BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 13, 2018

At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Floyd County, Virginia, held on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. in the Board Room of the County Administration Building thereof;

PRESENT: Lauren D. Yoder, Chairman; Joe D. Turman, Vice Chairman; Jerry W. Boothe, W. Justin Coleman, Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch, , Board Members; Terri W. Morris, County Administrator; Cynthia Ryan, Assistant County Administrator.

Chairman Lauren Yoder called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with the reading of the handicapping statement.

Agenda Item 2. – Opening Prayer.

The Opening Prayer was led by Supervisor Coleman.

Agenda Item 3. – Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Boothe led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item 4. – Approval of minutes of January 9, 2018 and January 23, 2018.

On a motion of Supervisor Turman, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the minutes of January 9, 2018 and January 23, 2018 as presented.

Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Coleman – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes

Agenda Item 5. – Approval of February 2018 monthly disbursements.

Questions and discussion followed.

On a motion of Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Boothe, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the February 2018 monthly disbursements and additional bills as presented.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Coleman – yes
Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes

Agenda Item 7.a. – Subdivision plats as approved by Agent for January 2018.

Ms. Lydeana Martin stated that January was a busy month. It could just be because Ms. Turman is quicker at getting to them than I am. I'm still working with her on those. Probably in a month or two I will be coming to request that she become the agent. The increase is a sign of the economy being good. January is usually a little bit slower so it is interesting to see this.

I also wanted to share with you about Work-Ready Communities. In the economic development world, workforce is becoming a more and more critical issue as we're at full employment by most people's standards. Finding qualified people is a challenge for everybody. In addition to the six year planning group that several of you are participating with regarding high school and Career and Technical Education, another piece we are working on is called Work Ready Communities. It is an initiative that a lot of us in Southwest Virginia are working on together. It is trying to bring together schools with employers so they are speaking the same language when talking to each other about the skills they really need.

There is also a component where students and underemployed individuals can take a test that is mostly about graphic literacy, being able to read charts and get information from them and applied mathematics. That is a piece that touches on what many, many employers want. As you talk to employers I am sure you are hearing they want critical thinking skills, problem solving, and being able to communicate with people. This test is a way to help us identify the levels of students coming out of high school or community colleges. It could be people workforce development is already working with or people in transition from big layoffs somewhere else and are having to transition to a new career. It could also be people who are underemployed and are looking to demonstrate their ability. One of our challenges has been we know that 70% of the people commute out of the County, but we don't really know their skill set. When we are talking to other businesses we can't say we've got 'x' number of people who can do this. We know the sectors that they are in. We don't know their skill sets. This is a tool to help us identify the capabilities of people who are looking for work, whether it be their first job or transitioning to another job. We've convened a local group with some human resource directors from employers, the school system, and New River Community College at the table. We're also working on this at a regional level.

Supervisor Boothe asked about the January 18 plat of record. Is the first one an existing one that was resurveyed?

Ms. Martin confirmed yes, that is correct. If anything was created prior to there being a subdivision ordinance; anything that is an existing tax parcel is by and large what we call a plat of record. These are just surveys. They are not dividing.

Agenda Item 6.c. – Ms. Tracie Brewster, Floyd County Social Services.

Ms. Brewster introduced Mr. David Hope, Services Supervisor. I brought him with me so that if you have any questions, he can help me answer them today. It is Benefits Appreciation month. We are appreciating our Benefits workers downstairs for all of their hard work. You've seen that month after month. We're having a luncheon for them on the 27th. If you would like to, stop by and help us appreciate them, you are more than welcome to do that. We've been

extremely busy downstairs yet again. Ms. Brewster provided the Floyd County Department of Social Services caseload statistics for January 2018.

Family Services Programs:
Adult Protective Services (new): 5
Adult Protective Services (ongoing): 4
Adult Services Screenings (new): 3
Companion Cases: 4
Guardianship Reporting Cases: 36
Individuals report to us how the guardian is receiving information on the person they are responsible for.
Child Protective Services Investigations are high/Family Assessments (new): 7
Family Assessments/Investigations (continued from previous months): 11
Child Protective Services Ongoing Cases: 6
Prevention Child Protection Services: 2
This is something we are not mandated to do by the State, but we've identified families who may be at risk and wanted to make sure we are working with those families to make sure abuse or neglect does not happen in those families.
Foster Care: 19
This number has gone up from December and is concerning for our agency, especially since we have had to come back and ask for additional funding already.
Adoption: 7 subsidies
VIEW (drastic participation increase from prior years which is part of Strategic Plan): 30
VIEW helps people who participate in the program get employment and learn job skills.
Child Care: 4

Benefit Programs:
SNAP: 815 SNAP (new): 66 SNAP (renewals): 50 SNAP (closed): 25
TANF: 49 TANF (new): 11 TANF (renewals): 3
Medicaid: 1539 (cases) Medicaid (new): 43 Medicaid (renewals): 52
Total Medicaid Recipients: 2,403

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if Adult Service Screenings were the results of a complaint or what exactly is this?

Ms. Brewster explained a family member may want someone to be placed in a nursing home or assisted living or they may just want personal care services in the home to avoid a placement. Our worker and a nurse from the Health Department go into the home and do a 12-page screening assessment to see if the individual is eligible for those services.

Agenda Item 7.b. – January 18 Department of Inspections Report.

Ms. Morris reported that item 7.b. is the January 2018 Department of Inspections report. You will notice we had a considerable increase in residential permits for the month, especially in alterations and additions. Commercial was much lower. Fiscal year to date on the second page is comparable to last year. We're getting ready to start our busier season.

Supervisor Boothe asked how does our fee structure compare to other jurisdictions? Are we somewhere in the ballpark?

Ms. Morris replied we haven't compared it regionally in a while. We probably need to do that. We've looked at parts of it, but not overall. We can definitely do that as part of our budget work.

Agenda Item 7.c. – Appointment to Floyd County/Town/Economic Development Authority/School Board Strategic Planning Subcommittee, two year term.

Ms. Morris stated the next item is an appointment to the Floyd County/Town/Economic Development Authority/School Board Strategic Planning Subcommittee. This is Chairman Yoder's appointment.

Chairman Yoder said each group has their Chair and one other member on the Subcommittee.

On a motion of Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Coleman, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to reappoint Chairman Lauren Yoder to the Floyd County/Town/Economic Development Authority/School Board Strategic Planning Subcommittee for a two year term.

Supervisor Coleman – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes

Agenda Item 7.e. – Memorandum of Understanding between County of Floyd and New River Health District.

Ms. Morris stated this is an agreement for dispensing any kind of emergency medication and supplies that would go to first responders in the event of a widespread emergency. It would go to Fire and Rescue and police officers. I don't know that we have ever done this before. It came to us from the Health District's Emergency Coordinator.

Supervisor Boothe asked about contacts to be filled in on the last page of the agreement?

Ms. Morris suggested listing Kevin Sowers, Floyd County Emergency Services Coordinator, as the first contact. Ms. Morris said either she or the Chairman could be the alternate contact. Mr. Sowers could also be the 24 hour point of contact.

Chairman Yoder said at the point this went into effect all three of us would be here.

On a motion of Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Coleman, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between County of Floyd and New River Health District and to authorize the County Administrator to execute the agreement (Document File Number 959).

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Coleman – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes

Agenda Item 7.n. – Consideration of transfer of historic bell from Courthouse.

Ms. Morris stated the bell that was either on top of the old Courthouse that was torn down or it may have been out in the courtyard, has been in a room above the Commissioner of Revenue. They need that area for storage. I talked to the Judge about it and he was fine with us transferring it to the Historical Society if they were interested in getting that. I talked to them and they would be delighted to have that go into the museum. Citizens would be able to see and enjoy it and learn about their local history.

By consensus the Board of Supervisors agreed to donate the Courthouse bell to the Floyd County Historical Society.

Agenda Item 6.b. – Public Comment Period.

Chairman Yoder called for the Public Comment Period.

Mr. Cameron Callahan, Little River District – Supervisor Gerald, Supervisor Yoder, Supervisor Turman, Supervisor Clinger – I, as a concerned citizen, require your time directing your attention to document 955, the environmental ordinance, claiming this document is unconstitutional by the first amendment: "The free exercise of separation of church and State. Line 20 and 21 in document 955 is unconstitutional by the first amendment. These lines read, "North America, and the United States in particular, have been endowed by God Almighty with a vast abundance of easily, cleanly, and inexpensively accessible fossil fuels." This is not to disrespect the faith of Christianity. This is to uphold the sanctity of the Constitution. May I see your sources? Quoted information from vague and subject ordinances, courts have a duty to construe a statute constitutional unless unconstitutionality is clearly apparent. There is nothing apparent about this ordinance. Use of words such as "viable," "cost effective," "all available types," and "traditional and inexpensive options." The second note of the ordinance 955 "to support policies which incentivize public utility companies to expand service to all areas of the county with a goal of increasing access and lowering costs to our community." This sounds as vague as any fairy tale ending that has ever been used. Who will be coming to Floyd? Floyd Board of Supervisors this is appalling. There is no level of obedience to convey such atrocity. A lie is a lie. No change will come from this, only more of the same. If we as a Town cannot sacrifice for the peace between two parties we lose communication as a local government of Floyd County. CO2 levels are not the only imperative issue. Long-term investment for windmills can pay for roads, street paintings, sidewalks, and other required maintenance. As a small Town, our money comes from tourism. Floydfest is one of the largest tourist attractions in Floyd, which supports environmental progress. If this ordinance is made public, our businesses suffer the cost. We have land for new utilities to have property, yet land for windmills should stay private? Redraft environmental ordinance 944, drafted October 24, 2017. Document 944 suggests changing the use from fossil fuels to 100% clean, renewable energy and preserving the

land. Land for hunting, hiking, and breathing clean air. Both ordinances need structure with viable plans to change. We need an environmentally-friendly Floyd County. Thank you. Have a great day.

Mr. Dan Vest, Locust Grove District – Good Morning. There was one comment. I was looking at the agenda – I've been to several of these meetings – and one thing was brought up last month, videotaping and recording the meetings for public access. What drives it home to me personally is the minutes. The only thing that is currently, as of yesterday, that was on the minutes for the County on the site was January 2 meeting for administrative purposes. I also noticed that you guys said you are not going to publish detailed minutes, but publish an outline or synopsis, which is a fancy word for that. So we are a month into approving the minutes for the January 9 meeting. It would be a great service to the community to videotape these. Citizens Telephone Company was gracious in offering that service to us and we should take advantage of that. If we want to be transparent and engage the public, then it is the right thing to do. Other counties have been doing it for years. That's all I have to say. Thank you.

Ms. Susan Peters, Indian Valley District – I had not planned on getting up to speak, but I would like to speak in support of ordinance 955. Our country was founded on self-governance and as much as we can give people of good integrity the authority to make decisions on their own property and how to deal with the community, I would like to reinforce ordinance 955. Thank you.

After no further comments from the audience, the Chairman declared the Public Comment Period closed and thanked each person who came forward.

Supervisor Boothe pointed out the speakers were talking about resolutions and not ordinances.

Ms. Morris explained that the numbers the speakers are referencing are document file numbers for resolutions.

Chairman Yoder clarified one thing that Mr. Vest said. The reason we don't put our minutes up any earlier is because we have to approve them before they can be put on the website. Because we approved them today, we'll then put them up on the website.

Supervisor Boothe asked if Ms. Morris had received any further response from Citizens?

Ms. Morris said they were scheduled to be at this meeting but they were unable to attend. We will try to get them on the agenda again to give you an update on their plans.

Agenda Item 7.d. – Road name request, Campbell Crossing NE.

Mr. Kevin Sowers appeared before the Board and said he understood there were some concerns about an address they were getting ready to issue with a new road name of Campbell Crossing. When they issued the existing house numbers, it appears to me that there was no system of road range used. The driveway for a house at 356 Vest Tannery Road was originally

drawn but that is not the way it ended up. The numbers of the houses between 350 and 356 should extend to about 700.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said before the end of state maintenance it appeared that there was almost a road that went on the backside of the properties. Is that correct?

Mr. Sowers confirmed that was correct. The issue in this area was that we ran out of addresses.

Mr. Boothe asked if the other homeowners had been contacted regarding the name change?

Mr. Sowers stated yes, they have. There was a huge kickback. There were a lot of negative comments about changing their addresses. But one property owner who owns 2 homes and his sister owns the address 352 said they would solve the problem. We'll free up some house numbers. We'll change our road name because we are tired of people not being able to find our house.

Chairman Yoder explained the original problem was there were no house numbers on the private drive. We needed to change house numbers on every house. Nobody was happy with that. The solution was to add another private drive off of an existing private drive so you could free up some house numbers.

Mr. Sowers said after this is done we will send out a notice to everyone else that if there is another house built, everyone is going to have to change house numbers. They have fair warning. We're trying to be easy to work with. There is no meat in this ordinance to say you've got to do it. There is no penalty when people don't do it. We're doing the best we can to suit everyone involved. Three people freed up three house numbers to get one addressed. It is kicking the can down the road.

Chairman Yoder said with new technology this will be easier to find, especially with the new dispatch system.

Mr. Sowers said the house addresses currently listed as 350, 352 and 354 will be re-addressed. It frees up a number to give to the new dwelling. That homeowner is aware of the situation. If another house is built, they have fair warning. It was the less painful way to do this.

Ms. Morris added it affects the least amount of people.

Mr. Sowers agreed it affects the least number of people and gives them fair warning that if they see another house go up, they will be changing their house number.

Mr. Boothe clarified for those currently being corrected with the new name, they will not be affected in the future.

Ms. Morris said these were some of the first house numbers assigned when we went to 911.

Supervisor Coleman said we are doing the best we can with what we have to work with.

On a motion of Supervisor Kuchenbuch and seconded by Supervisor Coleman, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the naming of Campbell Crossing NE, with the cost of the road sign installation to be paid by the County.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Coleman – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes

Agenda Item 7.i. – Resolution for Adoption of Emergency Operations Plan.

On a motion of Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Turman, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt the resolution for the Emergency Operations Plan (Document File Number 960).

Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Coleman – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes

Agenda Item 7.j. – Resolution for Declaration of Adoption of National Incident Management System.

On a motion of Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt the resolution of Declaration of Adoption of National Incident Management System (Document File Number 961).

Supervisor Coleman – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes

Agenda Item 6.l. – Mr. Kevin Sowers, Emergency Management Coordinator.

Mr. Sowers stated the County is putting into service an application called Active 911. This application hooks up to the CAD equipment up at dispatch. It is a secondary form of being able to dispatch in case the radio system goes out. It sends the data through cell service. Responders get the data on the phone. It has addresses. You can click on a button and get directions. It should free up our dispatchers from having to constantly be telling numerics and directions. It is $10.00 per user. I believe it is going to be a good thing. I've gotten positive feedback on it. It is available to the Board of Supervisors for situation awareness. I appreciate you supporting that. It took 2 years, but everybody is tickled.

Supervisor Boothe asked if that is available to all first responders all across the board?

Mr. Sowers responded yes, but we have put a bar because it costs money. We want the active members who are running the calls to be the ones to sign up for it. It is available to Fire and Rescue volunteers, paid staff and Board members.

Supervisor Boothe confirmed active Fire and Rescue volunteers have access?

Mr. Sowers said he started this week putting in the volunteer and paid EMS into the system. We manually have to put in each person. Then we will add the fire department volunteers numerically by station.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if this was a yearly fee?

Mr. Sowers confirmed that it is. We expect it to cost $2,500.00 annually. It took us a while to get our CAD program up and going. There are some tweaks that need to be done which will be addressed in 30 to 60 days.

Supervisor Boothe said by the time we get into the budget you will have some fairly solid numbers?

Mr. Sowers replied, yes.

Supervisor Boothe said it is a backup to the other system but now responders will be able to get the information they need.

Mr. Sowers said I see this as being the future, but it is dependent on cell service. As you know in Floyd we are limited. In the future I can see it replacing pagers, but right now we are using it for a backup because we have had radio systems go down for hours. The only way to dispatch was to pick up the phone and call each member.

Supervisor Boothe stated we used to have maps that identified dead spots across the County. We started to try to address those. Is that continuing or does it still need the attention of this Board?

Mr. Sowers said it does need the attention of the Board. Perhaps Supervisor Coleman could brief you on it. We were at a meeting and there are future plans for cell coverage. I estimate that there is a need for two more towers to address all the holes in Floyd.

Supervisor Boothe said when I left office last time we talked about getting with Carroll County on some of their towers. Did that continue?

Mr. Sowers said I have a budget request for an engineer to evaluate this. There is a tower in Dugspur that could fill in the backside of the Buffalo. But I really need to have a professional look at it. There are parts of Locust Grove that have dead areas, but there is also a tower in Pilot that might be able to address those. We need a professional to look at this. I appreciate your concern. It is not an easy fix, but we are getting there with some future opportunities coming up.

Agenda Item 6.a. – Constitutional Officers reports.

Sheriff Brian Craig reported on the status of work and positions at the Sheriff's Office:

1) The new software program – the new CAD program is up and running. It has gone smoother than I could ever have imagined. The company we are dealing with has been great so far.
2) The Active 911 has added a few extra things. I think in the long run it will cut down on a lot of unnecessary traffic to our dispatch. One thing this application does on your phone, it even gives you a cross road where you need to go. You click on this application, hit a button, and it shows you from exactly where you are to the call and where you are going. I think it is going to be great. So far there has just been a handful of us using it. The new CAD program integrated well with this.
3) We have two deputies currently in the Academy. We had three, but had to pull one out because one of the deputies had a child this past week. Everybody is happy and healthy, but there were circumstances that made him leave the Academy. He will be attending in July. We will do some things to get him certifications so he can work transports and things of that nature.
4) Back in July we ordered some vehicles. We finally have those up and running. One of those vehicles will be a little bit different when you see it. Instead of being black and gold on the side striping with a thin blue line, this vehicle has been assigned to James Bohnke. Back in June he had a traffic stop on Route 8 that led to a methamphetamine arrest in Henry County and a monetary seizure of over $50,000.00 that Floyd County received. We thought about what we could do for Bohnke and decided to make his car different from everybody else's.
5) The seizure money is being used for equipment. We hope to line a few patrol cars up with $30,000.00 worth of in-car cameras. When drug dealers are caught, we seize their equipment and put the money back into use to help taxpayers out.
6) As you know I have a very young department. Drug arrests and DUIs are both up. We continue to work to keep our community safe.
7) Supervisor Coleman and I were discussing using the inmate work crew to clean a few roads before the brush gets grown up too much. Let me know if there are ones in your area that need cleaning. We will assess them to see if the inmate work crew should be used. I try to get them out to clean around the green boxes a couple of times a year. They might also be available to clean up illegal dumps.
8) As of this past Saturday there have been 15 officers killed in the United States so far this year. Last year, 2017, there were 129 officers killed. As of Saturday, law enforcement officer line of duty deaths has increased 120% from last year at this time. Most of those were from domestic violence situations. Please pray for law enforcement officers in our community and nationwide.

Chairman Yoder said you have a great group of officers. I appreciate the community involvement from your officers. I see them at Recreation games in uniform or coaching. It feels like there is a connection to the community from your department.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said there were three at last night's games sitting in the stands.

Chairman Yoder said someone was bragging about how hard you were working at the Recreation ball games.

Sheriff Craig said we encourage that. It helps them spend time with their family and you are getting other kids to see these law enforcement officers in a different aspect. Then when they see them in uniform they call them coach. Down the road they might talk to the officers as their coach.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said it speaks volumes as to the leader you are in your role as Sheriff and how you translate the values and responsibilities that you have to this County, and to your family, the children, and citizens of the whole County. That translates so deeply into your department and your officers. I thank you for that.

Chairman Yoder said we will say a prayer for you and your officers. It is a very difficult job your department has and we really appreciate it.

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

Mr. Clarke provided visual aids for the downtown pedestrian improvement project at the intersection of Route 8 and Route 221. The Public Hearing on this project is scheduled for next Wednesday night from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

1) There will be some sidewalk modifications.
2) There will be pedestrian walk/don't walk signals.
3) We want to free up some sidewalk space by modifying poles that are in the middle of the sidewalks.
4) There will be pedestrian-actuated signals so that when the button is pushed it stops traffic in all four directions. There will a little over 20 seconds to cross the road, then it will go back to its regular cycle.
5) There will be flashing lights at crosswalks outside Blue Ridge Restaurant and Angels in the Attic.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked will you be painting crosswalks down Route 221 past the intersection?

Mr. Clarke those should be done in the regular course of maintenance.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked what happens if we want to add another one? I'm concerned about down near the post office with Red Rooster going in.

Mr. Clarke replied you only want crosswalks in concentrated areas. You don't want them every few feet or it defeats the purpose of a crosswalk, which is to funnel people to a certain spot. With that said we looked at taking away one, but people felt that taken away people would still cross there so we might as well have one there with the actuated flashers. We can look at other places for crosswalks.

Supervisor Boothe asked if temporary paint can be used to put the crosswalks back in for now? It doesn't have to be the permanent paint.

Mr. Clarke replied yes, between now and when construction starts we will work to maintain some lines there. This project won't be advertised for several months. One of the things we are looking for comments on are the style of the signs and signals. Once completed it will be great, but during construction it will be a mess. We will work with business owners so we don't disrupt things too much.

Supervisor Boothe said I have a concern as you head down Route 8 at the corner of Farmer's Supply, will those be moved back far enough so that if a person is turning right onto Route 221 they will not be able to see a crosswalk?

Mr. Clarke said I have been talking to our traffic engineering people about that too. The stop bar is way back and it has to be back there for necessity to accommodate turning vehicles. Obviously if this person is turning right there is no turn on right signals, so they will be turning on a green signal and if it is green, the pedestrian should have a don't walk signal. You want it far enough up so they can see, but even then it is a sharp turn. We're going to get it up as close as possible, but you also have to have these ADA ramps and you can't have them in the curve part. It is tough to fit in there when the intersection isn't symmetrical. Those are good comments. I encourage you all to come to the Public Hearing. Comments will be written down and we will compile them. The designers take them and try to work on them. If they can't do what you are asking for, they will have an answer as to why.

Supervisor Boothe asked if you are widening the sidewalk by Farmer's Supply?

Mr. Clarke said yes, for access and signage. There is a guide wire in the middle of the sidewalk too. We'll try to clean that up. We hope a lot of people who have businesses in Town will come to the Public Hearing so we can talk to them.

Supervisor Coleman asked if any consideration was given to increasing signage where folks gather in spring and summer to play music? Supervisor Coleman suggested a congested area ahead sign near Milestones where the speed limit changes.

Mr. Clarke said we can look at that. In some localities we have a light that flashes and tells what a person's speed is.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said the ideas is to have a sign that says congested pedestrian area.

Supervisor Coleman said we just need something to forewarn drivers. It seems to be more of an issue in the direction coming from Woolwine.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if VDOT will really listen at this meeting?

Mr. Clarke replied yes, that is why we changed it from a Public Information Meeting to a Public Hearing. There are a lot of ways we can go before this is advertised for construction. It could extend the length of the preliminary engineering project, but it is worth doing.

Mr. Clarke addressed other normal maintenance issues and construction projects:

1) We've been battling weather. When we are not dealing with snow we are trying to clean up gravel roads.
2) We have been patching potholes, but we probably won't catch up until June on all of those.
3) They did some pipe replacements on Route 714, Robersons Mill.
4) We did shoulder repair on Route 221.
5) The bids are in for New Haven Road at $450,000.00. It will be awarded and construction started this summer with a completion date of September 7.
6) The bids also came in on the Alum Road project at $1.485 million. The same company got both of those projects. I don't have an end date on this one, but it will probably be one construction season by the end of 2018. That was some money we had for non-unpaved roads. Most of your money is for unpaved roads. We looked at several possible projects and did a traffic analysis five or six years ago. At that time this spot had the most accidents so we picked that spot to do.
7) We put up some chevron signs on Dusty Rock Road.
8) We are trying to get the crosswalks scheduled around the weather.
9) We got to the pothole on Route 221 by C. W. Harmans.

Supervisor Boothe said we've already talked about the lines for crosswalks at the stoplight until the constructions gets done. Thank you for the work on Dusty Rock Road. Would you look at the possibility of guardrails on the curve there?

Mr. Clarke replied that we've already looked at that and it doesn't qualify for guardrails, perhaps we could come up with some other solution.

Supervisor Boothe thanked him for the shoulder work on Route 8. Hope Road, State Route 712, a portion of that road was done at some point but stopped. Could the remainder of that road go into the Rural Rustic roads, which would be graded and stabilized? The property owners out there I talked to are very receptive to that instead of going to the full six year plan, which sometimes turns out to be 10 or 12 years depending on the money.

Mr. Clarke explained that the Rural Rustic plan is a design standard but it is not a separate funding pot from the six year plan. Yes, it could be built to rural rustic standards like we did Diamond Knob Road and Vaughns Mill Road, but it will still be in the six year plan. It is just a design standard that does not have as many requirements as areas with more traffic.

Supervisor Boothe said I must have gotten lucky with the one you did before. It seemed to get done a whole lot faster than going through the whole six year plan.

Mr. Clarke replied if others were unpaved roads being built to a greater standard, then it probably was done quicker because others were still going through design. New Haven Road is

on the plan right now. I don't think we will get to Moles Road this year because it has to go to bid. There is a lot of drainage work on Moles Road.

Supervisor Boothe requested that Hope Road be put on the six year plan as a Rural Rustic Road.

Mr. Clarke said it is time to have the Public Hearing and if it is okay with the Board I would like to do that at the night meeting in April. I need the resolution before the end of the fiscal year. There is some room this year to add two or three roads.

Supervisor Boothe said we appreciate everything you are doing, especially with limited funds.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said there is a large pothole on Needmore Lane right where you turn onto Parkview Road at Legacy. It needs to be fixed. Sunny Ridge Road has deteriorated. Many gravel roads are mud bogs right now. The Route 8 guardrail has been in the works a long time. In Montgomery County they got a guardrail in the long stretch coming down from Pilot. They needed it, but why aren't we getting the same stuff done in Floyd County? How do we make it so there isn't such a distinct difference between our roads and Montgomery County and Roanoke County roads? I would like to be proactive in getting a crosswalk down by Red Rooster.

Vice Chairman Turman said he appreciated that Darrell Sowers from VDOT met with him and watched trucks going up and down Keith Road. Surface treatment probably would not work on Keith Road because it would peel right off. Randall said they would furnish the culverts. Mike owns both sides any would do anything he could to help. I called Darrell Sowers yesterday about Thistle Hill Road. They had concerns about the school bus making it up that hill. They were going to try to get in there today and work on that. I appreciate all you are doing. This time of year people want gravel and it is not feasible.

Supervisor Coleman said thank you for continuing to cut back brush. We should probably do a site visit with the property owner at 3349 Indian Valley Road. He acquired a piece of property and there is a cluster of homes in an area where there is a blind spot as you head toward Montgomery County. He is more than willing to offer that to VDOT for the bank to be shaved back. A school bus travels that area and makes stops in that cluster of homes.

Mr. Clarke said we have done that in a couple of other places and are looking to do another. That would be great.

Supervisor Coleman said in addition there is quite a drop off at the intersection of Indian Valley Road and Sawmill Hill Road where pavement has been added. That needs to be sloped.

Chairman Yoder has gotten calls on two dirt roads. On Goose Creek Run the mail carrier is no longer carrying mail because it has gotten so bad. They hope to get grading and gravel so the mail can come through. On Ponderosa Road the fire department had trouble getting through. The line painting still hasn't been done on Route 221 to add back the passing

zone that was covered up last year. I received a call from a person at 2941 Shawsville Pike requesting a guardrail.

Mr. Clarke said we will go out there and check that out. We can talk further at the Public Hearing. If any individual Board member wants to ride around and check out roads we can set up a time to do that.

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

Agenda Item 7.f. – Floyd County Public Schools requests for supplemental revenue and expenditure appropriations in the amount of $35,296.44.

Dr. Wheeler explained you have the request for revised appropriations. As you can see on the revenue letter we expect to lose federal funding. Our daily ADM [average daily membership] that we projected was just about on the button. We had about 6 cushion, so that is a lot less than it has been in years' past. The main objective is to maximize all of the state and federal money upfront. On the security grant we were able to pay the 20% match out of our operational budget. We had some donations for our STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics) lab and for our preK book pack program. These all result in a $35,296.44 increase to our budget. The second letter shows where they went into each category.

On a motion of Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the supplemental revenue and expenditure appropriation requests as presented in the amount of $35,296.44 in the FY18 Floyd County School Board budget.

Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Coleman – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes

Vice Chairman Turman said my daughter was bragging on this book pack program. They love that.

Dr. Wheeler said last night people from each school came [to the School Board meeting]; the reading specialist and a couple of our librarians. It is really a neat thing and we are going to keep doing it. The staff went all the way with this. The most beautiful thing I've heard from it is it got the older kids – 5th, 6th and even 7th graders – having their parents read to them. It was neat to hear some of the stories the kids wrote.

Agenda Item 6.f. – Ms. Pat Brown, Executive Director, Women's Resource Center.

Ms. Brown introduced Ms. Tracie Brewster and said you all know her, but she is on our Board of Directors and our Treasurer and we are so lucky to have her. She is our official Floyd representative. We have people represent different jurisdictions and then a mix of people to make up 15 Board members.

Ms. Brown said I am here to update you and to talk about the proclamation.

1) Last year we served over 200 people from Floyd with different kinds of service. Either they stayed at our emergency shelter, called our hotline, or they came in for counseling, or they brought their children who had been victims of child sexual abuse, or we saw them at the emergency room in the hospital.
2) For every domestic violence and sexual assault who goes into the hospital for a forensic review, we have a protocol with Carilion which is the only hospital in our area who has forensic nurses, they call us on every single call. We go to the hospital over 350 times a year. We go 24/7. If the person would like for us to be with them, it is totally their choice. They have complete control. We don't want them to be asked do they want us and have them feel they are getting us out in the middle of the night so we are there at their convenience.
3) Your 200+ people could have gotten lots of different services or just one service.
4) We have a terrific violence prevention program. We are in all but two of your elementary schools for 6th-10th grades. Different administrations in schools have different thinking about it or school calendars are full. We are still working on getting into those two schools. Last year we did at least 3 presentations to 562 kids. We talk about healthy relationships. We talk about dating violence. We talk about how to recognize when it is not going well or red flags. And who is a safe person in your community you can talk to about this. We know so many of the domestic violence cases we see and talk about, they start when they are teenagers when they start to date. Signs are there in their teenage years.
5) In addition to the presentations we have started healthy relationships week. This is our second year at Floyd County High School and we did it last week. It was a wild success. They did it at lunchtime. They set up tables and activities. Kids come up and asked questions. Two of our staff were there for 4 days and got teenagers to talk about healthy relationships.
6) It takes the entire community to make all facets of this work. We are so appreciative that Floyd County and the Board of Supervisors included us in your budget for decades. We hope you will be able to continue.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said Sheriff Craig talked about most of the violence that police officers have encountered and lost their lives in was due to domestic violence calls. This is on a national level. We have been touched by it here in this County. Your work is so important and I appreciate everything you and your staff do. Obviously 206 clients from Floyd may not seem like a lot, but it is. One is too many.

Ms. Brown said thank you. We just started a new program in three areas. It is a lethality assessment program. You work very closely with the law enforcement agency. In the New River Valley there are fourteen law enforcement agencies. We're hoping to talk to the Floyd County Sheriff and his department. It takes about a year to get set up. When an officer goes out on a call and it is a domestic violence call, they do an assessment about how dangerous it is. How likely it is that someone could get killed. Then they call the Women's Resource Center right on the spot and hand the phone to the victim. We talk to her and offer to get her to the

shelter that night. We offer to be there at 10:00 a.m. the next morning for immediate consults and counseling. It is another tool for law enforcement to have in their pocket.

Agenda Item 7.g. – Proclamation that February 2018 is Teen Violence Awareness Month in County of Floyd.

On a motion of Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Coleman, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt a proclamation recognizing that February 2018 is Teen Violence Awareness Month in the County of Floyd, Virginia and February 5th – February 9th, 2018 was Healthy Relationships Week in Floyd County High School (Document File Number 962).

Supervisor Coleman – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes

Vice Chairman Turman said when I was in law enforcement 70% of the officers killed was due to domestic violence and it is probably higher now.

Agenda Item 6.g. – Ms. Terry Smusz, Chief Executive Officer, and Mr. John McEnhill, Chairman New River Community Action.

Mr. John McEnhill introduced Ms. Terri Smusz, Chief Executive Officer of New River Community Action. Mr. McEnhill explained that he served as the Board appointed representative to NRCA for 16 years and as their Board Chair for the past 5 or 6 years. Ms. Smusz has been the Executive Director and now CEO for 29 years. I bring this up because I don't serve on Boards this long unless I really think it is worth my time and adds value to the community. NRCA has been part of Floyd for over 50 years. It started in 1965. It is a very well-run organization. It routinely gets very good onsite monitoring reports at both the state and federal levels. We internally strive to be that A+ organization. I am very proud of the local NCRA involvement, particularly the Floyd local advisory board. We have good representation including Ms. Karen Bingham from the Town Council, Ms. Tracie Brewster, Mr. Bill Gardner, a Chamber of Commerce representation through me, Mr. Jack Wall, Ms. Susan Icove, Jonathan Vandergrift from Plenty!, and some other people. This Board is the one who started the backpack program, which was one of the first in the New River Valley. The members of the Local Advisory Board, working with NRCA staff, raised the funds to renovate the NRCA building. We are very thankful for this Board's financial support of that effort. The recent entrance and removal of the old bridge was done with private dollars and not with local government funding. Further enhancements to the building such as the new canopy over the site entrances was done with private funding. The Local Advisory Board started a housing coalition last year. It is now known as FISH – the Floyd Initiative for Safe Housing. Ms. Susan Icove, Chair of our Advisory Board, will be giving a presentation to you shortly. I also asked to be appointed to the Department of Social Services Board last year because I saw an opportunity to further strengthen our very strong relationship with that Department. Ms.Smusz thanked the Board for their past support of New River Community Action. Last fiscal year we served 1,868 Floyd residents in a variety of programs that are discussed in the Annual Report I just gave you.

We are extremely pleased with the progress done to rehabilitate the building, in large part thanks to the support of this group and the private community in Floyd. Not only do we operate NRCA programs out of that building, but we also partner with New River Community College to offer GED classes. We partner with New River Valley Cares to offer parenting classes out of our conference room. I will just touch on a couple of programs rather than speak about all of them.

1) Head Start – right now we are serving 17 three-year-olds in a classroom in the NRCA building.
2) In addition we are serving 16 four-years-olds at Check Elementary through a braided classroom, which is a combination of Head Start funds and Virginia Preschool Initiative funds. We are really pleased with this partnership and are very grateful to Floyd County Public Schools and Dr. Wheeler for their support in making this possible. It pulls together two different funding sources and the best of both programs.
3) Backpack program – this year we are at an all-time high. We are serving at least 200 children each week throughout Floyd County Schools. That program is made possible by a group of very dedicated volunteers who purchase the food, pack the food, and deliver it to the schools. The schools discreetly hand them out. The food for the program is funded completely privately by local donations, a grant from the New River Health Foundation, and the Empty Bowls fundraising event, which will be held Sunday, April 8 from 11:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the high school.

Chairman Yoder said the building is impressive.

Ms. Smusz said when the damage was done to the bridge, we worked with an engineering firm and the cost of fixing or replacing the bridge was greater than putting in a new entrance. The playground is now in the back.

Vice Chairman Turman stated the new entrance is safer than the old entrance off of Route 221.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch expressed her appreciation to NRCA and the many volunteers and contributors who help make their programs successful.

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

Mr. Kevin Byrd said I have three points I want to share with you. First, I want to talk a little bit about our agency update in terms of projects and initiatives that are underway. Second I want to talk to you about a regional and local housing study that has gotten off ground and we are looking to secure funding. Third is a Go Virginia application for small business development service expansion in the New River Valley.

1) New River Valley Regional Commission
   a. Started in 1969 by local governments in New River Valley.

b. We have 5 new members on the Commission, including Supervisor Coleman from Floyd.

c. Mike Maslaney from Floyd is both the citizen representative and he is on the Executive Committee. He has been a great sounding board for initiatives.

d. Both universities are members and this January we welcomed New River Community College, which is the first community college to join a planning commission in the Commonwealth.

e. Our staff has expertise in a wide range of areas – planning, GIS, housing, economic development, community development, the list goes on and on.

2) Regional and local housing study

a. We have a proposal based on input that we gathered throughout the region on communities dealing with housing issues. The proposal is in partnership with the Center for Housing Research at Virginia Tech to the Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA).

b. It will have a regional data collection process, but then local initiatives look at that data and identify strategies to address those challenges. That is our model in having a regional stakeholder group with some regional expertise, but then very intentional about the solutions.

c. We would engage industry experts, not just in the region but within the State. We have Housing Virginia, which is a very well-known group to help with strategy development.

d. We also want to engage recent homebuyers who have been in the process the past 12 to 18 months. It doesn't necessarily have to be a homebuyer, but anybody searching for housing in general. What was their experience like? Did they end up in the community that was their first choice? If not, what were their options? We want to learn more about people's experience in housing.

e. We submitted a proposal to VDHA at the end of November. The feedback we got back was they liked the scope but they wanted to see local participation in terms of match funds as well as this local steering committee.

f. We are asking all four counties, the city, plus the towns of Blacksburg, Christiansburg, and Pulaski for $4,000.00 each to show that local commitment. That is just under 25% of the project cost in total.

3) Go Virginia Economic Development Program

a. This is a statewide initiative that has local per capita dollars that extends from the New River Valley through Roanoke and up to Lynchburg.

b. We've identified a need to have small business development services made available in the New River Valley. Two years ago there was a decision made that the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) would no longer be hosted at Radford University. That decision was made by the state director to make those resources available through the Roanoke SBDC office. For the past two years that office has been very engaged in the community here, but the New River Valley local governments have asked the question about without additional staffing are all of our needs being met?

c. This would help local governments collaborate on economic development opportunities with job creations. We thought this may be a fit.

d. The proposal is due tomorrow. The contents are ready. At this point we are asking the local governments that want to participate with SBDC expansion.

e. This would be a way to decrease your cost in half over a two year timeframe. The SBDC is asking for one year of service for $4,000.00. The GO Virginia proposal would be you contribute $4,000.00 over a two-year period. The GO Virginia money would cover the other half of your match.

f. We're not sure how competitive this is going to be because they want to see high-wage job creation and they want to see new and different. Our message to the GO Virginia Regional Council is this is fundamental economic development. You have to have the foundation of a SBDC in order to do new and different. Some of the jobs are high wage. But they really need to know what the needs are within the region. This is an important one in all of our communities.

g. There are two $4,000.00 requests out there – one for the Housing Study and then one for this SBDC.

4) Renew the New Expansion

a. A couple of years ago we had a train the trainer experience in Radford. The passion in Floyd shown through.

b. You had a cleanup on the Little River. It was great. It was exactly what we wanted to see.

c. At a regional level we are helping to coordinate t-shirts and supplies, while local communities are drumming up the volunteers and providing the meal that day.

5) Hazard Mitigation Plan

a. That will be on your agenda in March with Lydeana Martin. That is important for you because it allows you to have access to pre- and post-disaster funds. So if you have flooding or another situation in the community, you need to have this as a checkbox to receive federal funds.

6) Data Dashboard

a. This is a platform we have been working on and continue to modify and update. There is a web link on there for anybody who wants to go and get quick information about communities.

7) New River Valley Livability Initiative

a. For the past four years we have done a convening of the region to talk about great projects and programs taking place. We have a lightening round presentation that lasts about an hour and a half with 5 speakers and 5 slides to showcase the projects they are doing and make connections with resources across the New River Valley. This will be March 1 at the German Club at Virginia Tech.

b. We encourage elected officials to come and see what is happening in other places, steal ideas, and bring them back home or expand partnerships.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked with the small business we really didn't have any choice in the matter, did we?

Mr. Byrd replied that is correct. The Commission has peeled back the onion on this issue over the past six to eight months. We invited Jody Keenan, the State Director of the SBDC, to come to a Commission meeting and he and Bart Smith presented at the October meeting and explained the process for how it unfolded. At that point we realized that if we wanted increased service, the communities would need to pay for that. That is the model across the state, but previously Radford University carried that cost.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if Radford University just gave it up?
Mr. Byrd replied, essentially correct.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if anyone had discussed this with the new University President?

Mr. Byrd replied those conversations are happening and they are trying to figure out their role. They wanted to move funds from a community-based economic development program to student based innovation and technology.

Ms. Morris said Floyd has already been using the services of Roanoke SBDC through EDA. We have gotten wonderful service from them. You have already been funding them.

Ms. Lydeana Martin said we have really good experience out of the Roanoke office. They come up to the Innovation Center regularly and meet with businesses. They teach portions of our C4 sessions. We have had a good working relationship with them. I think we paid $3,000.00 this year and we have been notified that it will be $5,000.00 for the new fiscal year.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked has the service been better out of the Roanoke office?

Ms. Martin replied it is a matter of when and who. Ten years ago we got great service out of Radford University. Just before it shut down, for the last two or three years, we didn't get anything. I think a lot is in the personality of who is directing it – if they are focused in getting out into the communities or if they are just focused in working from their office. The leadership in Roanoke right now has been very willing to come to Floyd. But that could change at any moment depending on who is sitting in the director chair.

Mr. Byrd said the request is to have a fulltime staff member, with office support from Roanoke, who would be based in the New River Valley to work with the four counties and the city to address that gap. We have heard positive things about the service out of Roanoke.

Ms. Morris asked you need a letter of support for the Go Virginia application. We have it in our budget for next year.

Mr. Byrd said yes, this will be a July 1 start over two fiscal year periods.

By consensus the Board of Supervisors agreed to issue a letter of support for the Go Virginia application.

Mr. Byrd said we received clarification yesterday that the funding for the Housing Study could be handled this year or next.

Ms. Morris said this Housing Study goes hand-in-hand with what our local housing groups are doing.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said there is such a need that we really need to support this. I sometimes have problems with studies, because sometimes we study and really get nothing from it. Are you confident that the VHDA is going to give us the kind of information that we need out of this study to make real and effective change in our communities?

Mr. Byrd said I do feel very confident in this study. That is why it has come back around from the original proposal to making sure there is local buy-in. They don't want to make the investment unless there is commitment locally. They do have implementation funds later.

Supervisor Boothe asked what is the most important data coming out of this study? In your opinion what is the number one thing we will get out of it?

Mr. Byrd said that would be different for every community.

Supervisor Boothe said I am talking in general about the number one thing for all communities.

Mr. Byrd replied the demand for new housing. We want to give our homebuilders confidence in making investments in new structures or up fit of existing houses. We have an older housing stock that is inadequate for some populations or there are new families who need different types of housing. We need to give confidence to the homebuilding industry and everybody else down the line that we need some housing choices here.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said I don't want a study that says how Blacksburg needs more townhouses for football weekends when there are a number of houses in Montgomery County that need work done. I'm hoping this consortium will look at the real issues that are facing so many residents in the New River Valley who don't have a whole lot of disposable income. We need more workforce housing in our community.

On a motion of Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Boothe, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to support the Regional and Local Housing Study proposal which the New River Valley Regional Commission is submitting to the Virginia Housing Development Authority.

Supervisor Coleman – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes

Agenda Item 6.i. – Ms. Susan Icove, Floyd Initiative for Safe Housing.

Ms. Susan Icove said I wanted to tell you about the progress Floyd Initiative for Safe Housing (FISH) has made this year. I hope to come to you each year with annual progress reports. About a year ago we gathered for the first time in response to our plea for anyone interested in helping with low-income housing. We had USDA, the Town, the County, Habitat, the HOME Consortium, Social Services, HUD, the Regional Commission, church leaders, Plenty!, Community Action, and citizens. We were very excited. We tried to develop a strategy and a mission. Our mission is to "Develop options for families and individuals in need of safe, affordable, accessible housing in Floyd County through partnership with the faith-based community, local government, citizens and regional agencies." Our strategy from there has been to divide into groups that focus on different areas of interest. We want to work on repairing some homes for people who are in low-income situations and make them safer for their children and themselves. We picked three projects for this past year. Ms. Icove showed a PowerPoint presentation of homes they worked on this past year.

1) The first home belongs to a single mom who lives in a trailer park and has four children.
   a. Upon inspection we found broken doors, only one working bathroom, there were exposed wires dangling, some sunken floors from a roof leakage.
   b. We have $1,000.00 for each project.
   c. We had two work days to help this family.
   d. A new stove and a hood were donated.
   e. A member of our team was an electrician and he fixed the electrical problems.
   f. We replaced cabinets and put in a new countertop to replace the existing ones that could cause health issues.
   g. We replaced the front and back doors.
2) Social Services called us about a disabled gentleman who has a roof leak.
   a. We found more problems than just a roof leak.
   b. We ended up replacing ceiling tiles.
   c. We shored up structural problems.
   d. We power washed the house and porch to remove mold.
   e. We had a work crew of 9 the first day supported by Omnibuild. All of their staff volunteered for a Saturday.
   f. They brought their big tin benders and we got two of the three sections of the roof done that day.
   g. Wills Ridge provided all the materials at cost so we replaced the roof for $1,500.00. We paid $1,000.00 and the man's family paid the other $500.00.
   h. This is how we want to do this. We want to give but we want effort on their part too. We are not opposed to them helping if they are capable.

In all this work we have been engaged with Habitat. They offer us something that we can't offer and that is insurance for being on people's roofs and for being at their place. We have signed a memorandum of understanding with Habitat and are operating our program in

conjunction with them. We raise our capital through them. They are housing our funds, any donations we get. As well they advise us on the training we need to provide the people coming to do the work.

3) The third person we helped was an aging in place man. He lives on his own.
   a. We replaced his back door with something we got at Habitat for $10.00.
   b. We put in a ramp.
   c. We replaced his toilet with a higher one with handle bars.

Those were the three projects we did last year. Our goal for this year is to do six projects. We are having Social Services and Plenty! and Community Action all refer people to us. If you know of anybody who is in bad need of help and would be a good candidate, please get in touch with us. We have two times when we will be going forward in assessing who we should help and that is coming up. At the end of this week we will pick our spring projects. In the summer we will pick our fall projects. The community has been super responsive to this effort. We feel very grateful. We are trying to educate our County and citizens about the need for housing. Ms. Icove passed out a data sheet gathered from the housing census in 2015. We would love to receive more data from the Housing Study. This data is broken down into how many homes are renter occupied; owner occupied; people are cost burdened, which means rent is more than 32% of their income. I hate seeing unused resources. My personal interest is in seeing empty homes in this County being fixed up and able to be used. We need to find a way to incentivize the property owners to consider rentals. Do we need more property managers to help them? Do we need to reassure them that we can find creditable renters? How do we change the dialogue here about empty homes in this County? We also need to teach people how to be a good renter and how to be a good landlord. There is a span of time when an empty house starts falling apart. We have a group who is working toward future homes in the area. We obviously have a housing shortage. We need property to put housing on. It becomes less viable if you have to drill a well. Yet town property is expensive. We have a great group of volunteers. Thank you for being willing to listen. We're in a catch-22 situation with some places because if we fix the place up the rents might be raised.

Supervisor Coleman suggested a series of protocol or criteria that could be given to first responders like EMS or law enforcement so they can let you know about housing situations.

Ms. Icove said we want to have a breakfast for the church leaders and reach out to the faith-based community. The churches may want to take on some of these projects and could use the guidance we can offer through Habitat.

Agenda Item 6.j. – Ms. Elisabeth Willis, HOME Consortium – Agreement Renewal.

Ms. Elisabeth Willis said I am here today because every three years HOME Consortium members are provided with the opportunity to renew their membership in the HOME Consortium. We are not seeking any funding. We are asking you to continue your membership so that we can continue to bring funding to our localities. We wanted to talk about a few highlights from this past year as part of that request.

1) The HOME Consortium is comprised of all the counties, the city, and the towns in the New River Valley.
2) It was started in 2007.
3) It has a Board of Directors comprised of two people from each of the four counties, and the city of Radford. Ms. Lydeana Martin is on the Board and I understand Mr. Yoder is. We also have two nonvoting members, Shelly Fortier from Habitat and Janaka Casper from Community Housing Partners.
4) Over the past ten years we have been able to leverage $35,000,000.00 in additional funds to create almost 350 homes.
5) I got a call from Lydeana last spring who asked if there is a housing resource guide around here. I thought no, but there should be. I put out an email based on Lydeana's request. We had remarkable response. Over the course of four to five months people from all sorts of organizations came together. In about two weeks we will have the final resource guide. We'll present it at the livability event.
6) We did a joint collaboration between Pulaski County, Giles County, and Giles Building Technology program where they built a house for a Habitat family.
7) One of the things we recognize is that there is a strong feeling about aging in place. We've been working to make homes more accessible for people to live in long term.
8) That left a gap in that they could stay at home but they needed services. We created a volunteer New River time bank and it is just now getting started in Floyd as well. Neighbors come together to exchange skills and services as a way to not rely on government services and have neighbors help each other to get the things they need.
9) Out of that we did a Tools of Time Community Art Project at the Prices Fork project. The community came together to do this art project.
10) We created NRV Home, which is a nonprofit to go after some funding that the HOME Consortium itself couldn't get. We got funds this past year through the Community Foundation and Freedom First Credit Union, and the Enterprise Foundation.
11) One of the highlights this past year was FISH which we are funding through operating funds to enable Habitat to be able to work in Floyd. We're hoping out of the whole process that you utilize HOME funds to do whatever you decide.
12) Taylor Hollow Construction has taken an old school in Prices Fork and has done a phenomenal job of taking classrooms and converting them into housing for seniors, a farm to table restaurant, craft brewery, and incubator kitchen. We are pleased to have been a part of that project.
13) Working with Community Housing Partners we funded several projects to help with the preservation of what is really the most affordable housing in the New River Valley. Without preserving these housing units, they would be lost forever.

We ask Floyd to continue its membership in the HOME Consortium.

On a motion of Supervisor Kuchenbuch and seconded by Supervisor Coleman, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to renew the agreement with the New River Valley HOME Consortium for a period of three years and to authorize the County Administrator to execute the agreement.

Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Coleman – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes

Agenda Item 6.k. – Mr. Jon Beegle, Chairman, Floyd County Economic Development Authority.

Mr. Jon Beegle said this is in reference to the budget request for FY19 as well as some additional budget requests for this year. I wanted to take a minute to talk about what the EDA has done with the funds you've given us over the past year. This is only our third year of being in your budget.

1) In February 2017 we had a wall constructed to separate suites 2 and 3 at the Innovation Center. We used some of the FY16 carryover funds that the Board authorized us to have.
2) Suite 2 was immediately occupied by Henry's Healthy Pets.
3) Suite 3 is now occupied by Tendergrass Farms, which started with 4 employees and has just added another employee.
4) Currently all of our spaces are occupied except for Suite 4. We have 9 tenants, 3 members. Even though Suite 4 is empty there is some benefit in having the space because it is in our inventory and people can come and look at it. It gives us an opportunity to show Floyd. We would love to have that space filled, but there are some benefits even though it is not filled.
5) We have a tenant who is moving out shortly because his business is busy enough now that he has had to hire somebody and he needs a larger space. He is moving into the Station. That space will be empty but hopefully not for long. We have another tenant who is looking at that space. Office space has been very easy to keep occupied.
6) In regards to Suite 4, Mark Bolt [Building Official] took a look at that space. We considered the option of subdividing that space like we did suites 2 and 3. But it looks like it would cost $80,000.00-$100,000.00 so we are going to table that idea for now and continue showing the space. We will continue to research ways to use that space.
7) Our revenue is currently covering our operating expenses, with the exception of fee in lieu of taxes. We are not currently able to put money back for maintenance issues that may come up with the building like roofing or HVAC.
8) When the County purchased the property currently occupied by H & V plant 2, they put it in EDA's inventory.
9) There was a verbal agreement that if there were any big issues that came up with repairs that H & V would not cover, EDA would have support from the County.

10) We submitted a letter last year that if there is a difference in the funds that are paid through the lease versus what the County has to pay the bank on the debt, that those funds be put into a separate account to be used for the purpose of making repairs. I wanted to make you aware of that because people in positions change on your Board and ours.

Supervisor Boothe asked if the agreement with H & V is in writing?

Mr. Beegle replied they have a lease agreement. I am referring to the difference in funds from what the lease payment is versus what is owed to the bank from the Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Boothe clarified I was referring to the maintenance on the building?

Ms. Martin stated that the agreement with H & V is that they do maintenance but that replacement would be the responsibility of the owners, so if the roof needs replacing or a system needs replacing it falls back to the owner which would be the EDA. That is in writing.

11) With the 5&10 loan program we made a $5,000.00 loan in 2017 to Blue Mountain Kombucha to continue their development. They are a success story for us. We offered them a couple of loans and they are paying them back consistently and are never late. They've participated in our C4 Program and are really developing their business as a result of some of our efforts.

12) Rural Development provided another $75,000.00 for us to recapitalize our loan program. We had loaned out all the funds we had. At first they weren't going to approve us, but being part of one of our business development programs, they saw the interest in the County. They offered it and we accepted.

13) We've had several loan inquiries but not everyone can be funded. Part of the reason is that some of the requests are in relation to agriculture. The funds from Rural Development can only be used for value-added expenses. We had a couple of requests to buy cattle or strawberry plants and we can't make those loans. Hopefully we can find another source to meet those needs.

Chairman Yoder said you could make a loan for strawberries if you were making preserves.

Mr. Beegle agreed, there has to be a value-added aspect.

Ms. Martin clarified you could buy the jam-making equipment, but you could not buy the plants. It is funny that it is a Rural Development USDA program and they won't fund farming, just value-added products.

14) We have worked with the Board on conceptual designs for a new building at the Commerce Park as well as some potential prospects. We hope to hear some good news by the end of next month. We have no feeling right now one way or another, positive or negative.

15) We had some brush hogging done on lot 4, which made it a lot easier to show and it made engineering assessments easier for assessment planning, which the County is working on now.

16) We met with VACORP in reference to the trail around the Commerce Park. This will be part of our budget request. They were able to insure us in regards to our responsibilities for the trail. We walked the trail and it will be easy to develop. The expense is going to be in signage and gates.

17) The Phlegar House will hopefully be the trail head or one of them. Bill St. Pierre talked to the Preservation Trust about preserving that building. They are under agreement that he can work on that. He has graciously agreed to do this on his own time. It will not be a fast project. Initially he said two years, but now thinks it will take closer to five years considering all the work that needs to be done from pulling off boards and seeing what the inside looks like. He'll take it down to the original footprint. The additions will be taken off of that building. Some of the lumber from that will be used to restore some of the outbuildings that are there. Hopefully some of the lumber will be used to create a pavilion there as well. We do not have a signed agreement from the Preservation Trust at this point. We submitted a new agreement to them. We hope to hear something by our next meeting.

18 As you know we were awarded the $1.5 million grant award from the Appalachian Regional Commission which extends the road into Phase 2, the 51 acre parcel behind the substation. That has been approved and we are waiting on work to be done.

19) We are working with Onward NRV in some of their marketing studies and strategic planning.

20) Back in the spring of last year H & V Corporate chose to have their retreat here in Floyd. They are an international company. When they were speaking to their department heads, the question was, "We have this great relationship here in Floyd County, and how do we create this same atmosphere in the other areas where we are working?" I think that is a testament to who we are as a government, as a community, working with a company who is growing here.

21) As part of our Floyd Grown Project we spent many months coming up with an economic development and tourism logo. We will have a rollout of the logo in the middle of March. We spent a lot of time on this. It was a difficult process. We had a lot of opinions, but Eddy Communications was able to come away with a unanimous choice.

22) We were able to obtain the services of Creative Economic Development Consulting. When we put out the initial RFP we had a lot of hopes and dreams of what this person would be able to do for us, but our budget did not match the job description. We entered into a contract for Phase 1 to get an idea of her capabilities and then a Phase 2 if we wanted to continue with her services.

23) Phase 1 was to identify our assets and opportunities, our target audiences, partners for an action plan, and our marketing strategy. It cost $21,500.00.

24) Phase 2 of the consulting process is the development of the plan and the action steps. Phase 2 will cost $13,500.00. The EDA has suggested that we supply $3,500.00 of the $13,500.00. We want to ask the Board to support us with the other $10,000.00.

25) She will be making a presentation at our meeting on February 26 and we would like to invite all of you to be there.

26) From the Executive Summary I want to point out, "Key messages include existing business satisfaction and success, rate of entrepreneurship, culture of innovation, assets such as the Innovation Center, and the personal connectedness of the community. Whereas traditional external marketing programs focus on a small set of target industries, Floyd County's approach will need to be as diverse as the people and businesses it is trying to recruit. It will be more grassroots than mega marketing campaign."

27) She also says, "Perceived economic barriers such as remoteness can be turned into a positive by marketing to companies that desire a natural location while connecting using telecommunications. The barrier of no large industrial sites can be flipped to market to small technology companies." She has identified some opportunities there that we may be able to capitalize on.

28) Two EDA members are participating in the CTE planning team, the six year plan that Dr. Wheeler is creating. It is looking at what skills employers need, what programs and facilities are needed, and also to extend adult training opportunities. They are looking at the EDA to tell them what companies need in order to train students for the workforce.

29) Thanks to the County for matching funds and for Virginia Tourism funds. It allowed us to have an additional $60,000.00 funds to help create the local farm, food and wood related businesses which was part of the Floyd Grown project.

30) We had two big technical assistance workshops with 65 attendees. We provided $10,000.00 in technical assistance to help 10 small businesses that are looking to grow. That is $1,000.00 each we put out to 10 separate businesses. It ranged anywhere from nutritional testing to website development, search engine optimization, marketing, and social media.

31) We also provided $16,000.00 in grant funds to three winning businesses to help them improve their value chains. Those were presented at the Floyd County Fair.

32) We will be completing the study of best practices for coordinated farm tours. We are looking at agritourism. That may be an opportunity for the County as opposed to tourism which is so focused on the Town. There will be some brochures associated with that.

33) We did the C4 program for the third year. It is a very successful program. We had three speakers from the Small Business Development Center out of Roanoke. They also meet one on one with business owners to help counsel them on how to develop their businesses.

34) The C4 program is the shark tank competition where if businesses complete the program, they can do a presentation in front of judges. They can win as much as $5,000.00 to go toward their business.

35) Each year the reviews of C4 by participants has been very positive. They have expressed interest in more advanced training. In the spring of next year we would like to offer a Growth Wheel, which is a business development growth program. It is in line with some of Creative Consulting's recommendations for support training.

36) The EDA generally has $9,500.00 in income each year to help with expenses. It comes from a couple of bond floats we had. Ferrum College paid theirs off this

year unexpectedly so we will miss that. We are looking at more opportunities to be able to do bond floats.

Mr. Beegle said in the way of budget requests what we are asking for is the developing marketing pieces.

1) Marketing is a big aspect with the new logo. We want to be aggressive in going out and identifying who are the types of companies we would like to have as part of our community. We are asking for $10,000.00 to develop brochures, rack cards, rolling out our new economic development logo, and outreach on a new marketing plan and action plan.
2) The second item in the budget is Floyd Regional Commerce Center grounds maintenance. We have asked for $5,000.00 and we've used that. We would like to up that to $8,000.00 as there are additional green areas in the Commerce Park that need to be maintained that are not the responsibility of the tenants who are there.
3) The Floyd Innovation Center has operating expenses of about $6,000.00 per year. If all goes well and we keep all of our tenants we may not need that money, but we would like to be able to have it in case we have that need. That covers operating fees except for fee in lieu of taxes. That money may help cover that as well.
4) We are asking for $1,100.00 for EDA members training and/or conference. Part of that is sending one member to the Virginia Economic Development Association. Again we are trying to create partners that we can communicate with and glean information from, and hopefully create programs from that.
5) The Roanoke Small Business Development Center is a huge partner for Floyd County. They come here on a monthly basis or whenever someone asks them to come. They have a membership fee. They requested $5,000.00 of support for the work they do here. They participated in the C4 program for the past three years. They have always been available to help us and the businesses in our community as needed. They have done a lot of work here and we would like to be able to support them and continue that partnership.
6) The trail is part of the funding request in the amount of $11,000.00, which includes $2,500.00 in brush hogging to clean up the trail. Most of the trail is a logging road so it is fairly clear. It will be easy to mark. There is an area behind the Dreaming Creek Building that has a lot of brambles and brush that needs to be cleaned up. It will be the same equipment that was used to clean up lot 4. There is a need for a small footbridge which will cost about $500.00 in materials. The gates and signage are the most expensive part, which will cost about $8,000.00. Trails are important to Floyd County. This is an opportunity to have something that would serve not only the Commerce Park, but the entire community. It is a nice walk through the woods. It is a nice long, shaded trail. It passes through a creek. It is another way to bring attention to the Commerce Park.

Supervisor Boothe asked how close to industrial buildings or sites is the trail?

Mr. Beegle replied we have a greenway around the Commerce Park. The trail runs the edge of the buffer zone. It was a concern which was part of the reason we didn't

do it initially. We were looking at a company that would potentially move in there and they expressed some security issues. We decided to table it at that point. Having walked the trail now, we don't consider that an issue. Having conversation with VACORP, the insuring company, they indicated that it would not be an issue. The key element is the signage. Without the signage we can't do the trail.

7) The C4 program has been very successful. It is a huge support for small businesses in the community and helps them get started. The next phase of that is once they are started, how do they grow? We need a series of these business development programs. C4 is the starting point and the Growth Wheel may be the next part. The Creative Consulting presentation on February 26 will address some of the needs here for business development.

8) The Growth Wheel would be an additional $2,000.00. That pays for 10 people. Each business will be asked to pay 25% or $50.00 to participate in the program. But it would be refunded if they completed the program. It is an opportunity to support businesses being able to move past the startup phase into how do I grow my business.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch commented that C4 has put a face on the Economic Development Authority. It has put you into the public eye. It has made you more accessible which is a good thing.

Mr. Beegle agreed and said having the program is a good community outreach. We want to continue it but have a next stage.

9) We are asking for $10,000.00 for economic development marketing and action plans for Phase 2 of the agreement with Creative Economic Development Consulting. That funding request is for this year, FY18.

10) We are asking for $20,000.00 for new opportunities that might emerge. In the past we have asked for a certain dollar amount and had to come back to you and ask for additional funds for engineering assessments on lots. We would like to have those funds available to us to know they are there and use and not sweat over whether we can do the things we need to do at the Commerce Park and with economic development in general.

11) The entire request is $83,700.00 for FY19.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked what was your opinion about the results from Phase I of the work done by Creative Consulting?

Ms. Martin replied there is a reason the word "creative" is in their company name. I was really impressed at things she was able to bring to light. For example, Virginia Economic Development Partnership, the State's economic development wing, had been here last year and visited. She suggested surveying them while it was still fresh and get ideas from them, their impression, strengths you have, opportunities you have. That was one piece. She also did a business survey of about 100 businesses. 15% of the businesses said they were looking to expand somewhere else not on their current site. We don't know if that means outside of Floyd County or inside Floyd County. She has

some very specific thoughts on things we can do to make sure we don't lose some of the businesses we have here and how to help them grow. Some of the fine grain things she was able to get into; it wasn't just data that she listened to and spit back out. She was actually trying to move us to another level. I was really pleased.

Mr. Beegle said she came up with points like 40% of existing businesses plan to expand at their existing location. We can use that as a tool to reach out to them and see what assistance they need. 93% of businesses have less than 10 employees in Floyd County. That is the Growth Wheel. How do you expand or grow to the next level. At 93% that is a big audience. The report and strategic plan is part of it. The other part of is that she is did something similar for Onward NRV, which is a partner for us. Both of these work together.

Supervisor Boothe suggested after you get the final report and the presentation on February 26, you can come back to us and request $10,000.00 from Contingency. That way if any tweaking to Phase 2 was needed you would have an opportunity to do that.

Ms. Martin agreed that waiting until then shouldn't be a problem. A member might want to add something to the scope of work after hearing the presentation.

Board members discussed the Economic Development Authority meeting on February 26 at 6:00 p.m. to hear the presentation from Creative Economic Development Consulting.

Agenda Item 6.m. – Ms. Toni Quesenberry, Board Member, Multiple Sclerosis Alliance of Virginia.

Ms. Toni Quesenberry stated that March is Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Awareness month. We have a lady in our County by the name of Suzanne O'Connell. She was a single mom to two boys and working a fulltime job and dealing with multiple sclerosis. When she was diagnosed there was not much awareness about it. It was an unknown, unseen disease. They have no idea what causes the disease. There were no support groups past Lynchburg toward Roanoke, Southwest Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky and West Virginia. In 2015 she along with a couple of other people who had MS started the Multiple Sclerosis Alliance of Virginia (MSAV), which is a 501(c)3 organization based here in Floyd County. When it started in 2015 there were 25 members. Several entities fall under MSAV like Cinderella's Closet. The first weekend in March we will have the Snowball Event. People with MS have a lot of problem with depression in the winter. There are now 350 members in this region. There is now a support group meeting out of Bristol. We meet at the Holiday Inn-Tanglewood twice a month. Suzanne has started a Board for MSAV and wants to keep it operating out of Floyd. I am on the Board. The most denied disability claim from the Social Security Administration is MS. It is known as the snowflake disease, because it does not affect any two people the same. This is why the Social Security Administration denies the claims at first. We are trying to raise awareness of MS because there are people who are too young to retire but they get denied for disability. Roanoke's office is 2.3 million cases behind in hearings. We want this brought to the attention of all municipalities in this region. Suzanne went to Richmond three weeks ago and met with some people in the House of Delegates and explained how MS affects everybody. We want

every year to have a proclamation making March MS Awareness month. We want to start at the local level and take it all across the Commonwealth. We want to set up a support group here in Floyd for our community members who cannot drive to Roanoke for the meeting. Oral medication is $75,000.00 a year. You are invited to a dinner on March 3 in support of MS, please let me know so I can put you on the guest list.

On a motion of Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Turman, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt a proclamation recognizing March 2018 is Multiple Sclerosis Education and Awareness Month in the County of Floyd, Virginia (Document File Number 963).

Supervisor Coleman – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes

The Board recessed for lunch for one hour.

Agenda Item 7.k. – Resolution requesting that Section 58.1-3831 of the Code of Virginia be amended to allow all Virginia Counties to have the power to levy tax upon the sale of cigarettes.

Ms. Morris said that this resolution which you asked me to draft is to amend Section 58.1-3831 of the Code of Virginia. This asks that Counties be given the power to levy a tax on cigarettes. It was a request that came from Pulaski County.

On a motion of Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Turman, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt a resolution requesting that Section 58.1-3831 of the Code of Virginia be amended to allow all Virginia Counties to have the power to levy tax upon the sale of cigarettes (Document File Number 964).

Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Coleman – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes

Agenda Item 7.m. – Consideration of options for employee health insurance.

Ms. Morris reported that we received the renewal rates for our current plans. We asked for information on a couple of options this time.

Ms. Ryan said the unfortunate news is that the health insurance rates are going up about 7%. Our representative told us that in the commercial markets it is going up between 10%-12%. Giles County told us their rates went up 13%.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if they have the same insurer that we have?

Ms. Morris and Ms. Ryan both replied that she did not say who their insurance carrier was.

Ms. Ryan said while our new rates are bad news, it is not as bad as others that we are hearing.

Supervisor Boothe recalled that the rates are based on usage.

Ms. Morris responded that we have been very fortunate in the past few years in that we have either not had any increases or they have been minimal increases.

Ms. Ryan explained that she had three different sheets for them to review. The first sheet without any red showed the current rates for FY18. Draft one with red showed what the FY19 rates would be if we kept our existing policies of KA250 and KA1000 for our current pool of employees, which is active employees only. This shows that the employee portion of KA250 comprehensive for a single policy would increase from $154.00 each month to $166.00 each month. The employer portion would increase from $466.00 each month to $498.00 each month. The minimum amount the employer must pay for each employee's policy is determined by a formula. The single rate for the KA250 comprehensive plan plus the single rate for the KA1000 comprehensive plan is added together, then divided by 2 and the result is multiplied by 80%.

Supervisor Boothe asked do you know the amount that the Board would have to pay if it wanted to absorb the increase?

Ms. Ryan replied that she had not figured out what it would cost the County if they picked up the employee's portion of the increase. On the second page in red we have another option which includes making the insurance available to employees who retire. It might encourage employees who are staying with the County in order to keep their health insurance to retire. It could also be an incentive to come to work for the County. For example a Deputy who starts at the age of 25 and only has to work 20 years until retirement, could retire at 45 and continue having health insurance until they turn 65 and get on Medicare. This could be considered a new benefit to employees that is not currently offered. However to offer this plan to retirees, there is a blended rate which takes into account that there are older members on the plan who might possibly have higher claims. With the blended rate the employer portion would be $508.00 and the employee portion would be $169.00 for the KA250 comprehensive plan.

Ms. Morris added that the retiree would be responsible for paying the entire premium. The County would not be contributing anything for the retirees.

Ms. Ryan said employees would make the decision at the time they retire if they wanted to continue on their current plan and would have to pay the entire premium each month which would be $677.00 per month for the KA250 comprehensive plan for a single coverage. This is likely cheaper than the marketplace. And it is the plan the employee has been using so they know it and are comfortable with it.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked by having older retirees on the plan would that mean there was a higher risk for premiums to go up?

Ms. Ryan replied yes.

Supervisor Coleman pointed out that next year ours might go up 13%. It is a nice pat on the back for service to your community.

Ms. Morris said years ago with a different Anthem plan we had it only allowed 10 retirees on the plan. We could never figure out an equitable way to make the 10.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if Board members would be allowed to continue on the plan?

Ms. Ryan said no because you don't retire from those elected positions. You can continue on COBRA for 18 months.

Chairman Yoder asked whether if Vice Chairman Turman would be eligible to participate as a person who is a retiree from the County?

Ms. Ryan replied it would probably only go into effect for future retirees. I can't imagine trying to make it available for everyone who has already retired. There is one other plan I want to tell you about. In the past we could only offer two health insurance plans. We chose the KA250 and the KA1000. Once you have over 100 people eligible to participate, even if they don't participate, then you can offer a high deductible plan in addition to the other two. We have had a couple of employees ask if we had ever considered a high deductible plan. We now have 117 eligible members. We could continue to offer our two existing plans and we could offer a high deductible plan with a health savings account. At the end of the year when we talk to all of the employees as part of the Section 125 cafeteria plan, I want to let them know about the pros and cons of a high deductible plan and find out how many might be interested. The pro is that there would be no employee share of the premium at all each month. The cons are: I think the maximum out of pocket is $5,000.00 for a single and $10,000.00 for a family. Also this policy has a 20% co-pay even after you meet the deductible of $2,800.00 for a single and $5,600.00 for a family. Other high deductible plans I've seen has no co-pay after the deductible is met.

Ms. Morris said we wanted to get the rates on the blended plan to see what they are because we had no idea. On the high deductible we will send out a survey to employees and see if there is any interest. We can't implement a high deductible plan this year anyway. If you aren't interested in the blended rates to include retirees for this year, we could include that in a survey to consider for the future.

Supervisor Coleman said coming from halfway through a career, in a small community looking at retention, you look at this and understand the fact that down the road I have an option. I think this has ramifications all across the board. I think this is a pat on the back for those who worked and served their community. It also helps each department head as an added benefit. Of course you are taking a chance that the premium might go up.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked could you prepare a spreadsheet like Supervisor Boothe asked?

Ms. Ryan replied that she would provide that information for them.

On a motion of Supervisor Coleman, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and carried, Anthem Key Advantage 250 and Anthem Key Advantage 1000 provided through The Local Choice were accepted as the health care plans using blended rates to be offered to Floyd County employees for fiscal year 2019.

Supervisor Coleman – yes
Supervisor Boothe – no
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes

Agenda Item 7.o. – Discussion of upcoming meetings proposed by the Joint Subcommittee comprise of Floyd County Board of Supervisors/Floyd Town Council/Floyd County School Board/Floyd Economic Development Authority.

Supervisor Boothe provided an overview of discussions held at the Joint Subcommittee meeting. It was discussed to have all the members of each of the groups get together so we could bring each other up to speed on where we are at and what we are working on. We are getting ready to get into the budget. The School recently completed part of their assessments. There are some things on the table with EDA. Then it was suggested that after that meeting we hold a public meeting at the high school, maybe in the auditorium with all of these groups on the stage and just let the general public come in.

Ms. Morris said this was a suggestion from the Town.

Supervisor Boothe said the first meeting with all the Boards together would be an open meeting to keep everyone on the same page. I don't have a problem with the first meeting.

Chairman Yoder said that meeting sounds similar to the one we had before we set up the Joint Subcommittee. All members of the four groups were there. Each group had a little presentation on what we had been working on.

Supervisor Boothe said as far as any follow-up meeting we could as a group discuss that. Our subcommittee meets once a quarter.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch said she had no problem with everyone coming together once a year.

Ms. Morris confirmed that was the original plan.

Chairman Yoder pointed out that there has been turnover on the various Boards.

Ms. Ryan said the first meeting is planned for March 21 at 6:00 p.m. in the high school library. The tentative date for the second meeting is April 4 with Public Comment in the high school auditorium.

Supervisor Boothe said I think we should have the first meeting and at that meeting discuss the second meeting. It might be too soon with everything going on. We could discuss a different date.

Ms. Morris pointed out that the dates were right in the middle of budget workshops.

Chairman Yoder said we will be having a lot of Public Hearings and the Schools will be too. I think we should have the March 21 meeting, but the end of March and first part of April is our busiest time. We might be meeting every other day then.

Ms. Morris said we must have the tax rate to the Commissioner of Revenue by April 26.

By consensus the Board agreed to the meeting on March 21 at 6:00 p.m. at the high school library, but at this point do not feel that a second meeting in April works for their schedules.

Ms. Morris provided dates of important activities with the School Board. The draft of their budget will be received on February 26 at 2:00 p.m. at a work session at the School Board Office. They will hold a Public Hearing on the School budget on March 12 at 6:00 p.m. On March 28 at 2:00 p.m. they will have a work session to finalize the budget.

Agenda Item 8. – Closed Session – Real Property 2.2-3711 A.3.; Prospective Business or Industry 2.2-3711 A.5.; Consultation with Legal Counsel and Briefings by Staff Members 2.2-3711 A. 7; and Consultation with Legal Counsel Employed or Retained by Public Body 2.2-3711 A. 8.

On a motion made by Supervisor Kuchenbuch and seconded by Supervisor Boothe, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to go into closed session under 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; under Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A. 5., Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community; under Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A. 7., Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultations or briefings in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body; and under Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A. 8., Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Coleman – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes

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

Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Coleman – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes

On a motion of Supervisor Turman, seconded by Supervisor Boothe, 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 Real Property in accordance with Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A.3; Prospective Business or Industry in accordance with Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A.5; and Consultation with Legal Counsel and Briefings by Staff Members in accordance with Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A.7., and Consultation with Legal Counsel Regarding Specific Legal Matters Requiring Advice in accordance with Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A.8. 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 – yes
Supervisor Coleman – yes
Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes

Agenda Item 9. – Old/New Business.

Chairman Yoder stated that he was in Richmond last week at the VACO Chairman Institute. I came away with a couple of ideas that I want to propose. The presenter said that to be good leaders we need to set goals. I have been thinking about doing what used to be called retreats but are now known as advances. A lot of places do an advance before working on the budget. Previous Boards have done this where they set aside a meeting to discuss general goals on where we want to see government improve over time. One of the examples given was that

broadband is a big issue in some counties. One county set a goal to get broadband to a certain percentage of the county within 5 years. Is there interest for an event of this type?

Ms. Morris said we have done this a couple of different times and ways. The first one was held at the winery and a facilitator was brought in. Each department head came and talked a little about their department. Different staff came in and talked to the Supervisors. The second one was held at Jim Cornwell's office and he kind of facilitated it. Different departments did not come in. It was more limited in the staff who came. We talked more about long-range goals and planning.

Supervisor Boothe recalled there was one other one held at The Country Store.

Chairman Yoder said I do think we need some long-term planning, whether it is a capital improvement plan or a vision that we have for the County. When I ran for office there were certain things that I thought needed improving, but it is easy to get bogged down.

Ms. Morris said that Kevin Byrd has experience in events of this nature. He might be willing to be a facilitator.

Chairman Yoder suggested having this event in the summer or fall in preparation for next year. Others who have done it found things they could all agree on and it gave them some unity to work together. By agreeing to set goals it gave them a direction to do something and have the political backing.

Chairman Yoder suggested that at some of the day meetings that they have lunch at the various schools.

The Board by consensus supported this idea and decided to start doing it as soon as it could be arranged through Dr. John Wheeler.

Ms. Morris asked if they wanted to invite Dr. John Wheeler to regularly present at the day meetings? We used to have the Superintendent scheduled for about 11:15 a.m. We would try to be through with the Board meeting by about 11:30 a.m. especially if we were going to an outlying school.

The Board by consensus agreed to invite Dr. John Wheeler to regularly present at upcoming Board meetings if he is available to do so.

Chairman Yoder said we approve resolutions and proclamations recognizing different months at the request of programs and groups, I would love to get into periodically approving resolutions commending people who have performed a great service for the County. I know other localities do this. The Town does it right now quarterly. We don't need to decide this right now, but please think about it.

Ms. Ryan handed out a spreadsheet that provided some information on the cost to the County to provide health insurance to employees. Right now 86 County employees are on the health insurance plan. Assuming all of those employees were taking the KA250 comprehensive

plan, the employees' cost is $15.00 more each month. If the County were to pick up that cost for the year it would be an additional $15,480.00.

For FY18 the current employees on the plan cost the County $421,116.00. The County's entire budget increase for health insurance from FY18 to FY19 is $37,992.00 for a total of $459,108.00. If you had approved the rate for the active employees only which was the minimum that you could do, the cost would have been $27,768.00 more for FY19. By approving the blended rate, it added an additional $10,224.00 per year to the FY19 budget for the County.

Agenda Item 10. – Adjournment.

On a motion of Supervisor Turman, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and carried, it was resolved to adjourn to Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Terri W. Morris, County Administrator

Lauren D. Yoder, Chairman, Board of Supervisors