman Clinger said what I am getting at is after this one is done I know we want to continue it but are having trouble with access and right of ways. I was thinking because of the

flow of traffic going to the Recreation Park that at some point we extend the sidewalk coming out of town down to there, if funds are available. Thank you for your work and the update.

Agenda Item 6.g. – Mr. Corbin Stone and Mr. Scott Wickham, Auditors with Robinson, Farmer and Cox.

Mr. Stone said that Floyd County received an unqualified opinion on the FY16 audit, which means we think the financial statements are correct. Your folks have done a good job. We had some adjustments we recommended to the financial statements so in the back of the report there is a finding saying we recommend adjustments. That is pretty typical. The only way to really avoid that is to hire a crew of CPAs to come in here and identify all of those before we show up. That costs a lot of money and I don't think there is much benefit to it. That being said, your staff has done a wonderful job in looking at our adjustments for the prior year and then replicating those. They really picked up on a lot. That finding may go away on its own, particularly with the EDA, which is a complicated animal. It is not easy from an accounting standpoint to pull it together. They have really learned a lot. It makes my job a lot easier. They understand more than cash in and cash out. They have picked up on receivables and payables and depreciation, not just with EDA but with the County as well. We have been impressed with your staff.

Mr. Wickham agreed that Floyd County is going in the right direction with audit adjustments. We did have a few minor things we want to bring to your attention. Mr. Wickham provided an audit presentation report. Staff will take care of these things if they haven't already.

The Treasurer is keeping track of asset forfeitures on a spreadsheet. Those need to be tracked in the financial system and shown as restricted funds. I will be happy to work with her to get those set up in the system.

The other items I am sure have already been taken care of.

Mr. Stone said the Statements of Economic Interest have to be filed by January 15, 2017. There is a \$500.00 fine if you don't file those on time. I encourage you to get that done. The State has asked us to look at that and give them a report of who didn't file on time. We're sorry if you get fined.

Mr. Wickham referred to page 4 of the audit presentation which provides a 6 year financial trend summary of Floyd County. The numbers on the far right are the annualized growth rate. If you look at your taxes it is almost a 4% increase over the six years. A lot of that is the assessment. It is a good increase for the County over the time. This particular year was a full year of the new tax rate. Last year was half year with the new rate. The effect on total revenues is about a 3% increase. You have about a 1% increase in state and federal funding, which is good that you are going after getting those funds because in general they are shrinking. The amount you can get is definitely less than it used to be. You are doing a good job of getting it.

There has been a 2% increase in operating expenditures across the board. It is good to keep it under the average of 3%. Debt service has increased about 3% overall. The important

number is the increase of ending fund balance. You have gone from using a tax anticipation note to having a sizeable fund balance that is healthy for your annual operations. That is something you should be commended for. You are doing a great job of growing your fund balance.

Mr. Stone added that back in 2011, \$2 million in reserves is not enough. You were digging around in the cushions looking for change. I'm glad to see that number up there to give you some buffer.

Mr. Wickham said on page 5 you see the numbers of ending cash balance as a percent of operating expenditures. You are now at 31%. That essentially means that if you didn't get any additional revenue coming in, you could fund your expenditures for 1/3 of the year. That is a good number for a county this size.

Page 6 has charts showing net position. Net position is all assets of the government including buildings less all of your debt. This is the County's net worth. This is comparable to a business essentially. You have a positive trend which is good. It goes with the fund balance we talked about. Unrestricted net position is the funds you have on hand that you can use at your discretion. This does not include the buildings because those are not available for use essentially. There was a decrease in 2015. A lot of that was adding the new pension liability with VRS. Even though you pay the rate VRS asks you to pay, it is not the rate that needed to be paid to fund it entirely. You are doing what you are supposed to be doing, but VRS did not make the money in their investments that they expected. This led to it not being fully funded.

Mr. Stone added that deficit is about \$1.7 million at June 30, 2015. They haven't updated the numbers for 2016 yet.

Mr. Wickham continued the increase in 2016 was mostly from the fund balance increase. Page 7 shows the fund balance. This is the shorter term, cash on hand and short term receivables and payables. Again we see a positive trend. Also the unassigned general fund balance as a percentage of annual expenditures is increasing.

Mr. Stone said we have two charts on Debt Service. The first shows debt service to tax revenues. This lets you know how much of your local revenue is needed to cover your debts; 17% is certainly reasonable. Some places are quite a bit higher than that. The second chart shows the County debt per capita. That includes your pension liability. It did not include pension liability 2014 and in prior years so that is why there is a jump in 2015. The statewide average has not been produced since about 2010, but back then it was roughly \$2,000.00 for every county in the state. That was heavily influenced by northern Virginia because theirs is \$6,000.00-\$8,000.00 debt per capita. For rural counties anything below \$1,500.00 is certainly good. You are right in there at \$2,000.00. If we took out the pension liability it would be even lower.

Page 10 shows School Board revenues and expenditures. This graph looks the same in all counties. There was a drop for school board revenues and expenditures in 2012 due to State cuts and in federal money after the stimulus money ran out. After 2012 it picks back up. There is about a \$600,000.00 increase in expenditures from 2015 to 2016 and on \$20 million that is about a 3% growth rate.

Supervisor Yoder asked what the difference is in Local and County on the Revenue chart?

Mr. Stone explained that Local revenue is generated within the school system by things like cafeteria sales. The State formula for determining the local share takes some of that into account. We always think that what the County allocates to the schools is the local share but the actual calculation includes money generated by the schools.

Evidently a few years ago the State identified some problems with VRS. People were receiving VRS benefits that maybe didn't work for the State or local government. They were getting benefits they shouldn't have gotten from the state system. We now have to go through and do a check of things for the state. The only deviation we found for Floyd County is that payments are due by the 10th of the following month. We found 1 month where the payment was not made by the 10th of the month. That was the only deviation we found. We check to make sure that when somebody leaves employment that they are taken out of the VRS system so you don't accidentally pay an extra month's contribution. We check to make sure when a person is employed they are added to the VRS system. We didn't have any issues with any of that. We have had places where we found people in the system that left 3 months ago and were still getting a contribution to their retirement. So that is an issues that the State wants to clear up, but we didn't see that. Page 12 gives details on what we tested for VRS and the sample size.

The last thing I will mention is the Communication with Those Charged with Governance. If we had problems with the audit it would be included in this letter. You get the boilerplate letter because there weren't any problems. We mention the estimates used for net pension liability. The School Board's estimate for their net liability for teachers and other employees is about \$18 million; the County's is about \$1.7 million. That liability is making the assumption that VRS will get a 7% rate of return on investments. If you increase that estimate to 8% that liability goes down. If you decrease the estimate to 6% the liability goes up. That is a pretty big estimate when the School Board's liability is \$18 million and yours at \$1.7 million. If the State can't hit that target of 7% then that liability will grow over time. In the last couple of years they haven't hit it. In the past 4-6 weeks they probably got some of it back. It is something for you to know so when you look at those liabilities you realize it is not dollars in the bank. That number is always moving depending on what the market is doing.

Supervisor Yoder stated that in a recession we would see that number grow.

Mr. Stone confirmed that statement. If markets are not hitting the 7% target, your liability grows. You do amortize in so if they earn 6% your liability grew. That 1% difference we amortize over 5 years. This is to smooth it.

Mr. Wickham said the effect you might see is an increase in rates you are required to pay.

Mr. Stone said from a historical perspective rates are higher for VRS until they get these liabilities down. They have to factor in some mechanism to collect that money, unless the markets just take off.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said so all in all we are doing pretty well.

Mr. Stone said all in all you are on the right track. You have a few things to work on. We are here to serve the Board. So if you have concerns or questions or anything we can help you with, that is what we are here to do.

Chairman Clinger thanked the auditors for the update.

Agenda Item 8.b. – November 2016 Department of Inspections Report.

Ms. Morris reported that residential permits are up considerably compared to last year at this time. We are holding fairly steady year-to-date.

Agenda Item 8.c. – Resolution requesting that the Virginia General Assembly consider changes to Section 58.1-3833 of the Code of Virginia to equalize meals taxation authority among cities, town and counties.

Ms. Morris stated that you requested that I draft this resolution. Please feel free to edit the draft as you would like. Our legislators were unable to attend today, but I believe some of you had the chance to speak with them at the School Board lunch.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Turman, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt a resolution requesting that the Virginia General Assembly consider changes to Section 58.1-3833 of the Code of Virginia to equalize meals taxation authority among cities, town and counties (Document File Number 892).

Supervisor Yoder – aye
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – aye
Supervisor Gerald – aye
Supervisor Turman – aye
Supervisor Clinger – aye

Agenda Item 8.d. – Resolution requesting that the Virginia General Assembly continue to allow localities to opt-out of managing any mandated Virginia Stormwater Management Permit Regulations.

On a motion of Supervisor Turman, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt a resolution requesting that the Virginia General Assembly continue to allow localities to opt-out of managing any mandated Virginia Stormwater Management Permit Regulations (Document File Number 893).

Supervisor Gerald – aye
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – aye
Supervisor Yoder – aye
Supervisor Turman – aye
Supervisor Clinger – aye

Agenda Item 8.e. – Reappointment of the County/Town representative to the Floyd-Floyd County Public Service Authority District, four year term.

Ms. Morris said the Town has already voted to approve this joint Town-County appointment of Mr. Paul Faulkner to the Public Service Authority subject to your approval.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Gerald, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to reappoint Mr. Paul Faulkner as the County/Town Representative to the Floyd-Floyd County Public Service Authority for a four year term.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – aye
Supervisor Gerald – aye
Supervisor Yoder – aye
Supervisor Turman – aye
Supervisor Clinger – aye

Agenda Item 9. – Old/New Business continued.

Ms. Morris asked if the Board wanted to have a separate reorganization meeting in January? We have done it both ways in the past, either as a separate meeting or as part of the first regular meeting.

Consensus was reached to have the reorganization as part of the regularly scheduled meeting on January 10, 2017 but to start the meeting at 8:00 a.m. In case of bad weather the meeting will be held on January 12, 2017.

Agenda Item 7. – Closed Session – Personnel §2.2-3711 A. 1.

On a motion of Supervisor Gerald and seconded by Supervisor Turman, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to go into closed session under Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A.1, Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body.

Supervisor Yoder – aye
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – aye
Supervisor Gerald – aye
Supervisor Turman – aye
Supervisor Clinger – aye

On a motion of Supervisor Turman, seconded by Supervisor Gerald, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to come out of closed session.

Supervisor Gerald – aye
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – aye
Supervisor Yoder – aye
Supervisor Turman – aye
Supervisor Clinger – aye

On a motion of Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Turman, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt the following certification resolution:

CERTIFICATION RESOLUTION CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, this Board convened in a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote on the motion to close the meeting to discuss Personnel in accordance with Section 2.2-3711 Paragraph A. 1 of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act;

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were heard, discussed or considered in the closed meeting to which this certification applies; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting to which this certification applies.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – aye

Supervisor Yoder – aye

Supervisor Gerald – aye

Supervisor Turman – aye

Supervisor Clinger – aye

Agenda Item 9. – Old/New Business continued.

Vice Chairman Turman said he has been asked to bring up the topic of nuisance dog laws.

Supervisor Gerald said we have been down this road before.

Ms. Morris said the public hearing we had on leash laws was one of the worse we've had. Do you have any ideas on how it should be written?

Chairman Clinger suggested that Sheriff Craig's staff should check with other counties and see if there is anything regarding vicious or nuisance dogs.

Ms. Morris replied our current ordinance deals with vicious dogs.

Vice Chairman Turman said if you have a dog that is a problem and keeps showing up uninvited at people's houses, if the dog warden goes out and talks to them and says, "Your dog is causing problems here. He is not destroying anything, but is aggravating people so you need to keep more restraints on him. Maybe after the owner has been visited and warned a couple of times..."

Ms. Morris said we don't have a leash law as such. It has been a long time since I've read that ordinance, but I believe it says the dog is supposed to be under the owner's control. Even that is pretty broad. We'll do some research.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said it sounds in this case like nobody wants any harm to come to the animal, they just want the people who own the dog to be responsible.

Vice Chairman Turman said this dog has been at my house a number of times. He is friendly and you can't run him off. He just sits down and wants you to pet him. Some of my neighbors are really getting upset. I've talked to the guy who owns the dog. He tells me he has tried putting the dog in a cage and he digs out or climbs out. When he puts him in the house he tears the house up. They put a collar on the dog and he learned how to slip out of it. This dog just likes to ramble. I don't want him to ramble to the wrong house.

Ms. Morris said I'll see if we can come up with some options.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked where we were with an ordinance on remote meetings?

Chairman Clinger replied that he polled the Board before putting a lot of money into it, and there aren't enough votes to pass it. I felt that rather than expend the money moving it forward at this time, we put it aside for now.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said she will probably bring it up again in the future because it is an important issue.

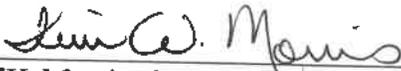
Vice Chairman Turman reminded everyone that last year this Board met with the Town, School Board, and EDA. I think it would be good to set up another joint meeting.

Chairman Clinger said a smaller subcommittee was supposed to meet quarterly. Because of all the issues at the schools we pushed back from having those quarterly meetings. I will reach out to Mr. Will Griffin and see about getting the quarterly meetings and joint meetings moving again.

Vice Chairman Turman replied that would be good because strong communication between all of us is important.

Chairman Clinger agreed and said he will let the Board know about what Mr. Griffin schedules.

On a motion of Supervisor Gerald, seconded by Supervisor Yoder, and carried, it was resolved to adjourn to Tuesday, January 10, 2016 for a regular meeting at 8:00 a.m.



Terri W. Morris, County Administrator



Case C. Clinger, Chairman, Board of Supervisors