Minutes
Floyd County Board of Supervisors
Regular Meeting
February 28, 2023

1. Called to Order – Chairman Turman called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. Opening Prayer – The opening prayer was offered by Supervisor Bechtold.

3. Pledge of Allegiance – Supervisor Boothe offered the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Quorum – Dr. Millsaps called the roll. A quorum was found as all Supervisors were present.

5. Approval of Agenda – On a motion by Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Bechtold, the agenda was approved unanimously.

6. Approval of Disbursements – On a motion by Supervisor Cox, seconded by Supervisor Bechtold and approved unanimously.

7. Approval of Minutes - On a motion by Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Bechtold, the following minutes for, the 02/14/22 public hearing, and the following regular meetings, 2/14/22, 9/13/22, 9/27/22, 11/3/22, and 11/22/22 were unanimously approved.

8. Presentations –

a. Kyle Laux, Senior Vice President, Davenport Public Finance

Mr. Chair, members of the board. Nice to see y'all. As always, I heard you mentioned there in the minutes there of some prior meetings. It must have been a little while ago, but always glad to be back in it. So, what you have in front of you, I think you've all got a handout. Hopefully, everyone has one. We've got a couple of extras from one of these ones. For anybody. That's the first time. Kyle Laux with Davenport. My colleague and I, David Rose, and a number of other team members serve as financial advisors to the county and have for a number of years and we appreciate that. It's been a while since we've been doing that. And what we have this evening is kind of a variety of different topic areas. And Mr. Chair, I'll try and kind of keep moving through but as always happy to answer your questions and address things we do to move through that. So, in terms of the various topic areas, so just starting right in on page two, again, we do serve as your financial advisor. What that means is we're not a bank, we're not a lender, and that way, we're really here representing you, the board, working very closely, obviously, with the County Administrator, finance director, county attorney and thinking about strategies and plans related to our finances or capital funding, talk a little about the investment of county funds this evening, all with a goal of maximizing what you're able to do as a county, both this year and thinking about multiyear planning as well. So just a big picture, that's kind of our role. So, we've got a little bit here in terms of the middle of the book about all the various things we've done in the last several years, which again, it's been a busy, busy couple of years. The bottom of the page one of the reasons we were asked to come tonight, we understand there have been some discussions, maybe not the final decisions on anything but some discussions about buying a Skyline bank building some things around that project. And so, part of what you'll see here this evening is if indeed, that does move forward, a strategy and a plan, and we think about how that might work. So that is certainly incorporated here. We know that is not a sort of finalized kind of thing. But we know it's a topic that's been discussed, and so wanted to provide some insights there in terms of how you might want to think about that. Moving over to page three then mentioned, a variety of topic areas we want to cover starting to talk just giving a little bit of history like we'd like to do, just finances we've done over the last five fiscal years. We now have the 2022 audit or a near-final 2022 audit, obviously, that year ended on June 30 of last year. And so always good as we come back this time of year to kind of take that last year, you know, sort of layer on the prior years and really see and understand what the trends are. And we've got some observations that are related to those trends. Number two will give me some, which I think for those that have been on the board for a while, so from that perspective, in terms of what we look like relative to our peers and neighbors, other counties that surround us. Number three, we'll take a look at our debt profile right now and understand what that looks like. That's an important component as we consider possibly taking on some new projects. That leads right into number four, thinking about capital funding strategies, and then the last part, their next steps. And the one thing we didn't have here, but it was the back of the horse, we talked about this about the investment side of things. We've been having a lot of conversations with you, your colleagues, and your peers across the state, given how much interest rates have changed, we've got some thoughts there. Related to that, we'll get to that at the back of the book. On page four, again, mentioned just some peer comparatives, we'd like to kind of throw this in to give a little perspective. You can see the eight or 10, local governments, all that surrounds us, all counties each is different in our own respects, but kind of pick a flavor of folks that generally represent sort of the challenges that we have for accounting, some of the strengths as well. So just provide some perspective, we'll see some of those scattered throughout here. So, with that will move over flip a couple of pages, and go to page six. Start again with a little bit of historical financials to understand where we've been in the last several years, and help paint a picture of where we are right now. So, on page six, some observations, we looked at the last five years of audits, again, with the most recent being, I guess, a near-final audit for 2022. You've had solid revenue and expenditure drift. So, we've seen that's about 7% a year both on the revenue and the expenditure side. Inflation certainly has been a thing for the last two or three years. And so, as we really think about where we're going forward, one of our concerns will tell you this for you and all the rest of our client base as well, because we've had this couple year period whereby revenues have really taken off in a very nice way. Expenditures have certainly started to creep up by virtue of inflation. But we may be at a cabinet inflection point, whereby as we see all this inflation data coming out, as some of those things get built into your budget, that pressure doesn't seem to be waning anytime soon. Then you have the revenue side of the equation could very well be kind of tapering off. And so, a little bit of a cautionary tale, as we think about moving into what is a 2024 budget planning process and in the future years real and really thinking about how our revenues on a recurring basis are. So, taking out the ARPA, the Cares on the special one-time stuff, what is the recurring annual revenue base of the county look like? Relative recurring annual expenditures. So that's a big theme, something we recommend that you think a lot about. We've been talking obviously with Linda and Kim about that. So that's going to be a change and probably a challenge in the next couple of years, as some of those dynamics continue to evolve. The second bullet point here is in terms of the unassigned fund balance. So, we talk a lot about this. If there's one particular financial measurement or metric that we and others in the industry go to immediately to go say, okay, what kind of health are we in as a local government from a financial standpoint, it's that unassigned fund balance. What we've observed there is that over the last five years, it's down about $2 million. And so that kind of the core of our rainy day fund and our reserves even though we've been doing well, revenues versus expenditures, we show you some of the trends in the next couple of pages, that unassigned fund balance is really down a fair amount over the last five years. That again is a bit of a cautionary sort of mindset there and that's going to play into how we think about some of the strategies going forward. Third bullet point there. We always like to think about how that unassigned fund balance compares to our expenditures. You know, the gross dollars are important. But it's also important to recognize what that amount of money represents as a proportion of our budget, where you compare that to some of our peers, some of what we call best practices. We're about 11% right now, at the end of 2022. Thereabouts, we used to be at about 20%. So, it's really been halved, meaning that the percentage relative of the budget as a budget has grown, and the dollars in the bank, so to speak, have shrunk. That reserve as a proportion of the budget has really been cut by about half. Fourth bullet point there, again, we're a bit of a cautionary tale, we're very much on the low side, and we compare ourselves to some of our peers. So, our neighbors, and other counties were a little bit smaller, obviously, bigger insurance galleries, etc., are really a little bit on the lower side. And so, again, observations based on the audit base and the financials, we think it's important this time of year, especially as you're thinking about the budget process that you hear some of this, again, is outsiders, and you've got to make the hard decisions that give you some of that input in terms of what we see. Fund balance is very important, and I think we've talked about this before, but at the bottom of the page there, it's our first line of defense against some downturns against some of the pressure we see in the expenditures. Second, sort of point there at the bottom is County, our revenue tends to come in in chunks, as opposed to you know if you've got maybe a nice, hopefully, steady paycheck that maybe you get paid biweekly or monthly, that revenue kind of comes in for you and pretty steady. counties don't necessarily operate that way. And so, you get paid, so to speak, in terms of the revenue comes in in big chunks. And so that means you got to be very careful about the cash flow in those intervening months in between when the tax revenue comes in. And so that's another reason that we want to make sure we got that nice unassigned fund balance, to make sure we've got that adequate cash flow, month to month. And last point here down at the bottom, which has changed a lot over the course of last year is interest rates. You've probably seen that in the news. It's been a very hot topic over the last 12 months. But we're able to earn now as a county, you and your peers, nice investment earnings on the dollars you have in the bank. So, if you're a taxpayer and you say, hey, why would our county want to hold more dollars in reserve as opposed to less nowadays, it really has the ability to turn off some revenue that helps take pressure off of other areas of the budget helps takes the pressure off of the tax rate. So having a bigger unassigned fund balance, and having more in reserve really ends up being a money saver for the county and its taxpayers. And so, we'll talk about that next couple of pages so flip the page number seven in terms of what we call here, governmental funds operations. What this really is, is all the details on the back are what are our revenues or expenditures right out of you of the last five years. The gold line is there and the yellow gold line is the revenues. You can see there that it's been moving up nicely 1819 certainly had a pop of 21 and 22. So you've had nice growth in the revenue base, that's positive, the expenditures are in those bars. So, our primary core operating expenditures and the dark green there, have also been growing. And that sort of stands to reason as inflation. Other initiatives have certainly been a theme over the last couple of years. And I think what really stands out to us is the dark blue, you kind of see that dark blue that really gets it almost imperceptible in 2019, but you didn't in 2020 21 and 22. That's our capital expenditure. And it's gotten very substantial over that three or four-year time period. That's obviously a byproduct of a couple of different things, certain things that you're doing as a board and making investments in the county that's important. Some of that has been able to be funded with some of these special AARPA and Cares, dollars. That certainly has been a factor. I think as we think about that, though, as we roll our way through the end of what will be 2023, and the fiscal year 24, we're really thinking about what his life looks like after ARPA, and certainly after cares a couple of years ago. So, we see that trend, all the details are in the back. We certainly can talk some more about it. But I think what we really see is recurring revenue versus recurring expenditure, they need this solid position, not a lot of excess margins there. But that cash funding of capital, certainly been making investments, you haven't had to borrow new dollars to do those things. But it has drawn down our reserves and our fund balance. So, as we flip the page to page number eight, again, just taking some of the information out of the audit, it's a series of ratios and numbers here. That, again, is looking at the fund balance over that time period. We tried to maybe just sort of point out a couple of things, rocks, and there's a bunch of numbers on this page. But if you look right here, line number six is your unassigned fund balance. So that's what we talked about kind of being the arguably most important piece of financial information in your audit there's a lot of financial information that's important. But one of the first things you look at is the assigned fund balance. So that line six, it's gone from about 7.3 million rounded up to 7.4, down to about 5.4, last five years. So that's when we're talking about, we're down about $2 million. That's that trend that we're looking at. The other trend we talked about is if you take your eye down to line 11. It's the unassigned fund balances portion of our expenditures. So how much of that budget base? Does that unassigned fund balance kind of cover? What does that represent? And so, as the budget has grown to the bottom part of that ratio, that denominator, that percentage has declined fairly substantially. So, you're 20% in 2018, and we're now at about 11%. So roughly speaking, it's about half of the level that was it is the proportion of the budget relative to five years ago. And so, as we look at that trend, the 11% by itself is not necessarily worrisome. It is on the low side, and we'll talk about that. It's really that trajectory, last five years of coming down and resisting cautions and pause and saying, what strategies can we think through to help the minimum stabilize that and hopefully even grow that a little bit in the future, again, knowing that's such an important first line of defense, knowing that inflation, etc., is really causing some strain on people's budgets? Page number nine in terms of some comparative data shows an unassigned fund balance. When you see the top there, Floyd County, 2021, Floyd County 2022, just to show that that little trend, and then a variety appears going from Wythe County, about $45 million round numbers there 43 589, all the way down to Grayson and about 8.3 million. So, you kind of see the range there a lot of dollars on page number nine, but if you flip the page to page 10. Page 10 is arguably the much more important of the two sorts of pieces of the installation here. And this is the unassigned fund balance as a proportion of our budget. And so, what you see there, if we're worried about 11%, from 2020, to the peer media, those local governments are about 3% plus or minus. So, with us on the high side and 59%, this sort of unique in that area.

A conversation ensued with the Board members regarding percentage rates, qualifications, and understanding of moving forward to benefit the County.

Kyle Laux replied: That's right. And so, it's one of those, you kind of take the high and the low and throw it out, you know, you're kind of right in there, and everybody else is really in, in the 20s. And so we just say that to give you, hopefully, a little bit of perspective, in terms of, if we were to stabilize that fund balance ratio, and maybe think about growing it, you would by no means be out of line on the high side, really fairness might be playing a little bit of catch up relative to our, to our neighbors in terms of stabilizing that reserve level. So that I'll pause there, we kind of go to the next section coming up here. And that was probably a lot of information in a short time period, and that you share, and I'll be happy to answer any questions or for Linda, anything, we'll be covering in greater detail on that, in that little section there.

The Board members questioned current trending times and expense the County has had in comparison to other localities and how that has an effect on the Percentage with Floyd County.

Kyle Laux: yeah, and again, the 11% in and of itself, isn't, you know, the call of the concern, per se, I think where we want to be sometimes, we've got to be the bearer of the news was good, bad, or indifferent is it's that trajectory, the fact that we were, you know, five years ago, we were right in line about 20%. We're now by virtue of a little bit of erosion of the dollars and the budget growing that combination, those two things as it's gone from, again, where you were right in line with you were to certainly below that level right now. I think in fairness, what we see are the numbers. But clearly, we're coming out of the, you know, call of the post-pandemic time period, it's been a crazy couple of years. The other thing that has created a call it fair amount of noise to use that term, in everybody's financials is these pairs and ARPA dollars and all this special one-time kind of funding. And so, it's made it difficult the last couple of years to kind of get a really good picture of what is our recurring revenues versus our recurring expenditures. But I think if we kind of see that dust starting to settle a little bit and certainly been able to make some investments in the county that'll mean, certainly we're needed, that your discretion. I think we want to be just very cognizant of going forward, how we think about that fund balance, and making sure that they maintain what we have right now, and hopefully, they find some ways to continue to grow that over the next couple of years. And I think, to your point about a multiyear plan, I think that makes a lot of sense. You're not alone in having to take on a series of projects, some of which you had to do, some of which, you know, certain costs have done what they've done in the last couple of years. And so having a multiyear plan, and starting that, you know, first probably if you can with this budget cycle would be a very healthy thing to do. Such that it's not a surprise, it's not a shock from the budget, create a budget year, and kind of get into that, that cycle of, of rebuilding those kinds of things. We see some recycles. I mean, we another part of the state. I'll give you another example from we're close with as Northumberland County, rural county, Northern Neck, my in-laws, my wife's from up there, they went through a similar cycle where they did a bunch of capital expenditures, they do some fund balance down where they're doing it. And then once they kind of got through that cycle, they said, okay, we know we need to kind of reset things and rebuild kind of that reserve level so it's not abnormal. You see those cycles sometimes are we just in fairness when we make sure we've pointed out to you, and certainly, you know, thinking about a multiyear strategy as you're going to FY24 budgets would be our recommendation to you. I think, especially at this time, we've got a sort of an uncertain economic outlook right now. You know, we keep talking about inflation, etc. So really getting in place a multiyear plan, so you don't have to do it all at once. So, building the fund balance back in and kind of being able to pick your spots, in your ways, and your strategies to do that. But also making sure that you can do what you need to do within the budget for the operating capital side. I think really thinking about probably like a five-year window, you get on you further that things just get too fuzzy. But getting yourself a five-year plan would make a lot of sense. And there's very successful as many of your peers in terms of other counties, even your size, we're doing a fair amount of that work right now, again, working through this period whereby the ARPA/Cares and a one-time dollar that's kind of washed his way through the system. And just kind of resetting, the picture. Yeah, in terms of recurring revenues versus recurring expenditures.

Board members questioned if this is what Kyle has seen with other localities similar to Floyd County.

Kyle Laux: That's exactly what we see that we see that play out, you know, your recurring revenues versus expenditures, outside of some of the cash funding, the capital is in a solid position. So, you certainly had to make those tough choices when you had to do it. And, you know, again, with, we use the term inflation a lot and have probably overused that last couple of years, but it's a real thing, right? It's, it's taken a route both on the capital side and the operation side, you're not alone in having to deal with that. In many slashes, most of your peers are going through the exact same sort of cycle right now. One other point I'll make at the end, and we'll flip to the next section here. But as we talked about peers I mean, one opportunity that I think you may have in many of your peers as we think about fund balance. The ARPA dollars came with all kinds of initial rules that were very vague and hard to follow and county attorneys in property equity that Trump's initial guidance came out very hard to follow but what the IRS did the federal government within the last year thereabouts is they kind of allow Government a provision that said, if you receive $10 million or less of ARPA funding, you can take what I'm going to call the standard deduction when you think about your taxes, and take a standard deduction, a similar kind of concept for your ARPA dollars. And so, what that list should do is basically bring them in effect into the general fund, and use them for governmental purposes. And so that could be a very powerful tool in your tool belt, as you think about this budget cycle. And you think about, you know, the reserves and having to take care of various things. To give you a little shot in the arm is any residual ARPA dollars that may be out there, you've gotten the ability to use this is not a technical term sort of terminology kind of standard deduction, they call it a revenue replacement. And use that to kind of bring the dollars in, you then are allowed to as a board as a county uses for what they call any governmental purpose. And so that gives you a lot of flexibility. Again, as we think about having to build this at least recommend we know you've got to make the tough decisions, but recommending we rebuild that fund balance, any balance of the ARPA dollars can be a very powerful shot in the arm that doesn't impact in fairness, your operating revenues versus expenditures going forward. So that way, you're not having to put as much pressure on the budget and say I wouldn't try and put some excess dollars in there to rebuild the reserves or have to count on something at the end of the year. That can be a very nice powerful shot in the arm, I think certainly you've gotten some capital projects done on the front end, with the ARPA, as we understand it, and maybe on the back end, maybe rebuilding some that fund balance, again, can be a very powerful tool for it. So, we just offer that as maybe a suggestion.

Kyle Laux: We can move to the next section, we'll start to talk a little bit about the capital side, on page 12, we've got our existing debt profile. Again, you see what that looks like. But $31 million, we'll show that relative to some ratios to kind of put that in perspective for the size county that we are both in terms of our budget and our tax base. But I think importantly, if you just look at that graph, on the left-hand side, does fixed rate, being able to refinance it over the years for savings purposes, works very much like a mortgage. So, we're making a fixed annual principal installment. And you see that left-hand side, we have either equal or declining payments in the future. So, we have some capacity coming forward. There are no spikes in it. And our sort of surprises in the near future. So, you start with a very good sort of basis. In terms of the existing debt profile. We'll take a look at a couple of ratios and where we are relative to those ratios. The first is tax-supported debt service versus expenditures. So, this is basically how many pennies out of every dollar in the budget are going to make a debt service payment. So, if we right now in 2023, are about 6.38%, what that really means is out of every dollar in the budget, about 6.3 pennies are going to make a debt service payment that's pretty low, relatively speaking, you see where you are relative to your peers. Many of those, the Grayson's, we don't work quite as closely with Henry, Franklin, Bedford, Carroll, and Giles, with I believe, are all in the process of thinking about some capital projects. So, they're all likely to be sort of moving upwards in terms of that ratio, and in the future, as we work with many of those, so give me a sense of where you are there. How's it going to page 14, debt versus assessed value? And so, this is basically a ratio looking at how much of the what proportion of the total tax base of the county is our tax-supported debt. So, we're at about one and a half percent plus or minus somewhere in that range. Some of the others in the Franklin Budget are much larger County, the perils of Grayson's, Giles, and Henry County, more near range. And again, a number of these local governments are quickly in the process of planning and thinking about some fairly major capital in the near future. On page 16, starting to think, we understand the Skyline bank building and discussions around those, we kind of get straight to the chase right at the top of the page and so thinking about that, given where the fund balances. And given a couple of other considerations would be the next couple of pages, I really think you should think about financing, the extent you move forward for that particular project, again, for around $2 million for that project, if we were to take that out of the fund balance, that would be a very healthy meeting in a negative way further drawing that fund balance down. And so, we really don't recommend that to the extent you move forward with that, you do that. And so that's kind of what we say there in the first bullet point. Second bullet point. And this gets to where interest rates have changed a lot in the last 12 months and created some interesting opportunities. So, interest rates are higher than they were in 2020, 21, and even 2022. I think that you know, probably where that was a couple of graphs in there. The long-term side of things, meaning as we think about financing, the purchase of a building or a capital project that may get financed for 1015 20 years, those are still at historically speaking very favorable levels. So, you can probably be thinking about plus or minus 4%, in that range might be a little bit higher, might be a little bit lower, depending on where things are, which from a historical perspective if you take out the sort of historical lows of the pandemic era, that's still very favorable long-term borrowing rate. The interesting piece is that as the Federal Reserve has done, what they've done with interest rates, reinvestment rates, so the very, very short term dollars, in terms of savings accounts, CD treasuries, etc., etc. Those are much, much higher than they were a year ago. And so, for years, we've been in this environment where the cash we've had whether it's in a savings account, we've been if we're buying a call, it government obligations has been earning us pretty darn close to zero, it's been 20 basis points, 50 basis points, it's been very, very low levels. Nowadays, the earnings and some of their short-term investments are four or 5%. They've been moving up even last couple of weeks. And so that relationship is important, as we think about sort of the strategy surrounding the purchase, or potential purchase in the bank, building, the fund balance, etc. And it gets back to that point, but that cash that fund balance in the bank can really be earning dollars for you as a county for the taxpayer. Point number four here, again, round numbers. In terms of interest rates, I think they just alluded to that a little bit. But the dollars you can earn on cash in the bank is basically plus or minus about the equivalent of the cost of financing right now. So, the cost of an interest rate on a financing space is covered by plus or minus what you can earn in terms of secure liquid investments. And, lastly, there, think we've talked a bit about this, but thinking about the purchase of a building, it's a long-term asset. So, it's something that if indeed, you were to move forward with that, that would be something that would benefit county benefit taxpayers for probably multiple generations. And so, helping to finance it helps to spread the cost of that over the taxpayers that benefit from it, as opposed to sort of burning and burdening all of the taxpayers today with the costs of that project. PAGE 17. Again, just to give you a little bit of a picture of interest rates, what will be shown here is the long-term borrowing rates, you know, kind of analogous to if indeed, we were to move forward, what our borrowing costs might look like, left-hand side shows a very long-term time period, or going back to the 1980s. And I think if you look at that, for the last two years, that really, and nominally a lot of ways, so we're back at a historical norm in that 4% we've estimated in here 5%, for planning purposes, in terms of the borrowing interest rate. But I think you see, they're still historically very, very favorable. We've seen this last year when they move, they go pretty fast. They certainly can. You know, we've seen multiple percentage points within the last 12 months of interest rates going up. And I think a lot of the news headlines that have come out in the last couple of weeks, you know, the market so to speak, we don't have a crystal ball, but the market was expecting the right rates are going to go back down in the future because some of this inflation data has come out the last couple of weeks in the market suddenly deciding you know what they don't think that's the case. They may indeed be going up more in the future. And so that all kind of goes into our psyche and your mindset.

Supervisor Boothe noted that it may not be beneficial to the county to exhaust our cash at this time with the uncertainty of the economy.

Kyle Laux: Yeah, and hopefully it's not the case. But I think Mr. Booth to your point, the bottom of page 16 goes to an old saying that I know we've talked about in the past, which is cash is king. So not to kind of beat the proverbial dead horse. But as we think about the reserves, to your point, we have no crystal ball in terms of where the economy goes. But to the extent we do get ourselves in a situation where the economy doesn't look so rosy in the future, you really want to have that cash in that fund balance in the bank, so to speak, literally or figuratively, as opposed to as both the alternative. And I think your last point there is probably spot on. And I think we're seeing that with other Counties. They're having to make school investments having to go make radio investments. And we try not to talk in too broad-brush terms, which is basically everything is coming in substantially more expensive than it was a couple of years ago. Right. So exactly your point, there's a cycle to this. All right. And it's no one when the surprise, per se, in terms of the borrowings that you did, it was planned, it was thought through. And you know, I think it certainly stands to reason that if you try to do the same projects today, meaning right now, as you did a couple of years ago, they will cost 20 or 30%.

Kyle Laux: I think on the debt side, you're better than where we thought it would be okay, by virtue of the interest rates being as low as they were, and being able to take advantage of project and capital costs before they really took off the debt service side of things, the amount of debt on the interest rates, certainly, they're better than what was projected back in that 2017 2018 time. So hopefully, you see there on page 14, kind of the nexus of all those four by no surprises, per se. So, I am thinking about not drawing up thumbnails on page 18. If there's another way, we think about that planning over a five-year time period, as you're working through the 24 budgets, looking at hard and maybe adopting formally some of those policies on the fund balance side to give kind of the guideposts and the roadmap as you're doing all that planning, so fund balance, debt levels, etc. Really sort of look at those in today's context, maybe update and formalize some of those things. And so that's the future. Pages 19 And 20 just give you a picture. In terms of, again, talking about debt service to expenditures, what we've done on that graph on the right-hand side, the dark green is what we have on the books right now in terms of our debt service. The light green is if indeed this bank building purchasing forward, and it was financed. You can see the incremental impact on that particular ratio. So, February, it's a relatively modest impact, it's almost imperceptible smile is a proportion of things. Also, put on the right-hand side, we put in some of the quotes Best Practices standard scores is one of the national rating agencies consider anything below 8% very strong and anything at eight to 15% to be, quote-unquote, page 20, debt to assess value, different ratios, similar looking picture, whereby that 2 million is relatively nominal. But very important when you think much of unbalanced so that's the tradeoff that 2 million is very important that fund balance ratio makes a relatively small difference on these two debt ratios. PAGE 21. And Mr. Chairman, cut me off whenever you need to. One last topic area we talk about and kind of alluded to this with interest rates, etc. In something we're doing a lot of work on right now, by virtue of how much short-term rates have moved and increased, again, there are some real opportunities, if done. smartly, and responsibly. So, something we'd like to maybe think about with recommending to you. Certainly, the treasurer, in Floyd County, and in every county across the state separately elected and, you know, has those powers and authority, etc., over the funds. last 10 years, there's really been nominal interest earnings to be made. But I think what we'd like to recommend and think about is working with county staff to make sure the treasurer has really good information with which to make a real investment strategy and informed decisions going forward. So, a lot of that sort of strategy comes from the cash flows we talked about, comes from making sure that not only the actual investments that are purchased but also the timing of those relative to when you need certain dollars to make debt service payments, make sure you make payroll, etc. So one of our recommendations for you here is to work really closely with Linden can get some information to the treasurer and be able to help kind of a process they're similar to we're talking about planning on the budget side of things, putting in place a really good plan and strategy so that everybody can have good insight information into making good decisions with respect to the investments that then spin off revenue, right back to the county and the taxpayers.

Well, we tried to condense it to the greatest extent possible. The last topic area you really think is working with county staff really partnering with the treasurer getting the treasurer's good information on the cash flows on the balances in terms of where county funds are all with the mindset of getting to that multiyear plan, no strategy on the sidelines. Again, I think I've said this too many times. But the world has changed in this case for the positive in terms of what you can earn over the counter without taking the risk, without incurring penalties all within the guidelines of what the state lays out in terms of state code, it's very specific in terms of what types of investments local government, whether it's county, city or town can make. So, everything clearly is within those, those guidelines. And then even on top of that, I think what we were elected to get involved in in the partnership side of things is, is to literally lay out a strategy so that as we talked about on the front end, there's certain cash flows of being accounting in terms of tax revenue comes in certain time periods, the expenditures are not necessarily matched up with when that cash flow comes in. And so that's part of the strategy, the understanding of the timing of everything. And so that any investments that are made are maximizing certainly the interest rate and the return you can make, but always with the safety of principle being the first and foremost, and also understanding the cash flow of the county so that, again, there's a plan and a strategy, no surprises. That I should say that as we think about that we are agnostic, just like when we do, the financing, we're agnostic as to what the type of investment is, where it is, whether it's a bank, or a Treasury or a CD, et cetera, et cetera. Our job is to help you identify that strategy. And the best way to do that, is we don't hold the funds. I'm on page 24. I think the thought here is that, again, we're here this evening, the last couple of days, and this last day of February the 28th. To the extent that the timing of the financing, meaning for the bank building moves forward. We think about doing that, I think, I don't know exactly the timing on this, we've kind of laid this out as though it's moving forward relatively quickly. If indeed that is the case, and I grow, the recommendation to you would be to make sure that we can move through that process, which usually takes about 45 to 60 days such that the dollars are in hand by the end of the fiscal year, we can all kind of tie it back to make sure that by the end of the fiscal year that fund balance is in good shape. Interest rates on the borrowing side remain very favorable. And so, the thought process here was we kind of work a scheduled timing around that. So as you work through your budget process, we get some knowledge and certainty with respect to what the interest rate on the financing would be for purposes of 24 budget planning and also make sure that anything that is done is wrapped up by the fiscal year again so as you get the end of the fiscal year, you've got a clear sense of the dollars, and we're maximizing what can go into the fund balance. you know, at the appropriate time, we've laid out a schedule on page 25, whereby we can be back as early as the 25th of April. Indeed, that's the appropriate timing. And it's not the first to say, but just to give you a sense of that, I think we want to go through a competitive bidding process that we've done in the past, especially for the type and size of financing we'd like to give is the tried and true strategy, local banks, regional banks, etc., everybody the same shake at it, that's really the way that you get the lowest possible interest rate gets competition. That's something that's worked out really well for the county and your neighbors and peers across the state. So that's the process that we think about going through, you know, with the board's collective blessing in terms of the green line. And also, during that time period, we can be working on a separate track, with Linda with Kim, which is getting some of the information from the treasurer and start to formulate some of those plans and strategies to devote time really adopting the budget one to understand what earnings we can count on to the budget, we can have some of that homework done for that purpose.

Board members discussed possible purchases and the future opportunity to refinance.

Kyle Laux: That's exactly right. And anytime we go do this, we always look for refinancing opportunities. That is just kind of part and parcel of that, I think exactly to your point, was able to do so much during such a low-interest rate time period that I don't, we'd love to be wrong there. But we've kind of already looked at it and don't see that as being a likely scenario, at least from a savings interest rate standpoint. But I think just knowing you well enough, if there's something else that you're thinking about, it makes some sense to combine both from a process standpoint, you know, give a little more size for a lender to look at and attract a little bit more interest. And certainly, from sort of both a time and cost standpoint, there'd be some efficiencies to it, as opposed to the kind of splitting it off into two different processes being able to combine it's a much more efficient process. And then I mean, there's, there's a bunch of proposals out there, schools that there is some new stuff on schools, they've revamped the literary loan program. And so, there are more dollars available in that lottery loan program. And they brought in the size of it. So he used to be for years and years and years, the biggest lottery loan you could apply for was seven and a half million dollars per project, then now up that all the way to 25 million, so there's a greater ability to access a farmer than they are and have to go check that we remember your Composite Index off top your head and you bear in mind that you shouldn't find it is usually the interest rate advantage relative to the current market, at least as it stands right now. So that's one area. The other is there are some grants on the school construction side of things that are material amounts. Application just came out last week for that, that sort of saying there's going to be a couple of years of that. But it's up to 30% of the cost of a project. Both the literary loan and this grant program are competitive. So, you've got to apply for it and there's like a scoring and ranking system that didn't use to exist there are lots of dollars within those various programs. So that's on the school side. Specifically.

The Board members thanked Kyle for everything he had presented and noted looking forward to future engagement with them.

Kyle Laux thanked the Board members for their time and extend assistance at any time.

- ***Note* Chairman Turman recessed the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m.**
- **Chairman Turman read the Handicap statement.**

9. Public Hearing 7:00 p.m.: Secondary Road 6-year Road Plan

a. David Clarke, Virginia Department of Transportation

Thank you. I'll start off with just a few comments about the intent. And the current plan as it stands that we work off of. This is the public hearing, the annual public hearing for the secondary read six-year plan. This is for the fiscal years 2023 and 24 through 2028 29 years. This is also the construction budget public hearing for just the upcoming fiscal year. planned or estimated allocations for those years are roughly $880,000 For the first couple of years, each year for a couple of years, then estimations are the projections get less exact, but it's in the same ballpark right now, we were looking at over that around $900,000. In the last four years of the six years. So, what we have to do is kind of move that money around to various projects. And we because projects take a while to develop and to get right away and to accumulate money since generally an unpaved road project on cost. half miles, I have made dollars basically kind of rule of thumb, depending on conditions, of course. So, it takes a while sometimes to accumulate enough money for a full project. So, what I'll do is I'll go through the current plan. As it stands, I've taken off the roads that we completed last year. And then how it generally works, you open it up to public comment the board hears comments from the public and then can approve a plan. At any point after that public hearing. So really, we've done a good job finishing up our projects. So, our current priority list provided the board with the draft that I started off with a priority zero, which kind of didn't make a lot of sense, but it's kind of a, it's a project that's always there. It's countywide items that have to use construction funds, either because it may be a project that's beyond what we can do for maintenance. In the era of good maintenance. Funds are always tight. Maintenance includes snow removal, pothole patching, and pipe installation, all of our employees, salaries, a check, and headquarters are charged with that. And so, we're always right there at the end of that budget at the end of the year. So, if there's anything out of the ordinary, that even if it would be considered maintenance, sometimes you spend your construction money on that, so you don't overshoot the maintenance budget for the year. And it's small things that have to be considered construction, sometimes new guardrail is considered construction, new signs are considered construction, and any kind of improvement to a road, anything new would be considered construction. pipe replacement is not unless it's a major project. So those kinds of things go into this county-wide kind of item. And it's not tracked as closely as some of the others. The other projects in the plan that you have are all unpaved road projects. And that's because most of your money, all but about $45,000 of each year's allocation, those numbers I gave you earlier, $130,000 allocations are all but about 45,000 of that is earmarked for unpaved roads. So, anything for other types of projects that are not paved roads, you can take the 45 portions of that and put it in this county-wide thing that can accumulate to do a bigger project. The last time we did a project that was not an unpaved road project was Alan Springs Road. And that was a project that was using money from quite a long time ago. We've had it on a couple of other projects that kind of grew more than what we had the money for. We narrowed it down to a good project; I think on our Springs Road. I flattened out a few of those curves, right, kind of fairly small section that now there is no other money in the six-year plan that's not for unpaved roads except for that, that small amount, and that just for your information, and I've said this before in public meetings, that $45,000 is called the telecommunication fee distribution and it's from funds that the state collects from utilities that locate their utilities, communications, utilities, mostly fiber optic cable, whatever they are right away, and it gets distributed statewide, so it's all collecting rent, and they distributed on purely a present population of the state. So, if you want 1% of the population to get 1%, this month, Virginia gets an awful lot of the population to present it. But anyway, that's what that 45 goes and it can be sent out a lot of times, we'll just go ahead and put it on that big register for those who want to get paid, we'll just put everything we've gotten on that and try to get it knocked out. But it also can be moved aside and there is a fund that you have in case an error comes up. We've had a couple of inquiries, but we can take a private road and make it up a public beat-up road to a process called rural addition, but uses your construction, right and so we have a little bit of that whenever it comes up, we can look at case by case basis, it doesn't happen very often. I've done one in Dallas County for the last 20 years or so. So, they're very rare. Put it that way. So, I'm going to go ahead and go through the draft list. I will say there's probably room for at least one new project this year. Perhaps two if there's one that there's two of them that you really would like to put on course those would be put at the bottom of the list and they probably wouldn't get their first dollar funding and for the last year of that six years so just there's a little bit of hope but it's still quite a ways off if you had a new project like I said priority zero was the county-wide it was priority number one right now is Starbuck road. We're working on that and hope to have that done this summer. Number two on the priority list is Hope Road. We're currently working on the right of way for that, but it'll take a while to get the full funding for that done. Number three is firehouse road where that's actually funded but we are having issues with getting some right of way there are some upcoming changes perhaps and some of the owners on that property so we're going to put that back a little way and see how those new property owners turn out on there. Number four on the list is 728 reasonable road there's a section to that but 1.2 miles we plan to do number five is a little project we had talked about doing to stabilize and hard service a very heavily traveled unpaved intersection and Merrifield and number six on the list are Bear Ridge those are the project on the list and I said number to public suggestions and then the board can make a decision on passing a final priority list.

The Board questioned if these projects will be completed by VDOT or if they need to contract any out.

David Clark: Right now, only Starbucks will be done with VDOT crew. I hope, I think it's going to be probably a bit more complicated. They will, it'll go to contract. Reedsville is so long that that's probably going to go to contract and we'll make that decision as we get closer to taking a preliminary look at Reedsville. We tend to like to keep, the last one we did was Silverleaf (inaudible) it was a good job for our crew if our crew does it that means they're not doing other stuff and so it's good to not charge that maintenance budget but it also leaves general maintenance and it's over the summer so it's the kind of maintenance that is good for doing all kinds of work mainly patching potholes cutting brush and mowing.

b. Public Comments – 6-year road plan

Gerald Vest –

Well, y'all have all seen me before. So has Mr. Clark. I don't know any other way to do this but to read it I've heard so many ways we can get our road repaired but I'm going to read this anyway. Six months in a row I've been here and the Board of Supervisors authorized funds from (Inaudible) that will support the extreme amount of tractor-trailer traffic we are experiencing on Jerry lane. When they are fully loaded, they weigh 80,000 pounds. 80,000 pounds is the weight limit on interstate highways was six inches aggregate and five inches asphalt. Jerry Lane has about an inch and a half of powered gravel. Back in October, I collected a petition, which was 91 residents on a mile-and-a-half road, with 53 residences on this road. During this time, I heard many concerns about the safety of our residents, their families, friends, patrons, and everyone else driving Jerry Lane. Complaints about near misses, trucks running too fast, and trucks in the middle of the road because of broken shoulders or holes that they couldn't stay on their side of the road. Many of them said they had to either get off the road and meet them or pull over and stop and let them pass. And this is a fully loaded tractor-trailer. Even at 35 miles an hour proximately 130 feet five to eight seconds. Near misses' school buses were also a part of their concerns. There have been close calls with children boarding school buses, and residents walking, not to mention vehicles with broken ball joints, shocks, and bent wheels. Also back in October, I contacted VDOT about our residents' concerns and asked them to do a long overdue traffic volume counts the speed study both of these studies were conducted, and the results were proof of the extremely increased traffic flow that tracks tractor-trailer traffic over the last 15- 20 years. The study recorded 17 tractor-trailers one day 385 cars and light trucks per night. In 1994 when this road was surface treated, there were 60 cars a day and zero tractor-trailers. So far, the only improvement has been the 35-mile and speed limit change. Still too fast for big trucks. Middle road shoulders are broken from the extreme weight of these trucks and are not wide enough for them to stay on their side. Even VDOT was surprised at how many how much traffic there was even in October after the busy growing season was over. These studies that were done back in October are not an accurate assessment because of the amount of traffic during the growing season, April through September are a lot more. Seven Springs continues to grow to make more products available and the truck and traffic volume will increase even more. VDOT has been very helpful to us and also ensured us that there are already funds available for improvements in maintenance that can be used for improvements, maintenance, repaving, and so on and so forth, especially when there is no safety. When there are so many safety concerns. There are also funds available. I understand that a secondary road construction fund and emergency fund are several different ways, so a petition was given to this board. Studies were conducted, results and facts were provided, many safety concerns have been expressed, and funds are available. It's up to this board now to carefully review the information the pictures I gave you provided and make the decision based on areas that have the most traffic in the most potential for hazards or injury, causing serious injury. All of this information has been provided to you and give you a better perspective of what we deal with on a daily basis. These issues have been present for many years now and cannot be tolerated or ignored any longer. A priority of this board must be the safety and health of its of our residents and everyone else.

Kirsten Vest –

Kristen Vest Locust Grove district. Just want to say just echo what Gerald is saying and just asked. I mean I don't drive that road every day but it's bad I just ask that you please try to find a way to help the people of Jerry Lane so that they don't have to wait for the next six-year plan. It'd be 2029 or 2030 before they get their road fixed. So that's all I have to say. Thank you.

David Clarke – Now that we've had the public hearing for comments, I know we've looked at them in the past, we've gone out on the trip and reviewed some roads review to impress the board. I'd be glad to have you if the board would like to. But this concludes my portion of this and it's up to the board to revise the draft plan if necessary and come up with a final plan that you will pass as a resolution.

Chairman Boothe asked if VDOT is looking at various issues in the county and especially concerning the crosswalks and need to revisit this as it is a safety concern.

David Clarke replied: Yes, we've looked at a couple of things there. We've had an opportunity to look at a lot of the ramps in town and some of the crosswalks and we're looking in particular ones right there at Barbary and 221 as well as one at Oxford and 221 and a few of the others. That we are seeking money out of the district that they decided they were going to look at Floyd for it was money I had no control over. So, we said yes, please. And while we're looking at that we thought about I know we've heard this issue several times and it's tough for people to want to turn right from Barbary on to 221 because it gets clogged up right there. So, if people want to turn let me get people there waiting on people who are turning left turns would be easy, but they can't get over there. So, we're thinking about putting them a wider right turn lane in there as well as you know it would require taking up stops on some of the metal things that island you know be trying to get as much space in there to get two lanes in there and it would probably bring out here, we get to something like a two-phase project.

The Board members continued to talk about the 6-year road plan as well as other issues with the various districts and the prioritization of road work with the County. The Board and Mr. Clarke agreed to continue to discuss the planning process and future projects.

10. Public Comments:

Kirsten Vest –

Kristen Vest, Locust Grove District. So, at the last Board of Supervisors Meeting. I couldn't come because it was a day meeting. So, I was working and then I was watching and listening. And, you know, a comment has been made by members of the board numerous times that there are only two or three people in Check that don't want Floyd Fest. Everybody else either doesn't care or wants it. And I'm here to tell you that that is wrong. We have petitions that we just really didn't even try. We all work for a living. So, it's really hard to go door to door and get petitions. But we've got about 75 signatures, most of whom are in Check and Locust Grove District, some in other parts of the county. And, you know, it may not be 15,000 people or the entire population of Floyd County that is against Floyd fest. But there is a sizable number of people in Locust Grove, in Check in particular, who are very concerned. And I just would appreciate it if you would not lie about it and say there are only two or three people and that everybody else, I've talked to doesn't care or they want it. We will, when we're able to, go around and get more signatures, we'll present these to you so you can see how many that it is. But just asking for a little consideration and compassion in your board time when you're able to just talk about whatever you want to talk about, that you think about what you're saying. And make sure you have facts before you talk about it. Thank you.

Gary C. Sponsler (email to county, Deputy County Administrator Chiddo read email as noted below)

I am requesting these comments be read aloud at the Feb 28 Board of Supervisors Meeting.

My name is Gary Sponsler and I reside in the Locust Grove District.

Floyd County needs new sources of tax revenue. Infrastructure and transportation issues limit the counties' ability to draw manufacturing or high-tech employers to the area. Unfortunately, that puts the tax burden disproportionately on property owners and the personal property and real estate taxes have markedly increased over the past few years.

Whereas the Board doesn't dictate the actual dollar amount assessed, it does determine the base tax rate on real estate and unless that figure is adjusted downward the anger displayed to the Board regarding the recent hikes in personal property taxes most likely will pale in comparison to what is in store with the next real estate assessments.

Expanded tourism represents one of the few areas for growth as well as a means of providing a much-needed source of "new revenue" to support future county improvements. Taxing events drawing people to a particular location is nothing new; nor is charging admission and parking fees to not only provide revenue but also address congestion and environmental issues. Many municipalities employ a similar approach.

Various venues, whether they be Yoga Jam or a newly relocated Floyd Fest, along with other secular events draw thousands of patrons, many of whom travel from surrounding counties and beyond to attend these festivities Unfortunately the economic impact studies associated with them are very difficult to decipher relative to how they positively impact county residents. What is certain, they have not resulted in any apparent value to local property owners come tax time.

I am requesting the Board of Supervisors urgently consider making these venues support the local community in ways that represent actual revenue that is obvious to the public. The process and subsequent discussions need to be open to public comment, not part of a closed-door session. A top priority is requiring entertainment venues to provide detailed attendance figures. No proper assessment of environmental, infrastructure, and impact relative to expanding county financial assets can begin without a base number and that information has not been but needs to be made available to the public.

Floyd County is $33,000,000 in debt. Using 3% as a base, interest on the debt alone is approximately $1,000,000 dollars annually. Other than increasing tax receipts primarily from property owners, what other plans does the Board of Supervisors have to increase Floyd County revenue over the next 10 years and beyond?

Thank you.

Sincerely, Gary C. Sponsler
540-239-4673

Chairman Turman declared public comment time closed.

11. Board Time

Supervisor Cox clarified his past statement regarding Floyd Fest and reiterated that the Board has the facts and that since the flyer went out he had 3 to 4 people contact him only regarding their communication of not wanting Floyd Fest in Check.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch thanked Mr. Gerald Vest for his work and communication regarding issues with Jerry Lane.

12. Opioid Resolution

Steve Durbin, Attorney Sands Anderson –

Members of the board, you have before you a resolution to approve an additional round of settlements in the opioid litigation that has been ongoing, you know, previously approved settlements, in part of settlements that are in excess point $5 billion. The settlements that are up for consideration this evening, are to resolve lawsuits or threatened lawsuits against pharmaceutical manufacturers and pharmacies include including Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walgreens, and Walmart. The settlements do require the settling manufacturers and pharmacies to pay billions of dollars to abate the opioid epidemic. Additionally, there will be additional amounts committed to abate some of the ill effects of the opioid epidemic, including Teva will pay $3.34 billion over 13 years, and will provide either $1.2 billion of its generic version of Narcan over 10 years or agreed upon the cash equivalent over 13 years. Allergan will pay up to two point 2.0 2 billion over seven years, CVS will pay up to 4.9 billion over 10 years, Walgreens to pay up to 5.5 2 billion over 15 years, and Walmart pay up to 2.7 billion. All payments have been made within six years. These agreements and the reason why I say up to is that these agreements do depend on the participation of the plaintiffs and the settling localities. As I explained before, in the previous settlements, the higher level of participation, the more buy-in you get from the defendants, because of course, they want to know that the way this settlement is structured, they want to know that it's worth putting in these significant sums of money to buy a piece from the plaintiff, localities, and other localities who may have a claim but haven't brought one yet. So, all the localities in Virginia that could have a claim nationwide that could have a claim are being asked to pass these resolutions and join in the settlements. Virginia, I think we have one or 2% participation in the previous round of settlements. And that's what we're hoping to achieve in this. This round of negotiations is as well. By so if we get the kind of participation that we're expecting to hope to see, will be at the top end, it was settlement amounts. Any funds paid through the settlements will be governed by the MOU that's currently in place between Floyd County, and all the other localities that have joined the Commonwealth of Virginia, which roughly breaks down 15% of the Commonwealth 30% of their localities and 55% of the opioid abatement authority, of which then Floyd counties, as well as the other localities would have the opportunity to seek funding from the opioid abatement authority for additional projects. The deadline is April 18, I believe but we're asking, we're hoping April 18th, 2023, to approve the settlements and submit the necessary documents. We're asking that it be approved tonight. So, we can just move that process forward and not have straggler localities. The resolution and the settlements have been reviewed by your opioid litigation counsel. I've been on numerous conference calls with them. And I've reviewed their memoranda and it is my recommendation as well as their recommendations that Floyd County approved the proposed resolution tonight. authorize your representatives to submit the necessary documentation to finalize those settlements. If you have any questions, I'd be happy to address them.

Supervisor Boothe expressed his concerns regarding the settlement and noted he has had and continues to have an issue with it.

Steve Durbin: I would just say, I certainly respect your position, Mr. Booth. And I understand it. And I think opioid litigation counsel would agree with me by saying that approach approval of this settlement today would not be not necessarily going to resolve the county's efforts or the Commonwealth's efforts in holding accountable those who are responsible for fueling this epidemic. So it makes sense in my mind to proceed against the deep pockets. Because that's, that's where most of the culpability is, they're the ones who benefited the most from this, and they're the ones that's where the money is, as a practical standpoint, but I certainly understand what you're saying. And I would not say that this would conclude efforts to hold people to account. Right now, the settlements, to maintain your gold standard with the opioid abatement authority, make sure you're eligible for the maximum amount of funding. You're required to use the funds that you have that come to you directly for abatement purposes. So if you are increasing funding for a medical response for different social services, programs for drugs, and for opioid drug court for opioid counseling and treatment, things of that nature are going to be eligible expenses that are going to keep you on the gold standard. As far as additional projects, well, drug court may be one thing you could apply for additional funding for math and EMS. I believe that there are preventative programs that would qualify because that's abating the ongoing. If you get people if you keep people from starting, you're going to be abating this ongoing epidemic. Think of it like an epidemic. If you keep people from getting infected, you're abating the epidemic. So I think this is not a compensation regime, necessarily that is going to allow us to just reimburse the county for expenditures that you've had to make for law enforcement, for incarceration for social services. And that's one reason why a regional approach could be beneficial. Everything that I've seen suggests that the more localities participation you have, the more attractive you are proposing will be for funding from the opioid abatement authority. And there is some potential to make that case to the opioid abatement for to that we've got this framework and you have to have some formula, some system, but when you fine-tune it, I do think that there's a case to be made that Floyd County has missed out because of that very issue that we don't have. We don't have a hospital.

A conversation ensued regarding the data collected and due to the County not having a hospital or facility of treatment most Floyd County residents are actually being counted data-wise in other counties.

Steve Durbin: Right. But I mean, so the case is that those locales, there's going to be a halo in each one of those areas where some of that needs to be attributed to Floyd County. And, but I think it's going to be more on based on a formula basis, I don't know that there's a mechanism to go back and say, you know, patient X was a Floyd County resident patient, why was a USC county risk, I don't know that we can get that granular detail. That doesn't mean that it can't be accounted for. There's, there's a formula, there's a way to tweak that. And, you know, this was a model, this was a formula that had to be agreed on, by how many counties in Virginia, and, and independent cities, and school divisions of a certain size? And the attorney general if he had to sign off on it, yeah. So, Mr. Chair if there aren't any other questions I would recommend a motion.

On a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Cox and carried to approve the Opioid Resolution participation.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Cox – yes
Supervisor Bechtold – yes
Supervisor – no
Supervisor Turman – yes

Supervisor Boothe expressed his reasons for his vote and that he has been a proponent from the beginning with these funds going towards prevention.

13. New Business

a. Proclamation of March 2023 – Multiple Sclerosis Awareness and Education Month

On a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Bechtold and unanimously carried to declare a proclamation of March 2023 as Multiple Sclerosis Awareness and Education Month.

b. Request to abandon Section 6 of Old Bent Mountain Road.

On a motion by Supervisor Bechtold, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch and unanimously carried to table this request to March 14, 2023, meeting, and requesting all documents to be satisfied by the policy.

c. Health Department Request

On a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Bechtold and unanimously carried to table this request to March 14, 2023, meeting, and requesting additional information from Health Department.

14. Closed Business

a. On a motion by Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch and unanimously carried to enter into closed session under, 2.2-3711. A1. Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body.

Supervisor Boothe- yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Bechtold – yes
Supervisor Cox – yes
Supervisor Turman - yes

b. On a motion by Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch and unanimously carried to enter into closed session under 2.2-3711. A6 Contract Selection Discussion or consideration of the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the governmental unit would be adversely affected.

Supervisor Boothe- yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Bechtold – yes
Supervisor Cox – yes
Supervisor Turman - yes

On a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Bechtold, and unanimously carried, the Board voted to come out of closed session.

Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Bechtold – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Cox – yes
Supervisor Turman - yes

On a motion by Supervisor Boothe seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, the Board certified that the Board only discussed the matters in closed session.

Supervisor Bechtold – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Cox – yes
Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes

15. County Administrators Report – Dr. Millsaps offered the following information about staff activities.

a) CCDC update – Close to the end of the project. Architect reimbursement
b) Election Security – 1st initial assessment due by Electoral Board
c) Citizen's meeting – Clarification of roles within the County
d) Courthouse update – Jury room on the bottom floor. Continued modification.
e) Aging event – May event, informational sessions
f) Library 50th Anniversary - March 10th
g) Parks and Recreation events
h) Floyd County Birthday – March 21st
i) Onward executive meeting
j) Comprehensive plan – need full update completed. Surveys and focused groups will be used.
k) Cow Meeting – Scheduled for March 3, 2023

13. Correspondence –

No additional comments regarding correspondence at this time.

14. Adjournment – On a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Bechtold, and passed unanimously, the Board voted to adjourn until the next scheduled meeting of March 14, 2023, 8:30 a.m.

Joe D. Turman
Chairman, Joe Turman

Linda Millsaps
County Administrator Linda Millsaps