

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 25, 2021**

1. Meeting called to order at 6:10 p.m. by Chairman Joe Turman, Board Room, County Administration Building.
2. Opening Prayer – led by Supervisor Coleman.
3. Pledge of Allegiance – led by Supervisor Coleman.
4. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum – Chairman Turman called the roll.
 - Supervisor Coleman – present
 - Supervisor Kuchenbuch – present
 - Supervisor Yoder – present
 - Supervisor Boothe – present
 - Supervisor Turman – present

It was determined that a quorum was present.

5. Approval of the agenda – Chairman Turman asked if anybody had changes to make to the agenda.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Boothe, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the agenda as presented.

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

6. Budget work session – Ms. Ryan explained the changes made to the FY22 draft budget since the advertisement in The Floyd Press and the Public Hearing. Changes include:
 - a. Using the Commissioner of Revenue amount for real estate taxes based on the tax rates adopted by the Board of Supervisors.
 - b. Applying the FY21 collection rate determined by the Treasurer to the FY22 real estate taxes determined by the Commissioner of Revenue.
 - c. Inputting the revenues for Compensation Board positions based on the May 1 determination of those revenues by the Compensation Board.
 - d. Making adjustments on the expenditure side; there were some salary and benefit adjustments based on the May 1 Compensation Board information.
 - e. Inputting the actual insurance costs from the proposal received from VACORP.
 - f. Inputting the increased costs for disposal of trash based on the new rates received from the New River Resource Authority.

Supervisor Yoder – I wonder if it would be appropriate to look at our tipping fees based on the increased costs to us.

- g. Inputting the actual FY22 debt costs from the amortization schedules for all debt, including the financing signed the previous week, but leaving an estimate of about \$62,000 on the shell building line of credit.
- h. The net effect of all the changes to revenue from estimates of real estate tax and Compensation Board changes is a decrease of \$16,000 in expected revenues from the amount advertised for Public Hearing.
- i. To force expenditures to match revenues, the amount going into the budget stabilization fund was reduced by \$87,000.

Chairman Turman – It says a lot for the people of Floyd County that during a pandemic the collection rate is 98.13%.

Supervisor Yoder – Do you know why the Treasurer’s amount for personal property tax is higher than what we are using in the budget?

Ms. Ryan – I do not know.

Supervisor Yoder – Do you remember what percentage of collection for real estate taxes on which we based the FY21 budget?

Ms. Ryan – I do not remember. I looked at last year’s budget work papers but could not find notes regarding that.

Dr. Linda Millsaps joined the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

The Board reviewed the items highlighted in the budget that had been marked for continued discussion and decision:

- a. On the expenditure side, if we raised our Property insurance deductible from \$250 per claim to \$500 per claim, it would result in a savings of \$1,645. The current draft budget does not reflect this potential savings.
- b. The County’s current cyber risk policy is for \$500,000 but is in a pool with other counties. If other counties had cyber risk events and were paid to the \$500,000 limit of the pool, and then Floyd County had a cyber risk event, Floyd County would not receive anything from the policy. A stand-alone policy for \$1,000,000 would cost Floyd County \$3,000 annually.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – When you talked about increasing the deductible, for which insurance coverage is that?

Ms. Ryan – The property insurance. We have had 3 claims this year and the previous two years we had zero claims. It would take having 6 claims in one year before it would be better to keep the \$250 deductible.

By consensus, the Board agreed to raise the deductible on Property to \$500 for a lower premium and to buy the lowest priced stand-alone cyber risk policy of \$1,000,000 for \$3,000.

- c. During the last budget discussion, Supervisor Yoder recommended no longer funding the Highland Conservation in the Community Service Programs.

By consensus the Board agreed to not fund the Highland Conservation Council in the FY22 budget for a savings of \$600.

- d. Virginia War Memorial is a new line item this year. The Executive Director made a request to you earlier in the year and you said you would consider the request at budget time. The \$100 contribution is to commemorate the 57 Floyd County residents listed on the memorial.

By consensus the Board agreed to leave the \$100 contribution to the Virginia War memorial in the FY22 budget.

- e. The New River Valley Rail amount is based on an estimate noted by the former County Administrator. We have not received any updated information.

The Board stated that additional information might be made available at the New River Valley Regional Commission later in the week and this line item should be tabled for the present time.

- f. The Tourism Development amount of \$35,682 is highlighted because you discussed contributing a fixed amount instead of the previous amount determined by formula.

Dr. Millsaps – I received an informal update from the Town Manager. She said the discussion by Town Council was pretty positive. The amount being discussed as the fixed amount to be contributed by both the Town Council and the Board of Supervisors is \$40,000. There is a desire to keep the current Tourism Director on long enough to have an overlap with the new person hired for that position so Ms. Sharkey could do some training. There was a motion to have the Town be the fiscal agent but they are okay with the fiscal agent not being the Town. Whoever the fiscal agent is, all costs will come out of the common pool. Our County Attorney reviewed the agreement and he made some comments on possible re-writes.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – I would love to have us fund the Renew the New River Cleanup.

Supervisor Coleman – Do you know which Community Service Programs we fund based on formula and those that are not formula based?

Ms. Ryan – I do. I also have the agency budget requests and those explain the basis of the request. In general, many of the agencies that serve the entire New River Valley are formula based and those that only serve Floyd County are not formula based.

Supervisor Yoder – What is the \$7,500 for the Economic Development Tourism used for?

Ms. Ryan – That money is used for whatever comes up during the course of the year and is not assigned to anything in particular.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – Shouldn't that line be in the Economic Development department portion of the budget?

Ms. Ryan – Ms. Lydeana Martin would have to explain how she uses that line. So far this year we have only spent \$65 out of the \$7,500 and that was for Mailchimp.

Ms. Hodge – That was for our newsletter mailing. We send out updates to the business community through Mailchimp. It is an email server that allows us to send out 500 emails at one time without stopping the system.

Ms. Ryan – I know in the past this line was used when something came up.

Dr. Millsaps – It might be separate from the other Tourism money so that it would be easily identified to the State as the extra amount you put toward Tourism.

Supervisor Yoder – Actually, I think we had that discussion. I think by going to \$40,000 we would meet or exceed the amount required to be spent on Tourism.

Discussion was held on funding the Renew the Little River Cleanup to be held on August 28.

By consensus the Board agreed to reduce the Economic Development Tourism line to \$2,000 and fund the Renew the Little River Cleanup for \$1,782.

Discussion was held about not funding Blue Ridge Heritage, but it was decided to continue funding the agency. No definite amount was determined.

7. Public Comment Period.

Chairman Turman read the handicap statement, explained that comments were limited to four minutes per speaker, and that the Board would not respond to the comments. Chairman Turman opened the public comment period.

Ms. Becky Howell, Indian Valley District – Again I would like to ask you all to use the microphones because it is very hard to hear with the masks. Thank you.

Mr. Bob Smith, Indian Valley District – I'm using the microphone. Two quick items...first I want to thank Justin Coleman for his stellar service on the Board of Supervisors representing Indian Valley. We really appreciate you. Another thing coming down the pike that has more to do with the School Board than you guys, but you need to

know about it, the State is imposing model policies for the treatment of transgender students in Virginia's public schools. I have made inquiries and I am being told that the Superintendent says we are already compliant. But my reading of this, and I haven't had the chance to delve in it very much, there are at least two places to comply with: HB 145-2020 and SB 161-2020 "local school boards shall adopt policies consistent with the model policies contained in this document." I don't see how we are being told that we are compliant when it hasn't been adopted and we are being mandated by Richmond to adopt it. A lot of people are very unhappy with this and I just wanted to get it on your periscope. Thank you so much.

Ms. Kirsten Vest, Locust Grove District – I am going to piggyback on what Bob said about this LGBTQ transgender policy that is coming down from the Virginia Department of Education. It is just a tip of the iceberg of what is coming from the Virginia Department of Education to schools all over the State. I want to read just a little bit. "When a student informs the school about their transition or requests a change to their name and gender, it is recommended that a point of contact or a multidisciplinary school team if needed meet with the student (and parents/guardians if the parents/guardians are affirming of the student's gender identity) to develop a plan to accommodate the student's needs and requests." That says to me if the student does not want their parents to know, the school will not tell the parents and can't tell the parents according to this policy. We are talking about all ages. We are not just talking about high schoolers. We are talking about even elementary school kids. It's wrong. Parents need to be informed. That is just a tiny, little piece of it. Another thing...school divisions should also initiate efforts to curate an inclusive library collection. As with many curricular choices, school divisions should involve key stakeholders in making these decisions. Guess what, I am a key stakeholder and so is everybody in this room. But the public, to my knowledge, is never informed about what decisions are made as far as books that are in the library. You have to really look hard to find. You can go on the website and you can search and you can look stuff up, but short of going book by book in the library how do you know what is really there? How do you know what is on the English reading list and the Honors English reading list? In Loudon County there were books called Murder Trending and some other book with very sexually explicit language for teenagers. I would urge you to pay attention, get informed, and there is another piece of that, go to the Virginia Department of Education website and type in the word "equity." You will be blown away by what has been developed that is coming to all schools. Now we are talking about equity which means equal outcomes supposedly. We are determining that everybody should have the same outcomes. It is not equality. It is not right. It is coming here because it will be tied to teacher licensure and school accreditation. We may say, "Oh it is not coming to Floyd County. We are not going to let that be here." It is coming. You need to pay attention. You need to read everything you can read and you need to get with the School Board. If they are in compliance with this LGBTQ, does that mean they are already not telling parents whose kids say they want to be transgender? That would be my question. As our representatives I think we need to start having conversations with each other about more than just budgets. And I would strongly encourage you to please, please, please read. Do your own research on who the consultants are they are consulting on this equity in Virginia. Don't let it happen if there is any way we can stop it from coming here, we need to stop it. Thank you.

Hearing no further comments, Chairman Turman declared the Public Comment Period closed.

11.f. Closed Session to interview residents who expressed interest in appointment under – §2.2-3711 A.1., Personnel – Interviews of prospective candidates for appointment.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to go into closed session under § 2.2-3711 A.1., Interview candidate for appointment to a position.

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

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

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

On a motion of Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Boothe, and unanimously carried it was resolved to adopt the following certification resolution:

**CERTIFICATION RESOLUTION
CLOSED MEETING**

WHEREAS, this Board convened in a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote on the motion to close the meeting to discuss § 2.2-3711 A.1., Interview for appointment of person to position, of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act;

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board that such closed meeting was conducted to the conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOVLED, that the Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were heard, discussed or considered in the closed meeting to which this certification applies; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting to which this certification applies.

Supervisor Coleman – yes

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

This certification resolution was adopted.

The Board recessed for a five minute break.

8. Approval of disbursements.

Questions and discussion followed.

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

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

9. Presentations.

a. No Constitutional Officers' were present.

10. Old Business.

a. Discuss roads to include and priorities for Six Year Secondary Road Plan.

Supervisor Coleman requested a new draft priority list from Mr. David Clarke with the finished roads removed and the remaining items moved up in priority. The item was tabled pending receiving that updated list.

11. New Business.

a. Approval of VACORP Insurance Proposal dated May 5, 2021 and selection of options for Cyber Risk, Excess General Liability, Crime, Property, Inland Marine, Automobile.

On a motion of Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Yoder, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the VACORP policy proposal but changing the Property deductible to \$500 for a savings of \$1,645 and taking out a \$1,000,000 stand-alone cyber risk policy for \$3,000 and authorizing the County Administrator to execute the policy (Document File Number 1183).

Supervisor Coleman - yes
Supervisor Yoder - yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch - yes
Supervisor Boothe - yes

Supervisor Turman – yes

- b. Approval of revenue and expenditure budget supplement in the amount of \$51,384 for Elections CARES funding received.

Ms. Ryan explained that further discussion with the County Attorney and auditor resulted in the next two motions. The Public Hearing authorized by the Board of Supervisors regarding the increased CARES funding was not necessary because of the Emergency Ordinances passed by the Board of Supervisors at the start and continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic which granted the County Administrator the ability to approve expenditures. These two motions result in the Board of Supervisors ratifying the decisions made to accept the increased CARES funding. The Board had already approved the expenditures of these funds at previous Board meetings.

A motion was made by Supervisor Boothe and seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch to approve a supplemental revenue and expenditure appropriation in the amount of \$51,384.00.

Supervisor Yoder requested that the spreadsheet of receipts and expenditures of CARES funds be made available for review before the vote.

Supervisor Boothe withdrew his motion and Supervisor Kuchenbuch withdrew her second of the motion. Ms. Ryan printed copies of the spreadsheet and distributed those to the Board members.

Dr. Millsaps – With the new American Rescue Plan funding we will not be under the same emergency powers, we will have a Public Hearing for receipt of the funds and will have a grant process going forward. At the time you took the actions on the CARES funds, it was a very different time than it is today.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – When do the emergency authorization powers end?

Ms. Ryan – You redid the ordinance every six months and it was either November or December when it was last done, so the ordinance is about to expire.

Vice Chairman Boothe – Based on where we are at I don't think we will need to renew the ordinance again unless in the next month or two there is a major reversal.

On a motion of Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve a supplemental revenue appropriation in the amount of \$51,384.00 and a supplemental expenditure appropriation in the amount of \$51,384.00 for the award of federal money from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) funding for Floyd County Elections.

Supervisor Coleman – yes

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes

Supervisor Yoder – yes

Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes

- c. Approval of revenue and expenditure budget supplement in the amount of \$1,685,520 (\$1,374,040 for regular categories and \$311,480 for broadband) for CARES funding received.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Coleman, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve a supplemental revenue appropriation in the amount of \$1,685,520.00 and a supplemental expenditure appropriation in the amount of \$1,685,520.00 for the award of federal money from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) funding for Floyd County.

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

- d. Appointment of Mr. Phillip Belcher to the Western Virginia Emergency Medical Services Council to fill a position expiring December 31, 2022.

Supervisor Yoder asked if this appointment had to be filled by a person who resided in Floyd County?

Neither Dr. Millsaps nor Ms. Ryan could answer the question.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Boothe, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to appoint Mr. Phillip Belcher to the Western Virginia EMS Council to fill a position expiring December 31, 2022, contingent upon that position not having to be filled by a Floyd County resident.

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

- e. Appointment to the Floyd County Economic Development Authority to fill a position expiring December 10, 2024.

Dr. Millsaps – You received one letter of interest from a citizen who is interested in filling this appointment, but we did not have time to schedule an interview for you with that person. I am assuming that you would like to meet that person.

By consensus the Board of Supervisors decided to table this item until the next Board meeting when they could interview the applicant.

- f. Appointment to the New River Community College Board for a four-year term beginning July 1, 2021 and expiring June 30, 2025.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to re-appoint Dr. Margaret Dewald-Link to the New River Community College Board for a four-year term beginning July 1, 2021 and expiring June 30, 2025.

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

- g. Re-appointment of Mr. John McEnhill to the New River Community Action Board for a two-year term beginning July 1, 2021 and expiring June 30, 2023.

On a motion of Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Coleman, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to re-appoint Mr. John McEnhill to the New River Community Action Board for a two-year term beginning July 1, 2021 and expiring June 30, 2023.

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

- h. Re-appointments of Mr. Cline Hall and Mr. Carl Kempa to the Uniform Statewide Building Code Local Board of Appeals each for a four-year term beginning July 1, 2021 and expiring June 30, 2025.

On a motion of Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to re-appoint Mr. Cline Hall and Mr. Carl Kempa to the Uniform Statewide Building Code Local Board of Appeals each for a four-year term beginning July 1, 2021 and expiring June 30, 2025.

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

- i. Re-appointment of Mr. John McEnhill to the Floyd County Social Services Board for a four-year term beginning July 1, 2021 and expiring June 30, 2025.

On a motion of Supervisor Coleman, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to re-appoint Mr. John McEnhill to the Floyd County Social Services Board for a four-year term beginning July 1, 2021 and expiring June 30, 2025.

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

- j. Appointment of Ms. Sarah Akers Campbell to the Virginia Action Safety Program for a one-year term beginning July 1, 2021 and expiring June 30, 2023.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Boothe, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to appoint Ms. Sarah Akers Campbell to the Virginia Action Safety Program for a one-year term beginning July 1, 2021 and expiring June 30, 2022.

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

Supervisor Yoder – Thank you Doug (Thompson, newspaper reporter with The Floyd Press) for your many years of service on this Board. I think we should all be like Mr. Thompson and when you see someone else interested in something that you have done for a long time, you step aside and let the next person assume the role. Thank you for doing that in this case.

Other Board members also expressed their appreciation to Mr. Thompson.

- k. Authorize the County Administrator to execute the contract with Department of Housing and Community Development for Community Development Block Grant housing rehabilitation project.

Dr. Millsaps – This is a project that Community Development department staff have worked on extensively. Thanks to them for all of this great work. This is to authorize me to execute that contract. This contract has the standard language found in all Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Community Development Block (CDBG) grants.

On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the DHCD CDBG housing rehabilitation contract and to authorize the County Administrator to sign the contract (Document File Number 1184).

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

l. Discuss uses of American Rescue Plan Act funding.

Dr. Millsaps – The interim guidance is out and it is 151 pages. A copy is in my office and marked up extensively. The uses of the funds appear to be more limited than we had originally hoped. There is potentially some opportunity for several things like those done before, such as continued assistance for those who have been impacted by COVID. One of the commonalities for everything except the infrastructure pieces is strong language about needing to show connection to COVID with economic impact or health impact. They even have some language related to not forecasting that there might be some problems but to draw a strong link between whatever you are proposing and COVID and the negative health and economic effects of that. I have started the process to put us on a list to draw that money down. One of the things that is a little bit different this time is that the money does not go through the State. It is supposed to come straight from the Treasury. The Town's money will also go to them directly, which is a change. The amount available to Floyd County is approximately \$3.1 million. My understanding is that the amount available to the Town is around \$400,000. Because you may hear that some of the funds can be spent on things like affordable housing and some other items, while that is allowed, most of that is tied to us having a qualified census tract or census tracts. This means having a high poverty or high minority population in the County. Floyd does not have any census tracts that qualify at this point. This means we have to stay by the main rules. I would note that the infrastructure piece includes water, sewer, and broadband opportunities. It can be used for things related to clean water, recognizing the link to public health so the link to COVID is not quite as tight as it appears. The public health reason for broadband is so folks will have the opportunity to telework, teleschool, and make sure those things are available. This is a temporary, interim rule. There will be a permanent rule. There continues to be a series of webinars from the advocacy groups as we move forward. I talked to our County Attorney today. They have a working group in Sands Anderson who is trying to see how this can best be utilized effectively and appropriately by their clients. He will report to us when they finish their work. The first half of the funds should be available to us shortly and the other half available in a year. If we had a qualifying census tract the money could be drawn down more quickly. The Town Manager and I have talked to make sure we have a common understanding between the County and the Town about what is allowed and not allowed. At our last meeting I suggested that we look at putting together a brief grant application that agencies, including County departments, would be able to fill out to draw that direct line between COVID economic and/or health impact and this funding to assist in the audit process. I think everything that happened before was perfectly appropriate, but we have learned that it would be easier to have some of that paperwork upfront.

Supervisor Coleman – May we have a copy of that grant application before it is made available to agencies?

Dr. Millsaps – Yes.

m. County Administrator's Report.

➤ Green Box/Solid Waste Updates

- Meeting with Game Warden
- Posters
- No issues letter

Dr. Millsaps – As you requested we checked on the bear resistant green boxes. They are a little bit pricier, but should be a little bit better. We will give them a shot. In addition to that today we put up some posters at sites where we continue to have the most challenges.

The things the public can do to assist are:

- 1) close the boxes because no box is bear resistant when it is open;
- 2) stop feeding the bears on purpose which makes a dangerous situation for our staff and County residents;
- 3) the Game Warden will check more often on our 8 to 10 green box sites that are frequent bear havens;
- 4) the Biologist will be calling us next week with her suggestions;
- 5) if the problems don't subside then we will have to give some thought to pulling boxes for the safety of citizens and staff.

Supervisor Yoder – Daily I get calls from residents who have had encounters with bears at the Lick Ridge Road site. I think we are already at the point where those boxes need to be pulled, even if it is just for 2 or 3 months. We could put them back after the bears find somewhere else to eat.

Supervisor Coleman – We need to advertise that the site will be closed at least 30 days prior to the boxes being pulled.

Board members discussed the challenges of addressing bear problems at various sites in Floyd County.

Dr. Millsaps – At the last meeting you authorized me to move forward with fencing at Indian Valley. We checked with Montgomery County Public Schools about their cooperative purchasing agreement. We also contacted their fence contractor. They were \$3,000 more than the previous bid we received. It would be \$4,000 more if we waited another 30 days. The original bidder was kind enough to agree to complete the work for us by the end of June.

Supervisor Coleman – That site has become a recreation area for people spinning their tires. As soon as the site is ready, the green boxes need to be placed.

Dr. Millsaps – We will do that. We contracted for fencing on 3 sides because of the wind.

Supervisor Coleman – I appreciate the diligence. It is in the best interests of the neighbors if we wait until the fencing is up before we place the green boxes. Do you remember the height of the fences?

Dr. Millsaps – No. I will have to check. I have one other piece of good news related to Solid Waste. We received a “no issues” letter from the Department of Environmental Quality about the Transfer Station. Virginia OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) found some issues which were primarily cleaning out the sink and things like that...very minor, but we will take care of them by the end of the week.

Vice Chairman Boothe – I heard from a citizen who is concerned about dumpsters being cleaned out at 3:00 a.m. next to their home. I knew our guys were getting out early, but I didn’t realize it was quite that early. I know they can’t zigzag between locations, but if they are starting that early, they need to pick up at locations that are not near someone’s home.

Dr. Millsaps – I asked the Solid Waste Superintendent and his assistant to put together a detailed schedule as to when they are where. You are right. One of the gentlemen is out at 2:30 a.m. and runs until 11:00 a.m.

Supervisor Coleman – How is the altered schedule working out? Is that still being published?

Dr. Millsaps – It is still being published. We are still getting only a couple of people per evening and on Saturday. I did tell Solid Waste that only one person needed to be there during those times to make it a little easier. I have started the application to make those hours permanent if you want to do that. At one time we thought our Recycling numbers were going to be low, but they actually turned out to be very good at 22.6%. Between that and the change in hours, I put together a flyer that I gave to Dr. Wheeler to encourage students to take home. They are doing lesson plans right before school is out to teach their parents to recycle and what can be taken to the Transfer Station and what the hours are.

➤ Other items

Dr. Millsaps – I met with the Registrar and we have the opportunity to participate in a cyber navigation pilot program that will be offered through Virginia Tech. They are doing a summer training program around elections security and cyber security. One of the people teaching is looking for communities that might be willing to let some of their students come and help us and work on manuals. It is very preliminary so I don’t have anything formal to bring to you, but I wanted to make you aware of it. We will see what it turns out to be.

➤ Tourism Agreement

Dr. Millsaps – This was discussed on Thursday evening. Ms. Kayla Cox, Town Manager, and I worked diligently on that. The Town Council went through it and generally had a positive response. There were a couple of things that we probably still need to clarify. But generally they want to move forward. I received

suggestions from the County Attorney this afternoon. Most of the suggestions were not of substance. They are primarily questions about needing to clarify parts. The piece that we left open how to get in and out of the agreement. The County Attorney has that it will be a two-year agreement, but people can terminate with so many months' notice. The number of months was left open for discussion, but it would not be hours or days. Ms. Pat Sharkey, current Tourism Director, Ms. Cox, and I met last week and started working on a draft posting and position description as requested by the Tourism Development Council. I have prepared a draft from my notes and have it ready to send to Ms. Sharkey and Ms. Cox to review and make sure it is representative of what we said. Once I hear back from them, I will send it to you. We have good common thinking about what that role needs to be. To me it is critical that we are aligned on that.

Vice Chairman Boothe – Do you know when that position will be open?

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – Our current Tourism Director has stated that she is willing to work at least through the month of July and possibly into August if necessary.

Vice Chairman Boothe – Do you think you will be able to get this to us before the next day meeting?

Dr. Millsaps – Sure.

Vice Chairman Boothe – To meet deadlines, we have to make a decision and they will too, a final decision.

Dr. Millsaps – Yes, Mr. Durbin was just able to send his suggestions today. Most of them are around the specific language of termination. One of the other items under discussion in the Town conversation was that both of you want to have a flat contribution amount. There was also some discussion about wanting to make sure we have an opportunity to try the agreement and make sure it is right, and then let it sit for a while. There is the final item you need to work through. But those were the primary items. In addition to our position being open, two other counties in our region will also be looking for people in that role. One might be looking for the same type of employee as we will be but the other is looking for something different. That is why I tried to be as engaging in my posting as possible. I will get that to you as soon as Ms. Sharkey and Ms. Cox have a chance to review it.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – Mr. Chairman, would it be appropriate to hold a special meeting next week to discuss this and the budget?

Dr. Millsaps – Mr. Chairman, we also have one other economic development related item that we would like to take up next week.

The Board discussed a date the following week that would work for each of them to meet. By consensus they decided Wednesday, June 2 at 8:30 a.m. would work for a meeting to discuss budget, tourism, and economic development.

➤ Ideas to improve recruiting efforts for Emergency Medical Services

Dr. Millsaps – We continue to have scheduling issues with Emergency Medical Services and staffing concerns around that. I know you addressed that a couple of years ago. I will be meeting with Mr. Belcher, Mr. Demers, and Mr. Sowers, and we will bring back some different solutions to you. My suspicion is that some of the solutions may not be entirely traditional. I want to let you know that we might be going down a slightly different path depending on what everyone comes up with. This is the schedule for the month of June. The pink spaces are the ones that need to be filled. We are going to try to do some data analysis on the types of calls. I know you approached it before and what you did worked for a while, but it continues to be an issue.

Supervisor Yoder – We brought up with the School in the past, and it may be time to bring up again as part of their revamp, that they offer an EMS class to allow kids to learn that skill. That might help solve some of our problems if we had more people trained when they came out of high school.

Dr. Millsaps – That is an excellent idea. Those are the types of thing that we probably will start looking at. Some of the challenges are clearly that 70% to 72% of our population leaves the County to work, which means they are not around during the day to be available to answer calls. Because of their commute they may not be as willing to volunteer in the evening. Also the pay scale in some of the surrounding counties is higher and continues to move up. You also have a couple of private sector organizations that pay people to get those credentials. There are a lot of challenges we are facing. I just wanted to get this on your radar that we will be trying to bring some new ideas to you.

➤ Artwork for the County Administration Building

Dr. Millsaps – 4-H had a photography contest in the past couple of weeks. There were a number of wonderful submissions from all three age groups. I talked to the 4-H folks and they would be thrilled if we would like to take some of the photographs and have them handled professionally and put them up here. That will require some cost. Dr. Millsaps showed the Board the senior winning picture. We would like some funding to have the photos blown up and framed nicely and displayed here. I think artwork from our community children would be a good replacement for aging pictures of the beach. As new photos become available through the years, we can rotate them through.

Supervisor Yoder – It would be great if you could tie this into the high school art display.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – I would love to see those students recognized here and let them see how their pictures are displayed. That can create a lifelong interest or propel someone into a career.

12. Board Member Time.

Supervisor Coleman – If you have any information on the items we will be discussing next Wednesday, please send it to us beforehand so we can ponder on it. Also, I would like to request information on which of the Community Service Programs are formula funded and which are not. Ms. Ryan said there were some major budget items left and I want to have time to think about those.

Ms. Ryan – The major item which is highlighted in two places, one under County Administrator Computer supplies and technical support and also Maintenance Computer technology. If you add the two amounts together it equals the amount we are currently paying the computer support company. We separated it into two different areas in case we wanted to try a different approach in the future. That was the major item on the budget left to talk about – how do we want to approach how we handle computer services?

Dr. Millsaps – We have had the same information technology (IT) vendor since the ransomware attack. They have been helpful to us, but we don't have anyone in house. Part of the staff thinking is that we have reached a point where our recommendation as we move forward is to have internal staffing. We need to do it in a manner to make sure that everything stays secure and we don't repeat that experience. That is where we are starting to think about where we are going. In addition, if we have IT staff available to us all the time, then we would be able to look at ways to better use technology to improve staff efficiency and workflow to make better use of the time and expertise of our staff. It would allow us to keep up with data and report more to you. That is part of what we would hope to get out of that person, some expertise to help us with that kind of work.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – I am completely behind having an in house staff person. I was in favor of that many, many months ago. I am glad staff have come to you and said those same things. I appreciate that you are looking at the money and putting it in the right categories.

Supervisor Yoder – Just to be sure I understand...the money that got moved to County Administrator is that for future hiring?

Ms. Ryan – The amount under County Administrator was what we were thinking of for the future hiring.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – The other line is in Maintenance?

Ms. Ryan – Yes. If we hire somebody on staff we are thinking they would handle setting up email accounts, doing a lot of the work that Ms. Hodge has kindly helped us with, but

is keeping her from doing her normal job. We would still need outside assistance for cyber security.

Supervisor Yoder – I have heard from Constitutional Officers it would be nice to have someone when they need help who could come instead of scheduling assistance at some future date. I think someone on staff would be very beneficial and not just for our office, but for the whole system.

Dr. Millsaps – I also need to alert you about the Access Community College Education (ACCE) program, which assists residents and their children with getting their children to be able to afford to go to the local community college. Chairman Turman was involved in getting that going for us. In other counties that are part of the community college system who have a similar program, the program is subsidized by the county. We have been fortunate that our program has been heavily subsidized by the Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission (TRRC). We have been advised that the amount of support from the Tobacco Commission for this effort may go down. There have already been discussions along those lines. Ms. Angie Covey at NRCC who handles the program came and alerted us to that. Our primary representative has been advocating for us. Some of the cutbacks put on the table have been put back part way. I think people who are in the program can continue, but going forward you might have to consider funding ACCE as part of your budget discussions if you want to continue the program. We are hopeful that it will not be a big impact this fiscal year, but it could have some impact this fiscal year and could have a greater fiscal impact in following years.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – I will see our NRCC representative on Thursday night and I will bring this up to her. It would be sad if the TRRC put too many restrictions in allowing students to attend. Some of the students here in Floyd County are the first in their families to attend college. College may not be for everyone, but two years of college can help a student develop a career for life. I can't think of a better way for Tobacco Commission funds to be spent than educating our children and not putting financial burdens on them at the time they are earning a degree. I hope the Tobacco Commission reconsiders. I will do everything in my power as a Supervisor to see that program is funded.

Supervisor Yoder – Could you please see what we charge contractors in tipping fees? We may need to pass the increased costs on.

Vice Chairman Boothe – We may need to look at the Solid Waste ordinance and the section about raising fees.

13. Adjournment

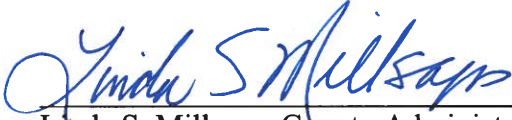
On a motion of Supervisor Yoder, seconded by Supervisor Coleman, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn the meeting to June 2, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

Supervisor Coleman – yes

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes

Supervisor Yoder – yes

Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes



Linda S. Millsaps, County Administrator



Joe D. Turman, Chairman, Board of Supervisors