

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 14, 2017**

At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Floyd County, Virginia, held on Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 8:30 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 8:30 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. – Approval of minutes of January 10, 2017 and January 24, 2017.

On a motion of Supervisor Turman, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the minutes of January 10, 2017 as presented.

Supervisor Gerald – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Clinger – yes

On a motion of Supervisor Gerald, seconded by Supervisor Yoder, and carried, it was resolved to approve the minutes of January 24, 2017 as presented.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes
Supervisor Gerald – yes
Supervisor Turman – abstain
Supervisor Clinger – yes

Agenda Item 14 – Approval of February 2017 monthly disbursements.

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

Supervisor Yoder – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Gerald – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Clinger – yes

Agenda Item 9. – Old/New Business.

Ms. Lori Trail, New River Valley Community Services (NRVCS) Drug Court Coordinator, explained that they are currently piloting a Drug Court in Floyd County. That is with no money. Everyone is volunteering their time and resources. There is a grant available through the Bureau of Justice Assistance that we applied for and received in Pulaski County for Drug Court there. We were hoping to apply for Floyd County. We spoke to Ms. Morris and she suggested that we come here today to see if we can get approval prior to submitting the grant. The grant is essentially completed because it is similar to the one in Pulaski. It is due at the end of this month. You can request up to \$300,000.00. There is no cash match at all. It is just a 25% in-kind match that is required. In Pulaski County that in-kind is everybody's time who has volunteered their time already.

What we would be proposing would be asking to fund an Intensive Substance Abuse Case Manager. They are employed with New River Valley Community Services but essentially they help to offset the burden on probation as well as provide community monitoring intensively. That case manager works with all the participants and sees them usually weekly, goes to their home, helps them access the community to remove any barriers they have to treatment and housing or anything. Also, currently the Floyd County Sheriff's Office has provided one of their staff persons to act as a tracker, for lack of a better name. We visited a Drug Court in Galena, Missouri and they had what they call trackers. It is someone who goes out and checks and makes sure our participants are in by curfew, they are where they are supposed to be living, and there is no one there and that things aren't occurring that shouldn't be occurring in their home. They do that after hours and on the weekends and holidays. Our folks learn that sometimes people aren't going to come out and visit them after certain hours.

We would ask for funding to help provide that funding back to the Sheriff's Office to get some money for that service they are providing. We also put some money in there for transportation for those folks as well as incentives. Part of our program is our participants have to come to court twice a month and when they come to court if they are doing well, they can get incentives. Sometimes they are small like \$5.00 gift cards to Hardee's. For phased promotions as they go through we may give them a \$20.00 gift card to a grocery store or something like that. We would also ask to purchase drug screens.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if they were applying for the full \$300,000.00?

Ms. Trail replied we will do the budget and ask as close as we can to \$300,000.00. I just wanted to see if we can get approval to submit this.

Vice Chairman Turman pointed out that this also helps the Regional Jail too. It catches them before they get put in there.

Ms. Trail responded that in Pulaski County they started doing some initial cost savings projections. We have up to 10 participants in Pulaski. We have been piloting there since 2014. We have had our first 2 graduates. The way we have been trying to calculate cost savings we look at the sentencing guidelines for participants and what they would be looking at. We go with their mid-point range on their sentencing guidelines. Judge Long suggested we go with the high-

end, but we go with the mid-range and try to calculate the number of days the participants would have spent in the Regional Jail and show that as a cost savings; the cost per day at the Regional Jail. Of course that is fluid until we have graduates, because if they don't successfully complete they go back and get sentenced traditionally. But we have two graduates in Pulaski. Of those two graduates it has saved Pulaski County \$78,000.00 for those two graduates. It definitely can benefit the costs of the County on what they are spending at the Regional Jail.

Ms. Morris said from what she understood Floyd County would be the fiscal agent for the grant. We would file quarterly reports with the help of the NRVCS staff.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if it would be its own new line item in the budget?

Ms. Morris replied affirmatively.

Ms. Trail explained that the way they do it in Pulaski County, I do all the quarterly data entry and then I provide a report and summary and give it to their financial department and they do the financial report and submit it.

On a motion of Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Yoder, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to authorize the County Administrator to submit and execute a grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs for a Drug Court in Floyd County.

Supervisor Gerald – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Clinger – yes

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

Ms. Brewster provided a copy of the caseload statistics for January 2017. Ms. Brewster stated that February is Benefits Specialist Appreciation month. This month we will be recognizing the hard work of our Benefits staff with an agency luncheon on February 24. You are welcome to attend that if you like. The rest of our benefits programs have now been converted to the VaCMS automated system. The conversion happened the weekend of February 3. All of our 3,000 cases converted successfully, except for 3. That is quite impressive. Staff prepared for that and they did everything they needed to, to make it happen. What they need to do now is manually transfer those 3 cases into the system. However, there still is some time intensive work that the staff will have to do with those 3,000 cases. They have to go screen by screen to make sure all the data transferred successfully. As you can imagine, that will take some time. That is in addition to their current work demands. We are not looking forward to that.

We are also working on getting all of our staff trained. We were told that on our services side that if they are not in the system with all of their mandated training by June 30 then they will be locked out of their family services system, which means they cannot enter any data or go out on cases. We are pretty lucky. A lot of our services staff have come to us already trained.

However the problem is they just recently switched to a new training program and a lot of the transcripts didn't transfer over to that new system at the State level. We are finding the transcripts are wrong and inaccurate. We have been in touch with the State office to make them aware of the problem and it is falling on deaf ears. They are making the staff retake a lot of the training. When they go to log in to sign up for courses, they are locked out and not able to sign up for the courses. Again it is falling on deaf ears. We're in pretty good shape. The majority of our staff have the trainings. We feel like we will be complete with everything we need to do by March. A lot of our counterparts in the Western region are not having the same success. This is not something the State is very happy about. It is sad because what is going to be happening is that a lot of children will be put at risk because workers aren't able to do their jobs when they are locked out of the system. It is troublesome. It is coming down from the State office that they will be locked out of the system. They feel like the staff needs to be well trained to perform the job. We don't disagree with that. However, we need staff out there checking on children and vulnerable adults. I just wanted to make you aware of that because you may hear some buzz about it. The staff may not be happy about going to so many trainings and covering for their counterparts.

We are continuing to receive a high volume of Child Protective Service reports. We distributed the caseload very differently. We have our VIEW worker carrying ongoing cases because they are similar to VIEW cases. That seems to be working very successfully. However, the volume of incoming cases continues to rise. We are also seeing that in our Adult Protective caseload. The number of Adult Protective Services cases we have equals what a level 2 agency would have and we are a level 1 agency. We continue to push at the numbers and sort of busting at the seams at what we are putting on our staff – the expectations. That seems to be doing very well. The productivity is amazing. The quality of work they are putting out is also amazing. We couldn't ask for a better staff in our agency. I have also submitted to you our January caseload statistics.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked how will the training affect workers here?

Ms. Brewster replied we will be okay. What we have done is have a services aide keep a spreadsheet and she reminds staff every month of the trainings they have to do. The staff, with their services supervisor, got onto the situation in December. In December they were sent an email reminder of the trainings they have left. As you will all remember last April we had a turnover of services staff and so we have a lot of new workers who needed some mandated training. I think Danny Collins, who is our CPS worker, needed a large volume of new training. He is about to complete that cycle. The rest of the workers we hired, we were lucky to get from other agencies, so they came to us with their mandated trainings and just needed the additional trainings. It seems like we have a really good system and we are watching it very closely.

Agenda Item 7.a. – Subdivision plats as approved by Agent for January 2017.

Ms. Martin stated that you have the plat report and four lot line revisions are all that I had in January. The Commissioner of Revenue did get Slate Mountain Church changed over so that it is showing in Floyd County land books now.

I have a few things to update you on:

- 1) The Innovation Grant from Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development was awarded to the County to benefit the Blue Ridge Center for Chinese Medicine. We have not gotten any paperwork on that though so we are still waiting to see what the details are.
- 2) We are hard at work on the Ag Food and Forestry Value Enhancement Project, which we have renamed the Floyd Grown Project. The first part of the project is going to be a business survey for anybody in agriculture, food or related sectors. Ms. Pat Sharkey has worked with me on having a succinct description of the whole project that we would roll out with the business survey. We really want to encourage people to fill out this business survey. It will get us information on what they are doing and ultimately how we might better connect and serve the businesses. I hope this survey will go out by the first of next week. We are still tweaking this a little bit, but I wanted you to be aware of what's going on and have the information.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked where are you collecting the addresses from?

Ms. Martin replied that Pat [Sharkey] at the Visitor Center has the ladies from SCSEP (Senior Community Service Employment Program) collecting information on names, email addresses, and websites from a Sustain Floyd list and a list I provided that interns compiled of people who have participated in different classes and projects we have done. That is what our list will be. I think more important than that we will share this with Cooperative Extension to send out to their list.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch suggested that Land Use participants might be another good source of people to whom a survey should be sent. There might be some redundancy, but it is folks who are farming and doing other agricultural things like orchards.

Ms. Martin responded that it is a great idea, particularly if we can get email addresses. We are trying to do this mostly electronically. We will make hard copies available at the farm stores, Harmans, Ingrams, and Farmer's Supply. We will have both paper copies and a drop box to put the filled out surveys so they don't have to mail them. It is a good thought on the Land Use, I just don't know if we can capture email addresses. We are trying to put an incentive in there to get people to complete it quickly. It is a great joy to work with Pat [Sharkey] and the team we assembled on that.

- 3) The funding you provided for up fit work at the Innovation Center has been completed. The big space on the right has been divided into two spaces. Henry's Healthy Pets is taking much of one side of that on the wall. Also suite 5, which is the interior one that doesn't have a direct window outside, we put a drop ceiling in that with white paint to make it lighter looking. An issue we had in that suite was that anytime people were talking in that suite, there are offices right above it so we put in insulation [to help prevent sound carrying]. Thank you for your support on that.
- 4) Ms. Ryan and I learned yesterday that the ACCE (Access to Community College Education) program now has 48 applications turned in. There are still one or two

days left to submit applications. I think that is really exciting. Holly Murden told me that a number of those students she feels sure wouldn't have applied before because they wouldn't have known the help was even available.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked what was the final count on the presentation.

Ms. Ryan replied that according to Holly Murden, Assistant Principal Barry Hollandsworth counted and it was slightly over 100 people.

Vice Chairman Turman said the people asked some pretty tough questions

Supervisor Kuchenbuch estimated there are between 125-140 graduating seniors so that is a good show of interest.

Ms. Martin replied that the amazing thing on that is the school system was able to set that session up with only 3-4 days' notice and with New River Community College they did it. It was very impressive.

Supervisor Yoder said that to him the remarkable thing was the amount of work Ms. Martin did to turn around the grant application in a short time. It was pretty remarkable on your part.

Ms. Martin said thank you, but it was a team effort.

- 5) We have had conversations with the consultant on the cluster development work. The contract with the consultant goes through June. We are trying to get through this and get a document to be able to share with you within the next four to six weeks. We still haven't sent it to legal counsel yet because we are trying to get consensus among the group. I just wanted to let you know that work is continuing on that.

Agenda Item 7.b. – January 2017 Department of Inspections Report.

Ms. Morris reported that building is picking up some compared to last month and last year at this time, which is a good thing.

Agenda Item 7.d. – Clerk of Circuit Court requests carryover of \$16,106.00 from FY16 to FY17 budget.

Ms. Morris stated that this is a request from the Clerk of Court to carry over some funding from fiscal year 2016 to fiscal year 2017. Her staff inadvertently used the wrong form. She previously requested a budget transfer instead of a budget carryover.

On a motion of Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Turman, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the carry-over request from the Clerk of Circuit Court for \$16,106.00 from FY16 to FY17, with \$10,704.00 for Hospital Plan and \$5,402.00 for Office Supplies.

Supervisor Gerald – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Clinger – yes

Agenda Item 7.e. – Request from School Board that \$9,900.00 be moved from Capital Improvement Fund to Operations and Maintenance category for the purchase of supplies and purchased services for the construction of a welding and building trade shed building.

Ms. Morris said this request is from the School Board. Dr. Wheeler plans to come to the meeting if you have any questions for him. This request is for the purchase of materials and supplies for a welding and building trade shed. A lot of the items were donated. The building trade's class will be doing a lot of work on the building.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Gerald, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve that \$9,900.00 be moved from the Capital Improvement Fund to the FY17 Floyd County School Board budget Operations and Maintenance category for the purchase of materials and supplies to construct a new welding and building trade shed building.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes
Supervisor Gerald – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Clinger – yes

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 7.f. – Local Choice renewal – FY18 health insurance rates for employees.

Ms. Morris reported that we received the FY18 health insurance rates for employees through the State Local Choice. It is an Anthem health plan. The increase in rates was about 3.5% this year. It was the first year in several years that we've had an increase at all. We have been very fortunate. Our Anthem representative, who covers a 14 county area, said that rates averaged an increase of 3%-28%. We felt very fortunate. This would be for premiums beginning July 1. We have to have our choices in to the State long before that. We are recommending to stay with the same plans with Local Choice.

Supervisor Yoder asked if the increased rates would be split between employees and the employer?

Ms. Morris replied in the affirmative.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked how long has the County been with Local Choice?

Ms. Morris replied 5 or 6 years.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if we have been happy with them?

Ms. Morris answered yes, and dental is included. It is not on a separate plan like we had before.

Supervisor Yoder pointed out how remarkable it is as to how level it has been. You hear constantly about how health insurance is going up.

Ms. Morris agreed and said prior to Local Choice we had one year where rates increased 34%. We are happy with the plan. Employees are happy with it.

On a motion of Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Gerald, and unanimously carried, Anthem Key Advantage 250 and Anthem Key Advantage 1000 provided through The Local Choice were accepted as the health care plans to be offered to Floyd County employees for fiscal year 2018.

Supervisor Yoder – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Gerald – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Clinger – yes

Agenda Item 6.e. – Ms. Pat Sharkey, Floyd County Tourism Director.

Ms. Sharkey provided an update regarding Floyd County tourism, which included handouts of the Floyd County Visitor Guide and Blue Ridge Parkway publications. She presented a PowerPoint slideshow. The Floyd County Tourism Development Council (FCTDC) is a partnership between Floyd County government, Town of Floyd, Floyd County Chamber of Commerce and businesses. We are in our 2nd two-year agreement that will be complete June 30, 2017, which means that as June 30 the office will have been in place 4 years. There is the Council, Tourism Office, and Tourism Advisory Board. The Tourism Council is the overarching name and that is you and the Town Council. We refer to the Tourism Office when we refer to what I am managing. We still have a private sector board that meets bi-monthly or as needed.

We have gotten quite a few grants in pretty much every year since we started the project. Most of them are marketing grants from the Virginia Tourism Corporation. In 2015 the Chamber of Commerce has been phenomenal partners with us for our community. They are private memberships. I don't know if we could have done some of the things we've done without their partnership. In 2015 we had a grant with them for marketing. Last year we had a DRIVE Tourism grant. We will be doing more marketing grants this year.

We are so accustomed to it that we forget we are so blessed in this community to have so many assets. We have so many folks in different businesses that it makes it challenging to focus, but it is exciting.

The point of the office is to have a centralized location for information for Floyd for both visitors and residents. There is somewhere folks know to go to get updated information. Mr. John McEnhill of the Chamber and I refer to it in our tourism grant as the triad of information, because we want to have information available on-line with website, by phone, by email, and in print. Those have been the pieces we have developed and then maintained.

Our website is www.VisitFloydVA.com. Citizens Telephone is still hosting us for free for 5 years. We got grants to start and market the site. It provides basic listings and events for folks in Floyd. I encourage you to check out our site. Tell businesses about it that are not on it now. It is free to submit an event or add your business. They can reach me if they have any technical issues. It is important to keep things like this managed and updated. We do not want people to go on to it and get outdated, incorrect information or they won't come back. They will see it as a static site. I spend a lot of time making sure these pieces are updated and managed well. Our trainee staff at the Visitor Center help keep the events calendar site updated. If you click on any event listed you get a page with details about the event.

The google analytics on the back side tells who is coming to the site. You can find out who are they, where are they from, how old they are, and their gender. In 2016 we had about 50,000 users and about 200,000 page views. We have more people looking at it now than in previous years. Marketing has been working. People have been going to the site. There are 172% more users. Our bounce rate is down, which is good because it measures how quickly people leave. Our largest age group of viewers is 55-64 years old. It is mostly ladies looking, which is not uncommon in tourism, and making the decisions about travel. Comparing 2016 to 2015 we are seeing an increase in other age groups. We can also see by state who is taking a look at our website. Half of our viewers are from Virginia, with North Carolina, Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania next highest. New York is in our top ten. By town Floyd is the area where folks are looking the most and after that it is Charlottesville and Washington D.C., followed by Blacksburg and Roanoke. I'm surprised about Charlottesville because we have not targeted marketing there but we have marketed to D.C.

The second piece in the Triad is our visitor center. We have come a long way. We had a ribbon cutting in May 2015 of our new center on Main Street. We have had many businesses participate in beautifying the site. Phoenix Hardware created and donated the shelves. Joli Ayn Wood brought in a beautiful piece of her artwork, which is for sale but we don't do any sales at the visitor center. The front room is all about tourism and businesses. That is absolutely non-Chamber and Chamber businesses. We display local products of businesses and events information, brochures & business cards from 100+ local businesses – tourism and non-tourism. We rotate people's things and we look for people off the beaten path. The hallway of the visitor center is so large we are able to use it for other materials. The tourism information is in the front and in the hallway we have non-tourism business information, Chamber and non-Chamber. This includes builders, real estate, electricians, etc. We post it up on our board. We also have room for a lot of regional information, like Fairystone Park and New River. We serve as an information center for visitors and for residents.

We are blessed to have a staffed visitor center 7 days a week. There are bigger communities that do not have that. That provides information for folks, residents and visitors who are walking around and by phone. Seven days a week a person can call one location and get

information. If we don't know the information, we call them back. We have been able to do that through the SCSEP program which is through Goodwill. This is job training through Goodwill Industries and I am officially their supervisor. It is phenomenal for us. It is about \$27,000.00 in labor that Goodwill pays. They are paid minimum wage. I try to help them think about what type of technical support they want or what kind of training they are looking for. One person we have now did not know how to open an email when she started. She is now the person who does Facebook. We work hard so that if someone asks for a Visitor Guide they get it. If we don't know the information we look for it. We tally when someone comes into the Visitors Center and 2016 saw a 52% increase over 2015. We try to identify if they are coming in for tourism information or as a resident to get information or as a business to get business support. We have a sign-in book to see where people are coming from.

The Floyd County Visitor Guide is the third piece of the Triad. It is produced and distributed jointly and all paid for by the Chamber of Commerce with tourism. The Tourism Office needs this guide. It is an enormous amount of work to get people to provide their information and pay for the advertisement. We have found that print media is still important in this electronic age. We have a lot of requests for printed Visitor Guides. We had to do a reprint. We are looking at doing a new guide for this year and businesses want more ad space. John [McEnhill] and I are trying to decide if we limit ad space or make the guide bigger. The Chamber does an excellent job of identifying where the guides are distributed. We never send any guides out to someone who does not request one. Virginia Welcome Centers are paid placements.

The Tourism Office promotes Floyd in many ways:

- Triad of information – Manage, maintain and keep updated;
- Visit Floyd VA Facebook page with updates almost daily;
- Instagram in 2017;
- Visitor Newsletter – 4-6 year in 2017;
- Floyd County promoted through Crooked Road, Blue Ridge Parkway, Virginia.org (state), Roanoke Valley Convention & Visitors Bureau (RVCVB), SWVA Initiatives, Explore NRV;
- Floyd Tourism booths at numerous events (in county, regional, state);
- Travel writers and film makers visit Floyd sharing about Floyd in print, websites, blogs, videos - and will receive regular updates. Recreation News (D.C.), Charlotte Food & Wine Magazine, British newspaper, The Guardian, Japan/Italian TV travel channel;
- News Articles written about Floyd in Roanoke Business Magazine, Southern Living Magazine, Charlotte NC publications, Baltimore Magazine, Recreation News (D.C.) The Guardian (British newspaper), British Highlife (in-flight magazine), Blue Ridge Digest, Blue Ridge Outdoors;
- Southern Living Feb 2016- South Best Small Towns one of 20 mentioned;
- Southern Living Magazine – Oct 2016 circulation almost 3 million estimated circulation with Advertising Equivalency - \$576,700.00;
- VA Tourism Corporation – national media office, international office, film office, grants, technical assistance;

- VA Welcome Center at Lamsburg I-77N month-long displays and more in 2017.

The Tourism Office works to support Floyd Businesses and help them be better businesses. They might need hospitality training so that if they have hours posted on the door then they need to be open at those hours. They might need help with new technology and websites. I work with Lydeana [Martin], the Chamber, the Economic Development Authority to team tag providing workshops for businesses. We want them to be better for themselves but it reflects on Floyd as well. Word of mouth is everything. We can do all of this work and a couple of businesses have big problems and it can reflect on all of us. I do a lot of regional work. Sometimes I have to back off because there is almost too much of it. The Regional Commission has a planning tourism grant and we are nonfinancial partners with them on it. We are a model in other states for looking at how a small community uses tourism and linking small communities in Southwest Virginia. We have had West Virginia and Tennessee business and government people fly in to talk to us. A group of business and government people from Ohio came in the fall.

Floyd County is one of 23 communities across Virginia to become a DRIVE Tourism Community in 2016. Floyd received the maximum \$10,000.00 awarded for asset and product development. There is no match required. The money is already in our account and I just need to write a report annually. This was a one-time deal where Virginia Tourism Corporation came in and worked with our community and we had meetings to look at what products do we have that we could develop and make a difference and something new for Floyd. Through a series of community meetings facilitated by the VA Tourism Corporation, we identified our 3 areas of product development in enhancing a present product, 2-year product and 5-year (or long-term) product development. Our areas of product development identified were:

- Enhanced product - County Fair (agri-tourism) we created a festive midway area;
- 2-year product development – Visitor wayfinding;
- 5-year product development (long-term) - With Cycle Floyd Initiative we are trying to expand our tourism efforts beyond Arts/Music and present to future projects like outdoor Recreation. We are drawing from our proximity to the Blue Ridge Parkway. We all know that bicycling our roads is not the safest thing in the world so we want to show people what is safe. We got \$6,000.00 to support bike racks at Tuggles Gap, bike repair stations and share the road signage which focuses on the safest route from town to the Blue Ridge Parkway on Barberry Road and support of our Tour de Floyd cycling event now in its 10th year.

There are opportunities at the Virginia Welcome Centers. We have been able to do a number of different projects at the Virginia Welcome Center at Lamsburg /I-77 N. You can rent the Welcome Centers, any of them. We have only rented Lamsburg for a month and market. A lot of other communities will only bring in a poster or something. But we take up every piece of space in that place and put posters and art and information about our businesses. We do that in June and October. This year we will also add September and we usually have 50-60 businesses who give me things. I received an email from the Manager at the Welcome Center days after we put our display up, “We re-routed so many folks to Floyd that were headed to Pittsburgh and West Virginia! Your beautiful displays hooked them! They ended up traveling to Floyd then 460 through Giles back to I-77. Everyone along that route should be singing your

praises. We will keep them coming!” Businesses have told us it has had a positive impact on their business. The *Green Label* owner stated, “We have already had several customers who said "Shirley sent us to Floyd"!! A few of them had to re-think their SC to FL vacation plans and came here because they stopped at the Visitor Center. By the way...one customer spent nearly \$200 in our shop.”

We had Channel 10 do a Live in Floyd Weather broadcast here on Monday night and we had to re-create the scene as it would look on a Friday night Jamboree. Floyd Tourism manned the welcome booth at FloydFest 2016. We were at the entrance to the festival. Our main goal was to make sure those folks knew about Floyd and we want to get them back. It is too complicated during that event to try to get them thinking about coming into town. We intentionally made it very festive. We gave out Floyd VA stickers and Floyd Visitor Guides, and visitors could sign-up for our Visit Floyd newsletter, and for getaway packages worth \$500-\$700 each. We do co-op advertising in various publications. We were at the VA-1 conference

Our 2017 upcoming projects include:

- Floyd County Tourism Strategic Plan updating (Series of community meetings in 2015 – for community input - drawing 30-60 people per meeting facilitated by VA Tourism Corporation.);
- AFID-BEE project /grants Agriculture, agritourism brochure and business support. Partnership with Economic Development office, EDA, Tourism Office. AFID (Governor’s Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Fund) awarded \$20,000 to Floyd County – along with \$40,000 BEE grant (Building Entrepreneurial Economies) from DHCD;
- Jagged Edge Motorcycle Trail – Primland’s project to help get folks into local communities;
- We will purchase the right window at the Lambsburg Welcome Center and it will be up all year;
- We are helping with the Virginia Outdoor Lovers Expo at Bisset Park.

The most important thing to you is probably how are we doing? If you look at the Floyd County Transient Lodging numbers, there has been a 19% increase in County transient lodging tax dollars from FY13 when the Tourism Office started to FY16, with the largest increase being from FY15 to FY16. It was the year after we got the website up and it was the year we started our big marketing push. It looks like we are doing fairly well considering we don’t have a lot of lodging in Floyd. In fact it is maxed out during peak seasons. We have to send people on to Hillsville and elsewhere. If they don’t have somewhere in Floyd to stay we find them someplace else so they will be comfortable coming here. We also have all the lodging sites call us on Friday if they have an opening because of a cancellation.

Supervisor Yoder pointed out that the Hotel Floyd expansion is not reflected in those numbers because it is in the Town and is not counted in the County.

Ms. Sharkey confirmed that observation. Ms. Sharkey presented the Town of Floyd Meals tax collections for the information of the Board of Supervisors:

FY13 \$194,442.23
FY14 \$213,931.97

FY15 \$235,219.13
FY16 \$230,251.40

Ms. Sharkey explained that the apparent decrease from FY15 to FY16 was actually a timing issue of FY14 generated revenues being reported in FY15. That tax is 5% on prepared food. That represents about half of the prepared food in the County. If the Board of Supervisors ever thinks about levying a meals tax they can look at these numbers and assume about \$200,000.00 would be generated.

Ms. Sharkey said local residents are afraid that tourism will turn Floyd County into Disney World. We don't have the budget for that. This is about partnerships and working with other economic development. This is about serving our community. We pick out projects that enhance quality of life for our residents as well as support local businesses. We support the visitors because the visitors support us!

Mr. John Getgood thanked the Board of Supervisors for their support of the Tourism Initiative over the past three years. He thanked Chairman Clinger and Vice Chairman Turman for their initial membership on the Council and Supervisors Kuchenbuch and Yoder for their current membership on the Council.

Supervisor Yoder said he didn't think there were many people in the County that would have been able to do what Pat [Sharkey] has done in the past 3 ½ years. When you get so many small businesses in so many different genres with so many different opinions on what tourism should look like or even if tourism is a good thing; managing to make all of that fit together without a lot of conflict and to grow it on such a limited budget is absolutely remarkable to me. I want to publicly thank you and say you have done a remarkable job.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch echoed her appreciation of Ms. Sharkey's work.

Agenda Item 6.d. – Ms. Paula Alston, Director of the Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library.

Ms. Alston said it was great to be here for her annual update regarding the library and overview of our budget request. On behalf of the library board I would like to thank you for everything you do to support the library and Floyd County. With me today are my two Floyd Board members, Cynthia Saunders and Meghan McKewan. Thank you for appointing such active and proactive Board members. And of course you know Cathy Whitten, our Library Manager, who does a great job running the Jessie Peterman Library. She has assembled a great team of employees who work together and service to the county is forefront in their minds.

Our budget numbers this year are the same as last year, which was \$75,725.00 which of course is minus salaries. Our state aid figure for FY18 was not in when we put the budget together. We got the number from the State Library a couple of weeks ago. It is \$7,000.00 below what we were given this fiscal year. Floyd's portion of that \$7,000.00 is a little over \$1,000.00. The State Library will adjust that figure over the next couple of months as the General Assembly fine tunes their budget. The State Library works on the formula depending on

what is happening with the other libraries. So we are not married to that number yet, but it means we will have to make some budget adjustments as we go along.

I thought this would be a good time to give you a little more information on how we put the budget together for our regional library. As you know Montgomery County is the fiscal agent. We use their financial software, MUNIS, to put our budget together. We just mimic what we use for them for Floyd County. As we go along we can adjust the figures in line items if we need more in telephone and less professional services. But the ratio we use to determine who pays for what is 85% Montgomery County/15% Floyd County for those items where the two counties share costs. That would be things like our databases, our library software, our big AV [audiovisual] items, some equipment, and it also includes regional salaries. We have 8 fulltime regional employees. We split their salaries between the two counties – 15% for Floyd County and 85% for Montgomery County. Last year we had an adjustment to that because we hadn't made the adjustment in the last couple of years. We are not going to make an adjustment this year. The formula is holding true. But as Montgomery County gives raises, that is when the adjustment will have to come in. I think we are good for this next fiscal year.

Speaking of salaries the Library Board respectfully requests that you consider salary increases for the Floyd County library employees. They are a little behind. When we were paying for their salaries we tried to keep them up with Montgomery County salaries but it was hard to do. We are thankful you have taken them over to your pay plan. Thank you again for that. But we do ask that you seriously consider giving them a salary increase this year. We have 8 employees at the Jessie Peterman Library; 6 of them are part-time, which is 75% of Cathy's workforce. We ask that you not forget them when you are thinking about salary increases for staff. The part-time people are the backbone of our operation. They keep the library open until 7:00 p.m. four nights a week and on the weekends from Labor Day to Memorial Day. They are very important to our operation. They are the face of our library system. Please keep them in mind when you are thinking about salary increases.

In case you don't know this, we are a passport agency. We have been doing this for a year. Jessie Peterman employees see about 14 passport appointments a month. In just the last 6-8 months we have started taking pictures because there is no place in Floyd to have a passport picture taken. The closest place is CVS in Christiansburg. We bought the library a good printer and a good camera. Cathy [Whitten] and her staff worked really hard to figure out how to make those pictures look professional. They are doing a great job. It does elongate the process a little bit as you try to take those pictures. I am proud of the effort they put into this. It impacts our budget a little bit because there is an execution fee the library is able to charge. We are able to charge \$25.00 per passport. Out of that we take the mailing fee to mail the passport to Washington D.C. But that gives us a little bit of extra money in our budget. We have been able to pad our budget by \$4,000.00 for FY18. It is one of the reasons why I don't need to come and ask you for more money as other costs increased. We are doing it with the blood and sweat of Cathy [Whitten] and her great staff. It is a good service for Floyd County. We were happy they were willing to take this on as it adds to their workload.

I take every opportunity I can to remind you that libraries are not just a fluff item, a nicety in a community. It is important. It is the bedrock of our democracy. It is important in the lives of our citizens, particularly early childhood literacy. Story times are the beginning of early

literacy for preschoolers. Studies have found that children who are read to early on grow into literate adults. This is important for their growth and lifelong learning. It helps in the long run as we govern our communities. It all starts with a picture book and reading to your babies. We try to get that message out to our patrons. We put kits together that we call "books for babies" and we give them to DSS and to CHIP organizations to hand out to pregnant women. In the kit there is a board book which the baby chews on, a sippy cup, and a paper library card they can bring back in and get a library card for their child. We don't have any age restrictions so the earlier they get that library card and the more often they use it, the better off they are.

We also have a program called 1,000 books before kindergarten where we challenge parents to read 1,000 books to them before their child enters kindergarten. We have had many families complete this challenge and we are real proud of them. Year-to-date in this fiscal year we have checked out 53,000 items at Jessie Peterman Library; we have a door count of almost 30,000 people. There are probably not too many other organizations in town where you see that kind of door count. The computers stay busy all the time. We have over 900 users a month.

Again I would like to thank you for the active liaisons you appointed to the Library Board. Mr. Yoder was there for several years and Ms. Kuchenbuch has taken over. We appreciate their dedication and you for appointing them because they keep us up-to-date on what is happening in Floyd County and what is important to you. I would like to mention that you have had a great record appointing Board members to my Board. We have had some wonderful contributing members over the years and these two ladies are a blessing so thank you for sending them my way. You have made my job extremely pleasant. This is a good time to tell you I am retiring. I have enjoyed working with Terri [Morris] and Cindy [Ryan] and Dan [Campbell] before Terri. It has been great. You have given us a lot of support over the years. I have enjoyed my tenure as your Library Director. You have not asked me any hard reference questions. You haven't asked me to do any research for you. That's disappointing. But I've had a great time. It has been a 10-year run for me. It is a great way to go out as a librarian of 30 years. This was the pinnacle. Again, I would like to mention that we have a terrific staff here in Floyd County, led by Cathy [Whitten]. I would like to thank the Library Board for their hard work and I know you would too. But again, thank you for your support over the years. It has been great. We'll get you a good Library Director, I promise.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch thanked Ms. Alston for her years of service to the library, both here in Floyd County and in Montgomery County. You have been a dynamic and dedicated leader. I know the entire system will miss you.

Supervisor Yoder echoed Supervisor Kuchenbuch's comments. Libraries are so important to a community. When I was growing up the ability to have a good local library was instrumental. You have done a lot to make Floyd a wonderful place. I want to express my appreciation for that and also to our Board members and to Cathy [Whitten]. I know it is a lot of time behind the scenes. We appreciate the time and effort you put in.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch commented that the year-to-date numbers are quite impressive so far. That is a service to our community we have to keep supporting for sure.

Ms. Alston said she couldn't do it without Cathy [Whitten] and her staff; they make me look good. They are the face of the Jessie Peterman Library. They do a great job with all of their programming, with the services, and taking care of the patrons who come through the door. Adding the job of passports has been a killer in both counties, but it is such a convenience for the patrons and residents.

Agenda Item 6.f. – Mr. Jeff Liverman, Executive Director of the Floyd Center for the Arts.

Mr. Liverman said he appreciated both the Library presentation and the Tourism presentation. There is a lot of cross talk with what we are doing, especially with Pat [Sharkey]. She has been an amazing supporter of our efforts and we hope too that we can support the Tourism Office as well.

I'm sure you've noticed interesting changes to the Arts Center, one of which is the logo. We have changed our name. We think it more accurately reflects what we do and where we are. I don't know if any of you are aware but we would regularly get people registering for classes who thought we were in Jacksonville, Florida. They would call us in a tiff a couple of days before the class and say I was trying to find how to get to your place and I discovered you are in Virginia. We were refunding a lot of money. We spent almost two years investigating our identity and how we wanted to present ourselves in the community. We think this is reflecting it. If you haven't visited it lately, take a look at our place. We are growing and improving. We have really changed things around there and trying to make it a much more vibrant and exciting center in our community.

Our mission is to both support artists in our community, which there are a lot of, and people who want to participate in the arts. This includes children in classes and adults who want to learn a new skill or activity. It includes concerts we hold in our facility and gallery shows as well. By the way we do 6 different shows in 3 different galleries. We are changing things out quite regularly. Our vision for the center is that it be vibrant and enrich our community by creating a creative culture. This has economic impacts for us. Not only do we have places for people to learn, but we also have places for people to set up businesses. We have studio space we rent out at a very modest price. We have some external buildings we can rent out. Every single one of our spaces today is rented. That says to me that we are really serving our community. When I started almost all of them were empty. I am excited that we have been able to welcome in more people and get people engaged and starting up new businesses in the county.

We spent a lot of time investigating in the last two or three years, looking at ourselves and making sure we understood who we were and what we wanted to be in the community. We got a lot of feedback from people. We didn't just ask staff members. We welcomed in a number of working groups. Our most important value is community. That did not come from us but from what people were saying that they wanted in a center. We serve a number of different groups, which is primarily our Floyd community. But we are an asset to visitors, which is the cross connection to Pat [Sharkey]. We support artists who work in our community. These are the people who are most of the time small businesses. We support art lovers and appreciators who come to a concert or see a gallery show. And we do a lot of programs primarily for young

students but for adult learners as well. We have really grown that program over the years. We have more opportunities for young people and we are welcoming in more young people.

Three years ago when I came on we started collecting zip codes at the door. Data from 2016 shows people come from all over the country, but the largest participation is from Floyd. You can see we really serve our community very well, but we also are a huge tourism asset. It is a place where people come. If they are here in town they may make a visit to us or they might sign up for a class. Over the last three years we have really grown the number of people we are supporting. We have grown the number of people who have used us every month over the past 3 years, while we have reduced staff. Everybody is working really hard and trying to do our work as efficiently as possible.

One of the reasons I am here is because annually the County participates in a program from the Virginia Commission for the Arts. This is a great program because it brings in assets to our county. As you have done in the past, if you dedicate \$5,000.00 to the arts in our community, the Virginia Commission of the Arts will match that. What ends up happening is that we not only end up getting \$5,000 extra dollars in the county but it is \$10,000.00 that supports a really important aspect of our economy. I ask again this year for you to support that program. I appreciate everything you have done.

Chairman Clinger thanked Mr. Liverman for the update and said the request would be considered as the budget is discussed.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if received would the Virginia Commission of the Arts grant money be used for any specific program?

Mr. Liverman replied that it is for general support. A lot of times when you write grants they have to be for a specific purpose or program, which is great. But we do so many different things that don't get supported, except for this. It supports children's programs, open studios, gallery shows, music, just everything we do.

Supervisor Yoder said it is always fun to go up there on a weekend and see all of the cars in the parking lot. You don't realize how many people use the facility.

Mr. Liverman confirmed that and said from Rt. 8 you really can't notice the lots for parking down in the back. Thank you for all of your support.

Agenda Item 7.e. continued

Dr. Wheeler said he understood the school board request had already been approved but he was there to answer any questions. We have already started working on it with the heavy rains we have put in the gravel. The most expensive part has been donated to us.

Chairman Clinger asked who donated it?

Dr. Wheeler replied Doug Thompson is working with Buckner Steel, which is a company in North Carolina that we bring kids down to. They always touch base with him and ask what he

needs. Doug [Thompson] and Barry [Hollandsworth] do a good job of giving the company accolades very often. We do too.

Supervisor Yoder said it is remarkable that you can have students do a lot of the work.

Dr. Wheeler confirmed that.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch described it as a learning lab.

Dr. Wheeler said we are hoping the spring-like weather continues so we can get started. We'll get the labor and they will get the experience. Thank you very much. I appreciate it.

Agenda Item 7.c. – Virginia Commission for the Arts Grant Application.

Ms. Morris referred to Mr. Liverman's presentation and said if the Board approved the grant application it would be submitted at this time, but they would not be committing to the funding. In years past we did this as a joint grant with the Crooked Road. This year it is just for the Floyd Center for the Arts.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Gerald, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to authorize the County Administrator to execute and submit a grant application to the Virginia Commission for the Arts grant on behalf of the Floyd Center for the Arts.

Supervisor Gerald – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Clinger – yes

Agenda Item 7.g. – Appointment of Board of Supervisors member to Joint Subcommittee, two year term, effective March 8, 2017.

Ms. Morris said this appointment is for the position currently filled by Chairman Clinger.

On a motion of Supervisor Turman, seconded by Supervisor Gerald, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to reappoint Chairman Case Clinger for a two year term to the Floyd County Board of Supervisors/Floyd Town Council/Floyd Economic Development Authority/Floyd School Board Joint Planning Subcommittee.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes
Supervisor Gerald – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Clinger – yes

Agenda Item 7.h. – Discussion on date of joint meeting of Board of Supervisors, Town Council, School Board, and Economic Development Authority.

Ms. Morris asked Chairman Clinger and Supervisor Yoder if they had an update on when the next joint meeting would be held of all members of the Board of Supervisors, Town Council, School Board, and Economic Development Authority.

Supervisor Yoder said we want to hold one more meeting of the subcommittee before having a joint meeting of all the entities. We plan to come up with that date at the next subcommittee meeting. Our next subcommittee meeting is coming up in March.

Chairman Clinger explained we want to discuss what project we will be addressing as a group. Please put this as an agenda item in April.

Agenda Item 7.i. – Extension/Amendment of Agreement for electrical service between APCO and local governments – authorize County Administrator to execute.

Ms. Morris explained every 4-5 years VACO/VML negotiates with Appalachian Power Company for electric rates on our behalf, counties, cities, and towns. This also includes the School Board and Public Service Authority. We have done this as long as I have been here. We realize a savings over what other consumers pay.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to authorize the County Administrator to execute an Extension/Amendment of Agreement for electrical service between APCO and local governments.

Supervisor Yoder – yes
Supervisor Gerald – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Clinger – yes

Agenda Item 7.j. – Discussion of revised Music Festival Ordinance/set public hearing date.

Ms. Morris reported that she had a lot of calls and emails about this since Mr. [Doug] Thompson's article in the newspaper about where we talked about it last month. Mr. Cornwell has reviewed the draft and has made a few comments. I have also spoken with our insurance carrier to make sure we have reasonable coverage. One of the main questions I had is in Section 6-32 in the definitions. All the Board wants to regulate is music festivals, is that correct? I had several calls after the article about the applicability, for example the Chamber's Rubber Duck Race where the music is just an accompaniment. I told them it seems to apply where music is the main event. They have about 300-400 people at that event. It would be up to them if they want to file a letter with us. At Yoga Jam music is not the main point of the event.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said music and entertainment.

Ms. Morris pointed out that it is not defined in the State Code.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said when 2,500 people or more are gathered for an event. We are looking at it from a public safety point of view.

Ms. Morris stated that most groups submit the letters anyway.

Supervisor Yoder said there is a lot of music at Yoga Jam.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said if there was a revival in this county and 2,500 or more people gathered on Mike Turman's land, then it is a safety issue if someone were to experience a life threatening incident. We would want to have Rescue Squad personnel present. In a revival situation you never know how many people are coming until they show up because you don't do pre-event ticket sales or pre-register. It is not a matter that we are trying to regulate everything, it is just so that it is on our radar.

Supervisor Yoder said the changes we made are actually decreasing requirements in some ways.

Ms. Morris said Section 6-34, item 11 our insurance carrier suggested at least a minimum of \$500,000.00 insurance coverage with a cap of \$1,000,000.00. Maybe we can do that on a tiered system. This does cover incidents when they happen.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if we would be put on as the additional insured?

Ms. Morris confirmed that we have that in there. Do you want to put that as an item?

Supervisor Kuchenbuch suggested that it be made an addendum that shows them what they have to do for additionally insured.

Ms. Morris agreed and said that both Jim [Cornwell, County Attorney] and the insurance carrier suggested that would be a good addition. Jim [Cornwell] mentioned in Section 6-34 would we want to include that the Sheriff approve the security plan or at least have the names of security staff? We have it listed under the pre-event meeting to discuss with us. I have also been asked whether the security has to be off-duty police officers or if it can just be hired security staff? Some big events use both. Personally I don't feel that it has to be an off-duty police officer.

Supervisor Yoder suggested that the person can be a licensed security officer. There are plenty of firms out there who provide this service.

Ms. Morris said I don't think it would hurt for the Sheriff to have the names of the security personnel.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch and Supervisor Yoder agreed. Supervisor Yoder added if there was an issue or incident he needs to know who to contact.

Ms. Morris said I will add that. On Section 6-44 we have in the previous draft that 1 security officer was required for any event under 1,000 people. I had several calls about this too – that this would be a burden. I was thinking we might change it to the lower tier be 500 people.

Supervisor Yoder agreed and said we don't want to require a security officer for a backyard barbeque.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if Jim [Cornwell] was happy with the draft ordinance overall?

Ms. Morris stated that he was.

Vice Chairman Turman said 1 officer watching 500 people will be hustling. I was wondering if there needed to be more security.

Ms. Morris replied we talked about that in committee meetings with the Sheriff. We included the security requirements requested by the Sheriff.

Supervisors Kuchenbuch and Yoder confirmed that.

Ms. Morris said the Sheriff did make that same statement.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said most of these events have security staff even if it is just a volunteer.

Supervisor Yoder said Sheriff Craig has been involved with this. If he sees the need for a change at a later date, we can come back and look at this again. Also between now and at the Public Hearing, people may bring forth good points that will result in changes. I would like to hear what people have to say.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to authorize the County Administrator to advertise for a public hearing on March 28, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. on proposed changes to the Floyd County Code Chapter 6 Amusements and Entertainments.

Supervisor Yoder – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Gerald – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Clinger – yes

Agenda Item 8. - Closed Session – Personnel §2.2-3711 A. 1. and Real Property §2.2-3711 A. 3.

On a motion made by Supervisor Yoder and seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, 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 and Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A.3, Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

Supervisor Gerald – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Clinger – yes

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

Supervisor Gerald – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Clinger – yes

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 and real property in accordance with Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A.3 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 Yoder – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Gerald – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Clinger – yes

Agenda Item 7.1. – Appointment to the Recreation Authority from the Courthouse District, to fill out existing term which will expire December 16, 2019.

On a motion of Supervisor Turman, seconded by Supervisor Gerald, and carried, it was resolved to appoint Mr. Richard G. Clinger II to the Floyd-Floyd County Recreational Authority representing the Courthouse District to fill out a term expiring December 16, 2019.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Gerald – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Clinger – abstain

Agenda Item 7.k. – Discussion/consideration of Addendum to Equipment Lease Purchase Agreement.

Ms. Morris reminded Board members that the County obtained a loan a couple of years ago for various equipment we were purchasing. We got fire trucks, an ambulance, school buses, a trash truck, one Building Official vehicle, and voting equipment. All of these loan funds have to be expended by May 2018. Because some of the items came in less than the estimated amounts when we first started the loan, we will have approximately \$73,000.00 left after we pay for the voting equipment and the last fire truck. I wondered if there was any interest from the Board to use those remaining funds, around \$73,000.00, for capital items that might be coming up in this next budget. I know we have three vehicles requested from the Sheriff. We have two vehicles requested from Animal Control. I have contacted Carter Bank and they are willing to amend our agreement. We don't have to use those funds but if you are interested in using them, you would need to approve the addendum.

Chairman Clinger stated that just changing the addendum gives us the option to do it, but we don't have to do it.

Ms. Morris concurred.

Supervisor Yoder pointed out that the rate is good. We also ought to consider a new County vehicle too.

Ms. Morris agreed and said I have that in the budget. We have to buy at least one Animal Control vehicle and we really need two. Jamie [Brook] has a good explanation of those in his budget request.

On a motion of Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Yoder, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to authorize the County Administrator to execute an Addendum to the Equipment Lease Purchase Agreement (Document File Number 895).

Supervisor Gerald – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Clinger – yes

Agenda Item 9 – Old/New Business continued.

Ms. Morris said we were contacted by VACORP and they have made an offer to us to lock in the FY17 rates for the upcoming year. If we provide our intent to renew with them by March 1, they will lock in those rates. They said this offer has just been extended to some select members based on claims performance and risk management criteria. I asked how they were able to do this and she finally said they are doing that instead of issuing a dividend. Over the years that amount has varied from \$1,000.00-\$4,000.00, usually about \$2,000.00. We have had increases every year in insurance rates. We felt that we would even out. They do a workers compensation audit every year and we do usually end up paying a little more because of that. We would have to pay on that again if there is an increase in payroll.

Chairman Clinger said we planned to renew with them anyway.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Turman, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to authorize the County Administrator to execute an Acceptance to Renew Coverage for 2017-18 with VACORP.

Supervisor Yoder – yes

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes

Supervisor Gerald – yes

Supervisor Turman – yes

Supervisor Clinger – yes

Ms. Morris stated that the budget books are available for Board members to pick up. She provided the draft of the expense side of the budget. We do not have all the numbers from the State for revenues. Under the County Administrator recommendation I only entered those items I actually know about for certain. She provided a list of all capital outlay requests received. Last time you asked me about the possibility of a full-time assessor on staff. I contacted 17 other counties. Only the larger counties have an assessor on staff and that is all they do. I found it interesting that Carroll County had an assessor on staff a few years ago, but they decided that wasn't working for them and have gone back to a contract service. Ms. Morris provided an outline of debt load for the County and School Board she prepared. The last we heard there is a possibility of 2% raises for Constitutional Office employees. The last I heard the State was going to give back to the localities the funding they took away last year in raises. That would be a help for that to come back.

Agenda Item 7.m. – Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) Replacement.

Mr. Kevin Sowers, Emergency Management Coordinator, updated the Board regarding a grant submitted to VITA for \$150,000.00 to replace computer automated dispatch. We got the grant and this is the last year that CAD equipment is funded through VITA. There is a side of this I did not know about. Most VITA grants are 100% funded and do not require a match. There are two parts to CAD equipment: E911 and Sheriff reporting. There are several different modules to the Sheriff's side and it will cost \$49,000.00 for their CAD equipment. I highly recommend that you seize the opportunity because either we pay \$49,000.00 now or \$200,000.00 later. This sells itself. I didn't foresee this. If I had I would have let you know. The VITA representative has been involved with discussions with vendors to make sure I don't venture into the Sheriff's equipment.

Ms. Morris asked Mr. Sowers to describe the Sheriff CAD equipment. She told the Board that the Sheriff had included these items in his budget request.

Mr. Sowers said this equipment is in the FY18 budget request. He stressed the importance of taking advantage of this because the grant will no longer be available in the future.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked how often does this system have to be replaced?

Mr. Sowers replied that the system we are currently using is about 10 years old. It is no longer vendor supported and operates on Windows XP. There are some pros to this as far as the reporting side of it that goes to the State. The current CAD had some loopholes where it didn't report everything to the State. The calling equipment basically is the brains to E911. It grabs the location and cell information and all the data and starts the E911 call and puts all of that into a report. It is needed. It does the reporting for Fire and Rescue as well, but they have their own mechanisms for reporting to the State. I will let the Sheriff tell you more about it.

Ms. Morris stated that she wanted to commend Mr. Sowers for getting the grant. He put a lot of work into it.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked what was funded by the \$150,000.00 VITA grant?

Mr. Sowers answered that \$60,000.00 goes toward software, another portion goes toward vendor support for five years which is actually six years because the first year is free, and the rest is for the hardware. Since this will no longer be funded, as much as I can I am going to get hardware.

Ms. Morris said we have worked in conjunction with our IT consultant along with backups and other IT things we need anyway. We are trying to coordinate everything together.

Vice Chairman Turman asked if others present saw the report on the new vests Montgomery County has for their officers? If an officer gets injured the vest automatically notifies dispatch where the officer is and type of injury.

Mr. Sowers responded we have emergency call buttons with GPS capability.

Vice Chairman Turman explained that these vests have sensors so if the officer is stabbed or shot it sends that information back to dispatch. I talked to the Sheriff and he said radios and cell phones would have to be upgraded to use these vests. I know this might be years away for us but as you are working with the radio system, this may be something you want to keep in the back of your mind.

Mr. Sowers replied that he would look into this. We don't want to lead the pack, but we want to stay in the middle of it in my opinion. I say that because we were looking into a Homeland Security grant to take care of some upgrades for Administration and the Courthouse. We missed the bus on that. They shifted their priorities and are looking at more regional things now. If we had done this in 2005, it would have been funded. I found this out yesterday. The grant we submitted to the State for the Iflow system that monitors water, the State issued

extensions on the grant period over and over and over to get more grant requests. They basically shelved our application. There was a lot of research and work put into our grant application but the State does not want to fund the Iflow program anymore. They are pulling away from that.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said when we end up with another big flood they will realize what they've done.

Mr. Sowers said the people he works with at VDEM support Iflows but the other side of the State does not.

Vice Chairman Turman said if you see an opportunity to get a grant for these things we need, keep your eyes open.

Mr. Sowers agreed we need to seize the opportunity when it is what the State is funding. If it is their priority we need to capitalize on it.

Vice Chairman Turman said Dispatch has a tracker but if you are physically hurt you may not be able to call and tell them.

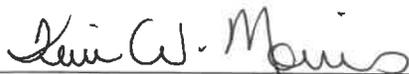
Supervisor Kuchenbuch described the situation where there is a wreck and someone has gone off the road, and the person responding is looking for the injured person, and the responder breaks their leg...freak accidents happen.

Mr. Sowers gave a recent example of an alert going off from a trouble button. When it went off, Dispatch called out the unit number and then reset it. The alert went off again. You could hear a struggle going on. This went on about four times and then you could hear someone choking. You couldn't tell if it was somebody or something. The fifth time the person got on there and said I was choking but I'm okay now. Dispatch could hear what was going on and had the unit number and name, but no physical location. She didn't know where to send help.

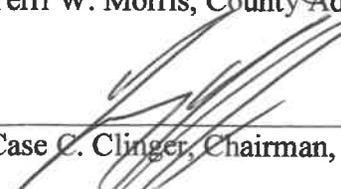
Vice Chairman Turman said on the news they showed an officer shooting a mannequin wearing a vest. It locked everything in, showed exactly where they were at by coordinates, and basically the type of injury.

Mr. Sowers stated our Sheriff employees are out there by themselves a lot late at night. I agree and I will look into it.

On a motion of Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Gerald, and carried, it was resolved to adjourn to Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.



Terri W. Morris, County Administrator



Case C. Clinger, Chairman, Board of Supervisors