

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 10, 2020**

At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Floyd County, Virginia, held on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. in the Board Room of the County Administration Building thereof;

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

Agenda Item 1. – Meeting Called to Order.

Chairman Turman 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.

Chairman Turman led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item 4. – Approval of minutes of February 11, 2020; February 25, 2020 and March 4, 2020.

On a motion of Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Coleman, and carried, it was resolved to approve the minutes of February 11, 2020 as presented.

Supervisor Coleman – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Yoder – abstain, not present for meeting
Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes

On a motion of Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Boothe, and carried, it was resolved to approve the minutes of February 25, 2020 as presented.

Supervisor Coleman – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – abstain, was not present for entire meeting
Supervisor Yoder – yes
Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the minutes of March 4, 2020 as presented.

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

Agenda Item 5. – Approval of monthly disbursements.

Questions and discussion followed.

On a motion of Supervisor Coleman, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the March 2020 monthly disbursements and additional bills as presented.

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

Agenda Item 6.a. – Mr. Chad Alls and Ms. Hopes Estes, Floyd County Department of Social Services.

Mr. Alls – The Social Services Board asked that I share with the Board of Supervisors this letter to all the Directors and Administrative Board Chairs of local Social Service departments in relation to the JLARC [Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission] study that was completed last year on foster care. Before I left the regional office, the State was working on this process as far as developing legislation that would allow the Commissioner to assume control of a local agency if the Commissioner felt the local agency was faltering in their foster care program. The way the language reads is that the Commissioner would be able to come in and assume control over the local administrative board and essentially the locality would have to pay for the State to come in and take over control and do what they need to do. However just to reassure you, Floyd County is not in a position right now that we are anywhere close to this category. This is for an agency that is not making visits with their children on a monthly basis, not completing their court work accurately, or not doing service plans for children in foster care. On the 2nd page of the letter it mentions work groups that the State is getting together with the local department of social services. I have requested to be on one of those work groups to help decide the best plan of action to work with the State. I brought Ms. Estes with me to talk to you about the Title IV-E funding.

Ms. Estes – Explained what IV-E funding is and how it is administered by the Floyd County Department of Social Services:

- 1) Foster care services for IV-E refers to provision for a full range of case work treatment and community service for a planned period of time for a child.
- 2) When a child comes into foster care, I am the one who evaluates if they are eligible for IV-E, which is federal assistance.

- 3) IV-E pays a basic flat fee for basic maintenance depending on the age and VEMAT [Virginia Enhanced Maintenance Assessment Tool]; it gives us a range of extra care that child might have.
- 4) Any funds that IV-E does not cover then CSA takes care of.
- 5) There are 3 types of placements, which would be:
 - a. An agency-approved foster home;
 - b. A child placed in agency; or
 - c. A residential facility. Residential facilities all have a higher rate because of the type of facility that it is.
- 6) Basic maintenance is:
 - a. \$486.00 for children 0-4 years old;
 - b. \$568.00 for children 5-12 years old;
 - c. \$721.00 for children 13+.
- 7) I make sure that they are evaluated based on the household income which is the old Aid to Dependent Children limits, which are extremely low and is similar to the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families limits. For a household of two which could be a mom and a child the income limit would only be \$424 gross per month to be eligible for IV-E assistance. If they don't meet that income limit it automatically goes to CSA.
- 8) I am responsible for making sure I have all the documents to prove what income I am counting.
- 9) I am responsible to make sure I have all up-to-date certificates for the agency where we are placing the foster care child. If at any point during that period of time, certifications are not in my office then that child automatically becomes ineligible for IV-E assistance.
- 10) IV-E is terminated either when the child ages out, we lose custody, or they go home for a visit that is 6 months or longer.

Mr. Alls – A child might qualify for IV-E federal funding but there might be other charges that would fall under CSA. CSA still sometimes has to pay even though a child is IV-E eligible.

Vice Chairman Boothe – Also those income numbers have never changed; they have not been increased over time. I suggest we write a letter to our federal representatives and draw their attention to it. It needs to be addressed. It has a major impact on the CSA funds.

Mr. Alls – It absolutely does.

Chairman Turman – On average how many do we have in foster care at any given time?

Mr. Alls – Right now we have 22 children in foster care. We are about to go down to 21 because 1 individual who is in the Fostering Futures program is not participating and following the rules so he will be made to leave the program. We also have 2 or 3 kids right now who are planning to transition back into the home and we are waiting for the court date to come up and have the judge make that ruling.

Mr. Alls explained some items on the monthly tracking sheet and other issues at Floyd County Social Services:

- 1) There are 4 Child Care cases on the statewide waiting list;
- 2) Emergency Assistance numbers went up to 16 applications received and 16 approved;
- 3) There is 1 case open under SNAP E&T/VIEW program;
- 4) Potentially 35 letters will be sent out for SNAP E&T but that doesn't mean that they will all qualify because they might meet another exemption; transportation is an issue here in Floyd County;
- 5) March is statistically the busiest month for Child Protective Services and it is ringing true so far;
- 6) We hired a new individual who will handle Child Protective Services;
- 7) Our Foster Care social worker is switching to Adult Protective Services;
- 8) The supervisor will manage the Foster Care program.

Agenda Item 7.a. – Subdivision plats as approved by Agent for February 2020.

Ms. Morris – Ms. Turman is out but I will be glad to relay any questions or concerns to her.

No questions were asked.

Agenda Item 7.b. – Proclamation Recognizing March 2020 as American Red Cross Month in the County of Floyd.

On a motion of Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Boothe, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt a proclamation recognizing March 2020 as American Red Cross Month in the County of Floyd (Document File Number 1096).

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

Agenda Item 7.c. – Acceptance of Abstract of Votes cast in Floyd County, Virginia in the 2020 March Democratic Presidential Primary held on March 3, 2020.

Ms. Morris – Next is an acceptance of abstract of votes counted. You accept this to be part of the minutes and it is not whether you agree or disagree. It is part of the requirements the Electoral Board has to do.

On a motion of Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to accept the Abstract of Votes cast in Floyd County, Virginia at the 2020 March Democratic Presidential Primary Election held on March 3, 2020 (Document File Number 1097).

Supervisor Coleman – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes

Supervisor Yoder – yes
Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes

Agenda Item 7.d. – Resolution for Floyd County to apply for a \$195,000 Virginia Community Development Block Grant for U.S. Route 221 Waterline Main and Grays Park Expansion Project.

Ms. Morris – The next item is a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) on behalf of the Floyd-Floyd County Public Service Authority (PSA) for \$195,000. This is to expand the waterlines along Route 221 and into Grays Trailer Park. The resolution will authorize me to execute the accompanying paperwork. The PSA is not authorized to do this application on its own. It has to be done by the locality.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Coleman, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the resolution for Floyd County to apply for \$195,000 of Virginia Community Development Block Grant funds for U. S. Route 221 Waterline Main and Grays Park Expansion Project and to authorize the County Administrator to execute the documents (Document File Number 1098).

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

Agenda Item 7.e. – Resolution Authorizing the Preparation and Filing of an Application for \$1,000,000 Grant Funds through the Virginia Department of Housing and Community.

Ms. Martin – Provided an overview of the project for \$1,000,000 in construction funds to provide housing rehabilitation in Floyd County:

- 1) We received a planning grant fund to help us do all the research;
- 2) We anticipate asking for help to do 12-15 homes for low to moderate income as required;
- 3) These will be 0%, 10 year loans;
- 4) They may receive a waiver for part of their monthly payment depending on their income level and other household situations;
- 5) Repayment is different than previous years so it has been a challenge explaining this to people and getting them comfortable with it;
- 6) The monthly payments would come to the County and could help fund future rehabilitation match or work;
- 7) I asked about any liability we would have and we are not liable if those payments are not made, but we have to send reminders and try to collect;
- 8) We can work with a loan payment processor if we don't want to do it ourselves;
- 9) The application is due March 30 and it has been an all hands on deck situation with a great deal of work by the Floyd Initiative for Safe Housing (FISH) volunteers and part-time staff person;

- 10) I previously shared a map with you of all those we identified who were interested in housing rehabilitation help, which came from two public input meetings, the FISH list, New River Community Action's list, and the weatherization list;
- 11) We have been advised by Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) that we should not submit an application with residences spread out and even if we had a scattered site they needed to be somewhat grouped;
- 12) Our initial goal was to go with the tightest cluster of homes;
- 13) FISH made contact with all 30 households and netted about 14 applications from people who are interested;
- 14) We were advised to have 25 potential applications because some will not be eligible;
- 15) To try to identify more we advertised in *The Floyd Press*, on Facebook, and went to Social Services to get leads;
- 16) While we got some more leads, we are now looking at the whole County;
- 17) We have 24 applications throughout the County;
- 18) This is not the ideal from a competitive standpoint, but it is the best we can do to get to 25;
- 19) We sent the original 14 applications to Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project, Inc. (SERCAP) who we hired to be our rehabilitation specialist;
- 20) SERCAP will walk through the houses and provide estimates of what it would take to bring each house to housing quality standards.

Vice Chairman Boothe – It sounds like to me that this is more for an urban area than a rural County. They are not taking into account certain things. Just because you have a group clustered together it might get you to the number, but those might not be the main households that need some help.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – The idea of one size fitting all is sometimes so disingenuous. Something like this with the work FISH and the County staff have done may work toward the advantage of the entire State by saying this program is out there and we have people living in substandard housing in our rural areas. Perhaps Floyd can be on the forefront in pushing it.

Ms. Martin – We certainly have the case and the data and everything that supports the process we went through. I feel like we went over and above trying to do it their way.

- 21) Ultimately we sent all 24 applications to SERCAP and 13 of the 24 are pre-1978 houses, which means they might have lead-based paint.

Chairman Turman – What qualifies a house? I am thinking of one in my area that was probably built back in the 1920s or 1930s.

Ms. Martin – We do not have walk-through data back from the inspector. We will get that tomorrow morning.

Chairman Turman – \$10,000 wouldn't even touch that house.

Ms. Martin – There are a whole series of dollar amounts depending on aspects of a house. If it is a pre-1978 house and you assume there is lead, the cap is \$25,000 that can be put into the

house. If you go into a house everything has to be brought up to the housing quality standards. If you can't do that with \$25,000 then you can't help those houses. This year there was a change. It used to be that you could test and if you could prove there was no lead then you could get up to \$35,000. This year you can get up to \$50,000 or even \$70,000 depending on circumstances. Ms. Morris and I talked about this. It is \$350 to test a house. Thirteen houses on the list of 24 are pre-1978. The only way we might be able to help those houses legitimately is to have that lead testing done. We pulled some money from the Economic Development/Tourism line to be able to do that. It looks like we will only have to test about 8 of the homes because 4 or 5 of the homes might be tear downs. Technically tear downs are called a substantial reconstruction. Usually it is 1000 square feet or less unless the family has 5 or 6 kids or some extenuating circumstances. If someone has a big, old house that is 2000-3000 square feet, if the house is torn down they will not get the same house back. On Friday we ordered the lead testing and we are supposed to get the results in this Friday, assuming she can get appointments with everyone. Tomorrow we will have the estimates in from the 24 houses. We will be looking at that and the match the houses can potentially bring. Match is important so that we can be competitive against other applications. Match is also important because dollars are limited as to what you can get for each house from this program. We want to tag team with any other programs we can to bring as many dollars as we can to each house. For example people who get weatherization funds that would be dollars to help and the same with U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development funds. We are also looking for funds that help with the match overall so we are talking to Citizens about using some of their telecommunications investment. We have a potential donation of trees for some of the houses. Ms. Turman is doing preliminary deed research to make sure it looks like we know who owns the house and that there are no huge hurdles there. Ms. Hodge is drafting a history of FISH because that is really our story...that this grew out of their work and the State came to us and said maybe they can help. All of this will flow together this week. Additionally to the criteria of match, we are also looking at how many senior citizens are in each house, if there are any disabled individuals in the house, and how many kids are in the house. There are a lot of factors that weigh in. I need to update you on the draft resolution you have. In the two places where it has \$1,000,000, it needs to be updated to read "up to \$1,116,000". They made a good change this year in that the \$80,000 in grant administration money is over and above the \$1,000,000. We can also ask for \$12,000 for each house proven to have lead where there are kids under 6 living or a pregnant person in it. We don't know for sure how many qualify so we want to build in \$36,000. You can fill in the blank that "the County has already committed up to \$2,800 for preliminary lead testing on certain pre-1978 homes." I also request that you consider waiving some or all of the building permit fees for the homes that will be served by this. We don't know the exact number of fees that this might be but we estimate between \$4,000-\$5,000. This would help show the commitment for the match and also, if we get the grant, to make all the numbers work.

Supervisor Yoder – Is it too late for people to apply?

Ms. Martin – People can still apply. We have a waiting list. Because we have a contract with SERCAP to only look at so many houses with the planning grant fund we have, we aren't looking at any more walk-throughs right now, but we are accepting and encouraging applications because we anticipate flux with the ones we have.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – It also helps us identify all the houses. The idea is that this is not a one-time situation. We hope to continue on the work that has been done. The way so many individuals have come together to better our community has just been fantastic.

Supervisor Yoder – Could you please tell me the income criteria to be eligible?

Ms. Martin – It is based on the number of people in the household. I will email the criteria to you. The criteria also include a limit on income-producing assets.

Vice Chairman Boothe – The participants are the owners of the property?

Ms. Martin – It is complicated to answer because a number of people have life estates.

Vice Chairman Boothe – Is any of this rental property? I can see where a home is fixed up and within 3 months the house is on the market.

Ms. Martin – I believe 23 of our 24 are owner-occupied or someone with a life estate situation. For the program at large it can serve income-producing rental property. If someone participates as a renter, they have to commit to not raising the rates for that dwelling unit except what they can prove to cover insurance or tax increases. That is either a 5 or 10 year commitment and I think it is 10. If the property is sold, it follows the property with whoever owns it. If owner occupied property is sold then the loan has to be repaid unless the sale is to someone else who is income eligible, then it becomes based on their income.

Vice Chairman Boothe – Along these lines, we need to discuss tax relief for the elderly as part of the budget.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – As a County we might want to monitor these houses over time. In the resolution do we want to raise the dollar amount on the building permit fees?

Vice Chairman Boothe – \$6,000?

Ms. Martin – You could say \$6,000 if you are comfortable with that.

On a motion of Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Yoder, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the resolution for Authorizing the Preparation and Filing of an Application for \$1,116,000 Grant Funds through the Virginia Department of Housing and Community and to authorize the County Administrator to execute the documents (Document File Number 1099).

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

Agenda Item 6.b. – Public Comment Period.

Chairman Turman called for the Public Comment Period.

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

Agenda Item 6.c. – Constitutional Officers reports.

There were no Constitutional Officers present.

Agenda Item 6.d. – Ms. Terry Smusz and Mr. John McEnhill, New River Community Action.

Mr. McEnhill – I have served for the past 18 years as this Board’s appointed representative for Floyd County on the New River Community Action (NRCA) Board. Sarah Greene and Talisyn Jax-Wycoff also serve as Floyd representatives on the NRCA corporate board along with John Getgood who serves as an ex-officio member. I consider NRCA to be an A+ nonprofit organization that truly makes a difference in our community by providing much needed support to Floyd County residents for over 50 years. We recently received confirmation that NRCA is in full compliance with all Community Service Goals and Requirements. Additionally the strategic plan update was highlighted as best practices from a peer organization in the State. I’m proud of our local Board’s active engagement that has resulted in the Floyd Backpack Program and has also served as the catalyst for the FISH program. Those of us who are part of NRCA truly appreciate this Board’s consistent support of NRCA over the years.

Ms. Smusz presented the FY 2018-2019 Annual Report for NRCA:

- 1) NRCA offered hope and help to 1,558 unduplicated Floyd County residents during FY 2018-2019 through programs that meet basic needs, strengthen families, promote school readiness, and promote economic self-sufficiency.
- 2) The largest number of participants we have in Floyd County in any of our programs is in our Emergency Assistance Program. Last year we served 543 Floyd County residents in our food pantry and assisted 802 persons with temporary financial assistance in rent, utilities and non-narcotic prescriptions.
- 3) Floyd County Backpack Program is totally volunteer run and privately supported. It served 212 students last year by providing these children supplemental food for the weekends.
- 4) The Baby and Toddler Shop is part of our Children’s Health Improvement Partnership (CHIP) program. The shop is in the NRCA building on Epperly Mill Road and is operated entirely by volunteers and by private donations. Last year’s volunteer of the year was Katrina Underwood who is our volunteer manager for the Baby Shop.
- 5) SWIFTStart is our newest program, which provides job training in 3 areas: advanced manufacturing, information technology and health care. SWIFTStart is different from other job training programs by helping remove barriers that an individual might face such as transportation, child care, uniforms, and fees to get licenses.
- 6) Only 8 clients participated with SWIFTStart from Floyd last year because of lack of transportation. They have to have a car. We can help with gas cards, child care, and tires but if they don’t have a car they can’t get to the training.

- 7) We are proud to be a partner with the FISH program. I serve on the new housing committee and the steering committee. Teresa Moses who is NCRA's Community Services Worker here in Floyd County has been trained in the USDA Home Repair and Grant Program. When an individual comes to FISH and their needs are beyond what FISH can do, then she helps them access the USDA program. She has done about 9 of those applications recently.
- 8) I want to give special recognition to Floyd County Public Schools. We partner with them for a Head Start/Virginia Preschool Initiative classroom at Check Elementary.
- 9) We also offer the 3-year-old program in our building off of Epperly Mill Road.
- 10) I want to mention that I will be retiring in June, 2021 so for the next 16 months John [McEnhill] and I will be working with the Board and staff to create a smooth transition to the next CEO.
- 11) I want to echo John's thanks to all of you for your consistent support over the years to NRCA and special support when we were rehabilitating the building. Your allocations are what makes it possible for us to do what we do here in Floyd County.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – How many people from Floyd County do you think would be involved with SWIFTStart if transportation were not an issue?

Ms. Smusz – I really don't know how to answer that. Another thing that makes that program special is that we have career mentors who really hold the client's hand from the time they make the call to getting the job and staying in the job. Their offices are in Radford but they have come down here and done special orientations just for Floyd. But when the client starts to progress through the program and realize they need to get to the community college or the Christiansburg site, it is just difficult if they don't have a car. We haven't been able to crack that nut so if anyone has any ideas we would really appreciate it.

Agenda Item 6.e. – Ms. Nikki King, Court Clerk, Combined District Courts of Floyd County.

Ms. King – I will take a moment to introduce myself. I am the Clerk of the Combined Courts here in Floyd. I have worked with the court system for 11 years. I have been the Clerk since April 2019. Prior to becoming the Clerk I worked in Montgomery and Giles courts. The Floyd County office consists of a Deputy Clerk, Abby Harris, who is from Floyd and a wage employee who works two days a week, Melissa Niece, who lives in the Copper Hill area. I am originally from Giles County.

When I was hired my goals were to be financially efficient, welcoming and professional. I feel like have done a few things to save the County money based on my budget. I have been working with the Sheriff's Office to have the trustees paint my office. I have purchased a refrigerator and microwave for my office out of my own pocket. I replaced a safe that was difficult to operate and donated it to the Sheriff's Office for their use. I feel like I have operated in a more time efficient, organized manner which in turn saves the County manpower by keeping the law enforcement officers in court no longer than they need to be. If there is a long-distance transport they normally request that be done first and we try to accommodate that so they can get the person back.

Ms. King explained her FY20 budget and reason for requesting a budget transfer:

- 1) We had \$2,000.00 in maintenance and service contracts and \$1000.00 for telephone, which is \$430 less than FY19, or a 13% decrease.
- 2) After the normal expenses for maintenance and service to this point, that only leaves me with \$178.36.
- 3) After 6 months, the average phone bill is about \$88 which would equal \$1,056 which would completely deplete my budget and leave me with a negative balance with any unexpected issues.
- 4) As you can see I had some work done by Kiser Computing. To date the amount paid out to him has been \$1,057.00. When one of the new employees started their name had to be changed on the phone for \$73.00. In December my phone was not working and my program had to be re-programmed for \$292.00. I tried to switch my phone with one in the storage room but the phones are so specific to location that it would not work. There are 2 towers in the computer room with 1 monitor which is shared with Circuit Court. There is a KVM switch to make the 3 things function together and the switch went bad on my side. That had to be replaced as well as a conference phone at the Judge's request. I have a letter he provided as to what it was for and why. I think the conference phone has taken 5 visits to get it working and 3 visits had to be consulted out to others for help. It is not in my budget for any future work that might be needed.
- 5) I checked with other courts in the area and one that is comparable in size receives \$4,100.00 for telephone, \$2,600.00 for maintenance and \$300.00 for office supplies. A second court comparable in size receives \$3,645.00 for telephone, \$3,215.00 for maintenance and \$500.00 for office supplies. There are 5 neighboring courts where the County supplements the salary. In 4 of the jurisdictions I believe it was \$3,000.00 another County provided \$8,000.00 divided between 5 employees.
- 6) With my expenses up to this point, I am either negative on my telephone line or very low in my maintenance and service line. I am requesting an additional \$1,866.10 for normal operating costs. The breakdown includes \$412.44 for the maintenance and service contracts, \$963.93 for telephone and \$112.73 for office supplies. In addition, the new phone that was installed in the courtroom may cost an additional \$15 each month in addition to what I have already calculated which will be an added expense not budgeted for. I feel my request is because of normal operating costs and not because of excessive spending or being wasteful of the County's money. The budget I came to in April was left by a previous Clerk and she wasn't aware of anything that might come up or technology improvements needed.
- 7) I am the regional representative for Region IX Clerk's Association. I represent 16 jurisdictions. It was voted on to put me in this position. I feel very strongly about representing my region to the best I can. The purpose of the association is to foster a closer relationship among Court personnel including law enforcement, judges, commonwealth attorneys and anyone involved with the day-to-day work of a court; improve proficiency and professionalism; improve techniques and procedures; and provide education and training to my employees and anyone else in the region. Recent topics addressed have been raising the salaries of employees and increasing State funding for equipment, supplies, and training which could alleviate some of the burden that the County provides. The conference I am asking to go to is a 2-day program that assists with management, budgeting, hiring, training and retaining employees. To attend this conference I am asking for \$595.81. I based the costs on what the State allows but I will

be happy to provide receipts for actual expenses. This is in addition to my previous request of \$1,866.10.

- 8) In closing I am asking for a total of \$2,461.91. I encourage you to speak with members of the law enforcement community, patrons of the Combined District Court who can speak to the courtesy, efficiency, accuracy, and professionalism since I became Clerk in April 2019. Thank you for taking the time to reading what I provided and listening to what I have to say.

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

Mr. Clarke was unable to attend the meeting due to illness and Mr. Price had a scheduling conflict.

Supervisor Yoder – When are we going to consider the Six Year Secondary Road Plan?

Vice Chairman Boothe – I think we should consider taking some of the new money and put it into Maintenance to get some extra work done. You can take new Construction money and put it into Maintenance but you can't go the other way. All of us have roads in our districts that need shoulder and ditch work.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – I need a guardrail fixed.

Chairman Turman – I need culverts.

Vice Chairman Boothe – We all have roads that need maintenance. A lot of the road shoulders are 6" too low or 6" too high.

Chairman Turman – How much were you thinking about?

Vice Chairman Boothe – I was thinking about \$200,000 and sliding it sideways. Their idea of paving every single road in the Commonwealth is fine, but we have to take care of the ones we've got. You could do countywide projects, shoulders and ditches, or spot improvements like pothole filling. The State is not going to take care of them the way they need to. We do have that option. We don't have to but I would like us to think about it.

Supervisor Yoder – We've all told constituents that their road is on the list and it is coming, and they are so slow to do them anyway and if you pull money out of them...I have one that is 2nd or 3rd on the list and I have promised for 3 years that it will get done. I hear you loud and clear, it needs to get done but to me it is kind of like the discussion of spending secondary money on primary roads. The State needs to be funding and if we are pulling money out of a different pot to fund it when the State won't fund it, we're just encouraging that behavior.

Vice Chairman Boothe – I understand, but they are not going to fund it. But for the people I represent, if I have an opportunity to fix something before it gets any worse this is one option we have. I understand what you are saying. I know there is another side. But then you have to weigh in the safety factor, especially when you are talking about a very dangerous curve where there have already been accidents. But I know of several accidents that occurred simply

because the shoulder is 6” lower than the pavement and they got thrown into the ditch. I understand the predicament David [Clarke, Virginia Department of Transportation Resident Engineer] is in. They have to spend the money where the vehicles are but at some point in time places like Floyd and Giles have to come up to number 1. Our people have the same rights to safe roads as everybody else.

Supervisor Yoder – It would be interesting to hear from him how far that money would go.

Supervisor Coleman – My question is whether there is any assurance it would go for those things? I get the funding but on their side once the money is appropriated how do we control it? I would be concerned that money was shifted on their side and used for projects that they already planned to do which might be different than the ones we want to see done.

Supervisor Yoder – It might not just be a funding issue but a manpower issue too.

Ms. Morris – Why don’t I see if I can narrow David [Clarke] down to what could be done if we were to put money into Maintenance?

Supervisor Yoder – I would be interested to see if we had these 5 roads that need pipe replacement or shoulder work, and could we get all that done in the next month with this money.

Chairman Turman – I think it would be a good idea to have Mr. Clarke at the next day meeting.

Supervisor Yoder – I would like to be able to tell them that if their road is not done now what exactly was done instead.

Vice Chairman Boothe – I don’t want to detract from the road paving program especially if it is a safety issue, but a lot of our roads are safety issues. That is where I am coming from.

Agenda Item 8. – Old/New Business.

Ms. Morris – Do you want to take any action on Ms. King’s request?

On a motion of Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Boothe, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve a supplemental expenditure appropriation request in the amount of \$2,500.00 to General District Court in the FY20 Floyd County budget from Contingency.

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

Ms. Ryan – We had the bid opening for mowing services yesterday. We received 2 bids. Rakestraw Lawn Care, Inc. submitted the lowest bid for services. The results presented are based on a weekly basis.

Ms. Morris – The cost for the Innovation Center is every 2 weeks.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to accept the bids from Rakestraw Lawn Care, Inc. and to authorize the County Administrator to execute the contract (Document File Number 1100).

Supervisor Coleman – yes

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes

Supervisor Yoder – yes

Supervisor Boothe – yes

Supervisor Turman – yes

Ms. Morris – Tomorrow I have to make a presentation at the Onward NRV quarterly event. After the meeting we are having a panel of the 5 managers each giving a state of the region update.

Chairman Turman – I talked to Jonathan Rogers the other day and he was wondering if we could maybe name the Courthouse after Judge Long since we will be losing him.

Vice Chairman Boothe – I know several great judges, and this is nothing against Judge Long, but we have had several great judges in my tenure in local government who would be just as justifiable. I have to think about it.

Supervisor Coleman – I would like to know a little bit about the process and how it works. Has this been done before...maybe an honorary plaque outside in a prominent place in the main entrance as well as in the courtroom? There are plaques throughout the Courthouse. In his 15 years as a circuit judge and another 7 years as a juvenile court judge, he has not had 1 case overturned. That is very impressive.

Vice Chairman Boothe – I like the idea of a plaque.

Supervisor Yoder – I like the idea of honoring people during their lifetime so they can be an inspiration to others, but I would need more history on the other former judges and the process.

Ms. Morris – I will do some research on this.

Supervisor Coleman – Perhaps we can do a presentation of a plaque to him at a Board meeting before he retires. The truth is he has had a major impact on the rehabilitation of our community.

Vice Chairman Boothe – I was looking forward to him working with Judge Williams on a Mental Health Court. They have worked together and the Mental Health Court will be modeled after the Drug Court.

Ms. Morris – I am scheduled to meet with Judge Long this afternoon about the space for the Electoral Board/Registrar.

Agenda Item 6.g. – Ms. Jessica Cromer, Assistant Superintendent, Floyd County Public Schools.

Ms. Cromer – Provided information on the Computer Science grant received by the school division:

- 1) Virginia really broke ground about 2 years ago by being the first state in the country to mandate computer science standards of learning in grades K-8. Several other states have followed through since. There are a lot of things going on with Virginia Tech and technology companies in the State and Virginia realized we would not have enough people to fill the jobs and not enough skilled workers for these types of jobs so they mandated this type of instruction in the schools.
- 2) In Floyd County we noticed that it has been hard for teachers to integrate the standards of learning because they hear computer science and think I'm not a computer scientist and I don't know how to code.
- 3) Kim Keith, one of the Instructional Technology Resource teachers and I received word of a grant from the Virginia Department of Education about how to help teachers advance computer science. The General Assembly had set aside the money as a definite focus. We are very fortunate because we don't have a grant writer on staff. Kim and I learned very quickly how to write a grant. We received a lot of help from Virginia Tech who is our partner with Kim Keith being on their campus one day a week with the Center for Educational Networks and Impacts. She is basically a matchmaker between Virginia Tech and our school system. She hooks classrooms up, if they want a physics lesson or visit from the department she hooks them up. If the Physics Department needs an outreach to 3rd grade class, she hooks them up. In her work with that, we got some great partners to help us write the grant.
- 4) We were successful and received the grant. We are excited because of the 9 organizations that received grant money, only 5 of them are even tied to public schools. The ones around Richmond have commercial backing and commercial partners. We partnered with the Virginia Tech Center for Educational Networks and Impacts and with university libraries and with the Science Museum of Western Virginia in Roanoke.
- 5) We partnered to bring 3 main things to our teachers and students:
 - a. Increase teacher comfort level and understanding of computer science – We took a literacy approach on how computer science ties into English and math and science, which is why I think our application was funded. Our K-2 teachers will be working with a facilitator from Virginia Tech and they will be paid for their work during the summer by this grant. They will be trained on how to incorporate a book series, *Hello Ruby*. There are no computers involved. They will make things. They will learn coding through sequencing. It is the unplugged version of learning computer science. Our 3rd graders will go this week to the science museum in Roanoke. They have developed specific curriculum to introduce students to coding principles. Our 6-12 English teachers are looking at the connection to digital literacy and being a good consumer of digital content, which is part of the computer science standards of learning.

- b. Increase awareness of computer science careers – I had a call yesterday with Amazon. They have a future engineer program. They said that there were 1.4 million coding/programming jobs available this past year and only 400,000 people trained to fill those jobs. We made the point in our grant that we are blessed in Floyd with the technology Citizens has provided and with our schools. We have access to higher speed internet than when I travel to conferences. That is a big marketing point for us as a County for economic growth. We know in the New River Valley that the information technology industry is feeling the same pinch. They need skilled workers. We will have field trips for our students. As part of the grant we will be able to pay for after school computer science teams throughout the County so students can start competing regionally in competitions with robotics. We have to focus on the under-represented populations. Students from low-socioeconomic backgrounds and females are often overlooked in computer science careers. Virginia Tech has a Women in Computing Day so we are sending 6th and 7th grade girls to that. We will pay for 25 8th grade students to go to Cybersecurity Camp at Radford University. They also offer a week long summer bridge program for 2 female high school students.
- c. Cultivate and create computer science resources to go on the Go Virginia repository – Virginia launched a Go Virginia repository a couple of weeks ago where teachers across the State can share and add resources. We will be working with university libraries on creating open educational resources on that site and making them available for everyone in the State to use.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – How much is the grant?

Ms. Cromer – \$77,166.00. It also includes some money to reimburse teachers for coursework to get computer science certification on their license. We are hoping to be able to add a computer science position at the high school in the upcoming year so we can offer that as an elective.

Chairman Turman – I had an incident the other day where a young lady couldn't read my cursive handwriting. Kids aren't being taught cursive.

Ms. Cromer – We are, in the spring of 2nd grade, but we don't require everything be turned in with cursive writing.

Chairman Turman – I think we are getting away from the real basic stuff. If they have to take a job where there aren't computers or technical stuff then they will need to know how to read, write and do arithmetic.

Ms. Cromer – The reason I think we got this grant is because we focused on the skills, not a program we were going to implement in the schools on a computer, but the critical thinking skills that go behind the computer science skills.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – Starting it so young should spark an interest.

Ms. Cromer – That is our hope because research has shown by 5th grade students have really started determining a path.

Vice Chairman Boothe – You mentioned robotics, have you already designed the program?

Ms. Cromer – We are in the process of doing that with the Science Museum.

Vice Chairman Boothe – Will it include design?

Ms. Cromer – The competition teams? We are starting them this spring but just with the coaches because they need some background. The students will have to build the robots from the ground up to solve a problem in society.

Vice Chairman Boothe – It is important to strike a balance between computer science but the other skills don't go by the wayside the way it did years ago. I am glad to hear your plans.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – You said you don't have a grant writer on staff. Twenty years ago I went over there and told them they need a grant writer on staff. Why aren't we writing grants? I can't believe you still don't have a grant writer on staff. At least you have the connections with Virginia Tech and maybe that ends up being more efficient in the long run. I think Floyd missed the boat on a lot of grants over the last 20 to 25 years, but I am glad to see that we are trying to get on that road.

Agenda Item 6.h. – Mr. Steve Durbin, County Attorney.

On a motion made by Supervisor Boothe, and seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to amend the agenda to go into closed session with the County Attorney under Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A. 7., Actual or Probable Litigation – Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation in a progress update on the pending opioid matters, and under Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A. 8., Legal Advice on Specific Legal Matters – Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel for discussion of the limitations of authority and liability regarding regulation of firearms and incorporation of militia.

Supervisor Coleman – yes

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes

Supervisor Yoder – yes

Supervisor Boothe – yes

Supervisor Turman – yes

On a motion made by Supervisor Yoder, and seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to go into closed session under Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A. 7., Actual or Probable Litigation – Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation in a progress update on the pending opioid matters, and under Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A. 8., Legal Advice on Specific Legal Matters – Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding

specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel for discussion of the limitations of authority and liability regarding regulation of firearms and incorporation of militia.

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

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

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

On a motion of Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Yoder, 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 Actual or Probable Litigation in accordance with Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A.7.; and Legal Advice on Specific Legal Matters 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 Coleman – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Yoder – yes
Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes

This certification resolution was adopted.

Agenda Item 6.i. – Lunch Break.

The Board recessed for a lunch break.

Agenda Item 6.j. – Budget Workshop.

Supervisor Justin Coleman stated the following for the record:

Today's discussion involves the County budget which includes funding for the Floyd County Sheriff's Office. As many of you know, I am employed by the Floyd County Sheriff's Office. The proposed funding would affect the entire department and not just me individually. Together we constitute a group of three or more individuals who are similarly employed by the Sheriff's Office and similarly affected by the discussion. Therefore the exception of State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act section § 2.2-3112 A (i) applies to this situation and I am able to participate in this discussion fairly and in the public interest. Thank you.

Sheriff Craig discussed his FY21 budget request with the Board:

- 1) Expect revenues to remain about the same;
- 2) Requesting an additional school resource officer and if granted will be able to reduce the school personnel program request from \$10,780 down to \$5,000;
- 3) Request increasing mental health transports up to \$5,000 because while they are trying to get transportation services for us they will not take anybody who is combative;
- 4) Increased mental health transports has also caused travel-meals and lodging costs to rise;
- 5) Dues and subscriptions is the actual amount for Virginia Sheriff's Association dues;
- 6) Local task force reduce to \$0 and use State Police funds to do buys in the County;
- 7) Need to increase the capital leases: vehicles because in FY20 we had initial savings and other funds available in this line item, but in FY21 we need to increase it to the amount we used to have when we purchased 2 vehicles outright each year;
- 8) Gas and oil will be over budget this year unless we cut back on patrolling, which I do not want to do;
- 9) Police uniforms needs to be increased to cover body armor this year due to current armor expiring;
- 10) Four new communications positions for a total of \$163,516 was requested but after talking to Kevin Sowers about Emergency Medical Dispatch I found out some things I was not aware of. We do need some more communications personnel whether it is 1, 2, 3 or 4 sooner or later to keep 2 dispatchers in the office 24/7 year round. Count call is slowly creeping up.

Mr. Jacob Agee, Director of Recreation, discussed that department and FY21 budget request with the Board:

- 1) Purchased a Gator at a very good price through State contract;
- 2) Requesting a full-time Assistant Director in order to help this department move to the next level of services with adult sports; the person would also handle shelter reservations and organization of equipment;
- 3) Want to keep the part-time position to do some secretarial work like responding to emails;
- 4) Plan to use ACCE [Access to Community College Education] students whenever possible;
- 5) Would like to have a department staff person at every single event we do;

- 6) Requesting additional funds for contractual services in order to increase the pay for officials in order to have competent officiating;
- 7) Requested additional funding for maintenance and repairs. The fields were in pretty good shape 4 or 5 years ago, the last time they were graded. The softball field is now severely out-of-square; the baseball field is out of square and the playing surface on both are dangerous;
- 8) There is a drainage issue because the correct mix of silt/sand/clay was not used for the top layer of dressing;
- 9) There is a giant concrete slab under 2nd base on the baseball field.

Supervisor Yoder – I think it is a rock. It is the ridge that was hit when they built the field. It exposed itself 4 years ago and dirt was added on top.

- 10) A person in the business came up and looked at our fields and said for \$12,000-\$14,000 the top layer of soil could be removed, the field regraded, a new layer of surface mix laid, and both fields re-squared.

Ms. Morris – If we have enough left this year we will try to go ahead and do some of it.

- 11) Increased the maintenance contracts line based on what the Recreation Authority spent.

Ms. Morris – That is really just for your copier. Mowing is paid out of the contractual line.

- 12) Increased printing and binding because it is a good marketing opportunity for us; we could sell sponsorships which should offset a lot of the costs;
- 13) Travel, meals and lodging would allow us to take a team to a tournament if they earned a spot and would also allow me to attend a national conference as required by my Certified Parks and Recreation Professional certification;
- 14) No money was allocated for concessions, but we have to buy stuff and it generates a profit.

Vice Chairman Boothe – Will that mostly be during softball and baseball?

Mr. Agee – My plan is if the Booster Club or Cheerleaders don't run the concessions stand during football that we do.

Supervisor Coleman – Parents might be willing to work for abbreviated registration fees.

Supervisor Yoder – Who is going to work this?

Mr. Agee – ACCE students primarily.

Supervisor Coleman – I am serious. There could be a scale if you work so many hours you get this much reduced.

Mr. Agee – It is a good idea. I'll have to look into that.

- 15) Increased uniforms by \$1,000 for football uniforms.
- 16) Increased special events to do some of the other events we talked about.
- 17) Decreased a lot of the individual sports lines because a lot of them had more in it than needed, but there are some recurring costs that will be incurred each year.
- 18) I want to plant a seed to think about building a Recreation Center in the future. A Recreation Center would be a tremendous help. This year we ran into gym space issues and had to cancel games. We have logistical issues now.

Discussion was held as to the current logistical issues and possible solutions.

Chairman Turman – Do we want to talk about the Recreation Center during this budget to get his ideas?

Ms. Morris – We've already talked about it. I don't have any money for it in here.

Chairman Turman – That is what I want to discuss...if we are willing to do it and how much we would be willing to spend so we can get it in this budget.

Ms. Morris – We've talked about the amount of space that would be needed. We thought about something similar to what is over here now.

Mr. Agee – What I would want to add is a little garage area to put the Gator in.

Vice Chairman Boothe – Based on the square footage could you estimate a cost so we would have some kind of figure?

Chairman Turman – If we could have a design for it then we could go online to a website and estimate a cost.

Ms. Morris – We will have to put it out for bid.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – What is the square footage over there?

Mr. Agee – I believe between 1,600-1,800 square feet.

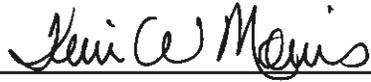
Vice Chairman Boothe – I suggest we go with a minimum of 2,000 square feet for just the space. We are looking for this to grow and it would be cheaper to have a couple of hundred square feet now rather than come back and add on.

Supervisor Yoder – I would like to see it a little bigger so there could be a space for senior citizens to have a gathering place.

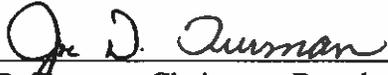
Board members continued to work through the expenditure side of the FY21 budget.

Agenda Item 10. – Adjournment.

On a motion of Supervisor Coleman, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and carried, it was resolved to adjourn the meeting to March 24, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.



Terri W. Morris, County Administrator



Joe D. Turman, Chairman, Board of Supervisors