

**MINUTES
BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
FLOYD COUNTY
ADMINISTRATION
BUILDING
May 24, 2022**

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by Chairman Turman at 7:00 pm.
2. Opening Prayer – the Opening-Prayer was offered.
3. Pledge of Allegiance – the Pledge of Allegiance was offered.
4. Quorum – Quorum was called by the County Administrator. All members were present. Mr. Boothe participated remotely from a secure location.
5. Approval of Agenda – On a motion by Supervisor Bechtold, and seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, the agenda was approved unanimously.
6. Approval of Disbursements – After discussion, on a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and seconded by Supervisor Cox, the disbursements were approved unanimously.
7. Approval of Minutes –On a motion by Supervisor Cox, seconded by Supervisor Bechtold, the minutes from April 12 and April 14 were approved unanimously as amended. The minutes from March 1st were approved unanimously with a correction (made electronically during the meeting) upon a motion by Supervisor Boothe seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch (update to a date reference).
8. Public Hearing: Chairman Turman opened the public hearing on building permit fees and planning charges. Dr. Millsaps gave background on the proposals, including staff research on fees in the surrounding areas of similar-sized counties. She indicated that the proposed changes were advertised in a paper of record on May 5, and May 12, as required. No written comments have been received.
 - a. Public comment on building permit fees and planning charges

Dan Vest – (when asked if he was at the meeting to speak on these changes) About a building permit fee revision? Okay. I see the green boxes are a lot of the times full he construction waste added to these building permits, shouldn't there be a ticket or something? Where the building permit people talk to the solid waste people, and the contractors

that are building these things, tearing down decks or whatever, should be taking that refuse to solid waste disposal. So up there on Stoker's Knob or whatever it is. And there should be some accounting for that. Instead of filling it, like I said, filling the green boxes up and using our resources and accounting resources. All that needs to be included in the price of building permits. It needs to be taken up there and the county shouldn't have to transport it.

Kristen Vest - I just had a question. I actually did look at the, you know, the price increases. And just a question. I know that Dr. Millsaps just said you kind of looked at what other counties were doing. So, is that why like some fees were increased by only \$10, while others were increased by like \$30?

Dr. Millsaps answered that the staff looked at both surrounding counties and counties elsewhere that are of similar size. She also noted that the amount of time required by staff for a particular inspection was also considered.

Chairman Turman closed the public hearing at 7:35.

After discussion, on a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Bechtold, the fee revisions were approved unanimously.

9. Public Comments (General) – Chairman Turman opened the public comment period and read a statement related to providing reasonable accommodation for participation. He also noted that the public comments are limited to four minutes.

Kristen Vest (Locust Grove District) – “Kristen Vest, Locust Grove District. So last time I was here there were several of us expressing our frustration about loud noise, shooting, explosions, and everything that has been happening in our neighborhood. And right after that, there was a discussion about the noise ordinance. And you all discuss that, and it seemed like there were lots of excuses as to why you couldn't do or shouldn't do a noise ordinance. And I think I might know why. Or at least part of the reason why.

I discovered yesterday and today that there was a piece of property, several parcels in Check, that had been sold to a company called Hill Holler LLC on May 13, 2022. And we had been hearing through the grapevine for the last several years that Floyd Fest was going to have to move venues, and that they were no longer going to be able to use their site in Patrick County. And that this might very well be their last year. And the word that I got yesterday that started me on this search was that “Did you hear Floyd Fest is going to be in Check now”? And that really concerned me, especially because of where they said it was, which this property is, and what was sold for \$2.25 million. So almost double what the tax-added value is. And you can't find anything out about this

LLC, except that it was just formed in December of 2021. And that's a big concern because that area in Check is right on 221. It borders this property that was sold, borders on 221 and Timberline Road, and Metatron on the back side. That is the main thoroughfare for people who travel to and from work every day to Roanoke. And there is a church nearby. There's an elementary school not too far away from there.

And the concern is, before this went through, was anybody consulted? I mean, it may not be anything at all, but it just seems kind of odd. And I just wanted to bring it to your attention. Because it seems to me that somebody's going to plunk down \$2.25 million. And oh, yeah, there's a little coincidence that there's a Floyd Fest stage of the nine stages that they have one of them is called, Hill Holler. And it has been Hill Holler stage has been a part of Floyd Fest, one of their stages for many, many years. A little bit of a coincidence there. I don't think so. Anyway, my point about that was that somebody's not going to put down \$2.25 million if they weren't already assured ahead of time that they would be able to get the permits that they need and the VDOT permission that they need to have a large festival like Floyd Fest or something very similar in that location.

So, does anybody know about it? If you did know, have the neighbors been asked? Has VDOT been consulted, that is going to put a hurting on the commuters. And interesting the noise ordinance that was done away with... There is an ordinance on the in the books about music festivals. And it used to say, that any when the noise ordinance was in effect, it used to say that anything that was unreasonable sound. Now, it doesn't say that. It also says that they only have to be quiet from 2 am to 8 am. So, working people are going to have a hard time sleeping, if that's what's going to happen. So, I just wanted to bring it to your attention. And if you didn't know about it, maybe do some investigating. Thank you.

Dan Vest (Locust Grove District)

Dan Vest, Locust Grove District. Reading the Beacon last week, I was inspired to come up here and talk about a few things. I got a few questions based on the tax increase. But with this recent tax increase, have we not had a tax increase about each year for the past three years? Is this a sign of a failure on the county's part in managing its resources? Was this tax increase primarily due to debt incurred due to the school system? I think so. Did you work with the school system to weed out the wants from the needs? Or did you just accept requests without question? With the recent increase in real estate values? Are you going to lower the levy rate next year after the appraisals are done? Just to make us feel better. How can any of you not see this coming? After all, the planning and approval of these loans that have sent the county into debt were forced the EDA, right through those doors right there. Like they're also put up in the Indian Valley elementary school as collateral. I'm aware of that. From my perspective, if I was receiving commission for the past few years on the increasing real estate values here in the county, maybe I wouldn't think a two-cent increase

would be a big deal either. To sum up, I think the current board has lack of the ability to say no. And now we have to pay for your decisions. Not everybody including their physical acumen is not developed when you always have the fallback if increasing private property taxes. If the county did its job and attracted full-time employers to the industrial park by providing good roads and infrastructure, maybe we would not be dealing with this tax increase every year. Every landowner, I can personally say this, every landowner and farmer that qualifies, should start the process of putting their open land into a conservation easement. This stops this mess and does not allow you to get in everybody's pocket. That way, you were really limited in using the county's land as a fallback for your poor decisions. All this talk about preserving Floyd starts here at the county level. So far, I see the opposite in your behavior. Thank you.

Chairman Turman declared the general public comment period closed.

10. Board Time –

Supervisor Boothe requested that the equipment committee be scheduled to start reviewing first responder equipment. Chairman Turman agreed. Both suggested getting the committee started before the next budget cycle to get back on our schedule.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch requested that the County Administrator encourage VDOT to do a road tour with board members to look at areas identified as problematic. Dr. Millsaps agreed and mentioned that she participates in a quarterly meeting with VDOT. Dr. Millsaps also suggested adding capital to the review agenda. General discussion of road challenges ensued.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch also brought up the need to review and revise the Solid Waste Ordinance.

11. Closed Session – On a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and seconded by Supervisor Bechtold, the Board agreed to move to closed session.

- a. § 2.2-3711. A5. Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community regarding perspective manufacturing business.
- b. § 2.2-3711. A8. Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter. (Also, under 2-2.37.11.A7) Concerning litigation filed against several officers.

On a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Bechtold, the Board voted to come out of closed session. Supervisor Boothe reports he is in a secure location.

On a motion by Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Cox, the Board certified that they only discussed the items listed above in closed session.

12. Old Business

- a. Mowing Bid Update – Dr. Millsaps reported that the mowing bid was in the newspaper, and we are requesting bids, which are due June 6, 2023. Indicated offerors can bid on all or part of the county's mowing needs.
- b. Potential Software update – Dr. Millsaps reported that discussions continue with vendors about possible new financial software. She reported that she has been working with DMV and Rep. March's staff about DMV stop concerns. She also reports that the staff is contacting other communities that have made a similar move.
- c. ARPA Award
 - i. Playground – After discussion, and by consensus, the board authorized the staff to move forward with finding appropriate playground equipment for potential purchase with ARPA funds.
 - ii. Administration Building HVA/C – After discussion, upon a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Bechtold, approval of expenditure of county ARPA funds to replace aging HVA/C units for the County Administration Building and authorize appropriate signatures.

13. New Business

- a. EMS Position – County Administrator Millsaps announced that Mr. Belcher has decided to retire from his role as Operations Manager of the paid EMS staff. She also indicated that the management team is reviewing the position description and will post it in the Floyd Press next week.
- b. Remote Attendance Policy – County Administrator Millsaps explained recent revisions to the Commonwealth's remote attendance policy, and that these changes supersede existing local ordinance requirements. The new policy is less restrictive, allowing Supervisors to participate remotely in 25% of the meetings including budget workshops.
- c. Appreciation Week
 - i. Law Enforcement Proclamation (Attached):
 - ii. Correction Officer Proclamation (Attached):
 - iii. EMS Proclamation (Attached):

On a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and seconded by Supervisor Cox, the Board unanimously approved all three proclamations.

14. County Administrator's Report – Dr. Millsaps updated the Board on the following items:

- a. EMS Week – Staff cookout, gifts, and HR policy review.
- b. COVID update – Several offices in the courthouse have employees experiencing COVID, and some offices have had to close temporarily.
- c. Solid Waste – Three applicants interviewing after the holiday. All staff meeting to keep employees in the loop. Looking at closing two green box sites.
- d. Outside Meetings
- e. Budget Workshop Schedule
- f. Onward Floyd Focus Group and Event
- g. Grant update

15. Correspondence – The County Administrator drew the member's attention to the correspondence availing in the board meeting folder.

16. Adjournment – by consensus the Board moved to adjourn.

Note: The minutes are presented in the order on the agenda. The Chairman occasionally changes the order to accommodate speakers or timing issues.


Dr. Linda Millsaps
County Administrator


Joe Yurman, Chairman