

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
JULY 22, 2020**

At a special called meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Floyd County, Virginia, held on Tuesday, July 22, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. in the Board Room of the County Administration Building thereof;

PRESENT in person: Joe D. Turman, Chairman; Jerry W. Boothe, Vice Chairman; Lauren D. Yoder, Board Member; Terri W. Morris, County Administrator; Cynthia Ryan, Assistant County Administrator, Tabitha Hodge, Operations Manager to livestream and film the meeting.

PRESENT by phone: W. Justin Coleman and Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch, Board Members.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS in attendance as audience: Ms. Laura LeRoy, Vice Chair; Mr. Gene Bishop, Mr. Tony Morisco, and Ms. Pam Snead, School Board Members.

Agenda Item 1. – Meeting Called to Order.

Chairman Turman called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m

Mr. Gene Bishop led the opening prayer.

Vice Chairman Boothe led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item 1.a. – Dr. John Wheeler, Superintendent, Floyd County Public Schools, 2020.

– Presentation/discussion of the final plans for the Floyd County Collaboration and Career Development Center (CCDC) Building.

Dr. Wheeler – Provided an update on the CCDC and displayed a drawing of the proposed CCDC and a drawing of the reconfigured high school campus:

- 1) We were fortunate with the grade and that probably helped a little bit with the bid process;
- 2) The biggest thing that helped with the bid process is the economic climate right now;
- 3) We have started clearing the trees for the new parking lot across the street, which will add more parking than we've had;
- 4) We did not have to build an extra road to go to Maintenance or the propane tank which was a big savings;
- 5) We are adding another lane, which will prevent a backup of cars coming in and going out;
- 6) The projection is that the new part will take a year to complete and be finished by June 2021;

- 7) The projection is that the 8th grade area will take an additional year and be finished by June 2022;
- 8) This will create an easy transition;
- 9) We are changing the traffic pattern at Floyd Elementary so we can line the cars up on the back road and prevent the congestion at the elementary school;
- 10) We are looking at maintenance on the road and can have conversations in the future about whether we want the road abandoned;
- 11) At the minimum we will need to discontinue the section between the schools with the connection;
- 12) Auto shop will have another classroom and we will be able to bring in large pieces of equipment through huge bay doors and have different classes working on it;
- 13) Every square inch in the building has been maximized for functional space for classrooms;
- 14) Security has been looked at for everything in the way of clear glass for easy vision, locks, and knowing who is in there;
- 15) This includes every piece of equipment we need so we are not only expanding our space but our ability to train;
- 16) We are going to partner further with New River Community College so when our students graduate, they can have an associate's degree in a field where they can get a job right away;
- 17) In our 6-year plan we have to take care of the 3 to 5-year-olds and we have to take care of our graduates so they can get a job in a market that has changed;
- 18) We are competing with programs from Montgomery County, Pulaski County, Salem, Roanoke and Giles County for New River Valley jobs and we don't offer the same experiences they do;
- 19) We got the large grant for computer sciences so we will develop computer sciences as part of every other field;
- 20) The one transitional year of 8th grade will have its own self-contained experience;
- 21) We have 3 big problems at the high school and we are solving all of them with this 1 project:
 - a. We don't have enough classroom space with 10 teachers on carts;
 - b. We can't take care of our transitional year;
 - c. We are not training our students in the skills they need to get a job.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – I don't think you meant it to sound this way, but Floyd County High School has done a fantastic job over the last 10 to 15 years of making students ready for the job force or take on a 2-year or 4-year degree. I just wanted to be clear to anybody who is watching, you are just saying that this new building will enhance the ability for us to compete with other schools, but in no way shape or form has any child in the last 10, 15, 20 years been short shifted by attending Floyd County High School.

Dr. Wheeler – Not at all, but the one thing nobody has control over is the shift in the job market and the skills necessary. That has shifted over the last 3 years. My biggest fear when I look at our 6-year plan, our kids need to be marketable for these jobs now. They weren't the same 5 years ago. Absolutely we have done an excellent job, but the job market has changed drastically. This will enhance it, but enhanced with a purpose aligned with the current jobs. Right now, we don't have the facilities, skills or space to get students ready. The computer

science program is going to stretch the length of the program at the high school. It is a Virginia Department of Education requirement that was not there before. It will be flexible. The skills we teach will match the jobs our kids will go for. We are looking at getting student internships with Thompson & Litton, with the contractor on this project, and with the subcontractors.

Supervisor Yoder – Will agriculture remain in the old building?

Dr. Wheeler – It is. The Virginia Tech Agriculture Department looked over our facility. We already have a great space over there.

Supervisor Yoder – Has any thought been put toward the idea in 15 or 20 years we may want to do another addition on to it?

Dr. Wheeler – We looked at the space where the propane tank is right now. We have plenty of room down the hill to expand, but the grade is a little different.

Supervisor Yoder – On the second part of the project, the remodel of the existing building, are they stripping that down and coming back with utilities and electrical and everything?

Dr. Wheeler – Yes. That is our worst roof in the division, the worst HVAC [Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning] system in the division. Those would have been replaced eventually.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – I assume with the architecture work done that the entire building, both old and new, will be ADA [Americans with Disabilities Act] compliant so that any single student who wants to participate in any type of program will be able to do so, correct?

Dr. Wheeler – Yes. They looked at everything from the elevator to the slope of the steps. They can't go to the next step building wise until that is cleared.

Supervisor Yoder – In the original plans the Band Room was between the two buildings.

Dr. Wheeler – That was a big hope, but at this point that wasn't possible with the budget.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – What else fell by the wayside besides the Band Room and Performance Center?

Dr. Wheeler – Those are the same thing. That's it.

Supervisor Yoder – The square footage of what we are actually building is a lot less than we originally talked about. Is that fair to say?

Dr. Wheeler – We increased it after we went through to meet instructional needs. We fell within the price. The last estimate was right on. At the bid opening, there were 7 bids and 13 contractors and subcontractors. When that number was read that was under what we needed it to be, it was about as thrilling as you could get. We are getting everything within that building that

we need for that price. We are getting 28,000 sq. ft. of new space and almost the same renovated.

School Board Member Tony Morisco – The most amazing thing was that all the bidders were competent bidders and they came within a couple of percentage points of each other on the bid. This is probably the best time within the last couple of years to build this building. You have the best contractors in the Valley and the region bidding on it. The contractor who had the low bid, I've seen his work. They built the Memory Center at Pheasant Ridge. I got to watch the construction process and they are real professionals.

Supervisor Yoder – Where are they out of?

Dr. Wheeler – Ridgeway. From my understanding, Thompson & Litton has worked with them on projects before.

Agenda Item 2.a. – Acceptance of the bid received from Frith Construction for construction of CCDC building.

On a motion of Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Coleman, and carried, it was resolved to accept the bid of \$11,898,407.00 from Frith Construction for the construction of the Collaboration and Career Development Center building and authorize the appropriate County officials to execute documents (Document File Number 1120).

Supervisor Coleman – yes

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – I am going to say something before I vote. I've given this a lot of thought, long and hard. I've talked to a lot of people – educators, parents, community members, retirees. Everybody knows that I am absolutely for every single child in this County and Schools in Floyd, but given this time, this situation, the way we are in this County at this moment in time, I cast a “no” vote.

Supervisor Yoder – yes

Supervisor Boothe – yes

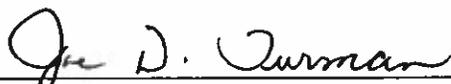
Supervisor Turman – yes

Agenda Item 3. – Adjournment.

On a motion of Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Yoder, and carried, it was resolved to adjourn the meeting to July 28, 2020 at 7:00 p.m at Floyd County High School.



Terri W. Morris, County Administrator



Joe D. Turman, Chairman, Board of Supervisors