

April 22, 2014

County of Greene, Virginia

THE GREENE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MET ON TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2014, BEGINNING AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER AT WILLIAM MONROE HIGH SCHOOL.

Present were:            Jim Frydl, Chairman  
                              David Cox, Vice Chairman  
                              Eddie Deane, Member  
                              Davis Lamb, Member  
                              Bill Martin, Member  
                              John C. Barkley, County Administrator  
                              Ray Clarke, County Attorney  
                              Patti Vogt, Deputy Clerk  
                              Tracy Morris, Finance Director

RE: OPEN MEETING

The Chairman opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence in memory of Joann Conley.

RE: PUBLIC HEARING – BUDGET

Mr. John Barkley, County Administrator, said the budget serves as a guide for the County's expenditures and revenue during the course of the fiscal year. The proposed budget has been developed and refined with conservative estimates for overall economic growth based on leading economic indicators and the condition of the local/national economy. He briefly reviewed the budget process and noted the Board of Supervisors will take action on the budget at the May 13, 2014 meeting. The tax levies will be approved tonight.

Budget priorities include:

- Continued funding and support of County schools, law enforcement, emergency services, community and economic development, recreation programs and public parks, fire and rescue organizations, social services and environmental protection.
- Greater administrative efficiency and a renewed investment in current County personnel, boards and commission.
- Funding continues in support of local and regional partners.
- Continued focus on effective service and program delivery to County taxpayers and visitors.
- Staff will strive to utilize technology to provide improved interactive, web-based information and services to residents, visitors and businesses.
- Continued commitment to improved enforcement of current County regulations.

The total County budget is proposed to increase 5.9%. General government budget will increase 5.2%. The County's School fund component will increase 6.8%. County debt service increases 2.2% and County law enforcement/protection funding will increase 1.4%.

Total assessed valuation County-wide is anticipated to increase 1 – 2% from 2014-2015. Property tax rate is proposed to remain level at \$0.72 per hundred dollars of assessed value. Personal property tax (car tax) remains \$5.00 per hundred dollars of assessed value. All other County taxes and fees remain level with no increases proposed.

The proposed budget reflects a conservative, accountable Greene County government "culture". The County will:

- Pursue revenue enhancement opportunities through consumer and tourism based taxes and fees.
- Utilize Federal, State, and local grant opportunities.
- Improve core County infrastructure and technology.
- Enhance water and sewer quality and capacity.
- Foster sustainable economic development and environmental protection practices.
- Renew focus on customer service and ordinance enforcement.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comment.

Rebecca Merritt Baynes, stay-at-home Mom to three – Moved to Greene five years ago when husband accepted job at NGIC. Chose Greene because they believed school system was up and coming. Volunteers at GCPS and has witnessed firsthand how much is expected of teachers. She is bothered greatly when best, brightest and most experienced teachers are lost because of higher salary in neighboring county. Present to show support for schools and hopes eventually we can provide competitive pay for teachers.

Leah Paladino, Midway District representative on School Board – Appreciates interest taken in understanding needs of schools and joint participation in budget workshop. Great opportunity to share information and work towards common goals and foster spirit of cooperation. Current budget is strictly needs based/zero based. Budget is what is needed to accomplish mission next year, no more, no less. School budget is focused on stabilization and recovery with a dash of hope for progress. Efforts are mainly focused on greatest asset, teaching staff. Since 2009 enrollment has increased 10% and staff has been reduced by 6%. During this time, staff received one 3% raise. Time to look forward, not back. Quality schools attract businesses and homebuyers. She supports efforts to make Greene a thriving, prosperous community.

Kiki Flaig – Appreciates fact that members all are willing to take time to do this job. She advocates fully funding school's request. School is doing good job of being frugal and sensible. Hopes to continue moving forward. Quality schools have great impact on everyone in Greene.

Sharon Mack, School Board Chair – Thanks to Board of Supervisors for working hard on budget. The School budget is needs based/zero based. Pleased with interaction with BOS and openness, transparency, cooperation. Optimizing is ongoing, continuous process.

William Shifflett – In response to comment that the budget serves as a guide for the County, this is not the case for citizens. He would like the budget to be taken a little more seriously. Talking about people who have been through extremely hard times. Reality is, most people are working harder and longer, making less money and in the end paying more taxes. County will soon find itself in "leaky bucket" syndrome. Citizens have had enough. Hears comparison to neighboring counties. Greene does not have resources Albemarle has. Stop this

comparison. What has been accomplished this year? No reduction in costs, no efficiencies, no advancement in technology. Would appreciate you listening and responding to customers. When you find yourself in hole, stop digging. Board actions have been directly in alignment with federal spending. Until we get other revenue streams, we have to cut costs. Board has tough job but to “go along to get along” is not going to get us where we need to be.

Tina Andrews – Agreed that these are tough economic times. Good points made by previous speakers. What is important to her is that children are getting education they need. She volunteers at schools and sees how hard teachers work and how little they have to work with. Understands about having to make-do to get by.

The public hearing was closed.

Mr. Martin said he appreciates comments from citizens and the constructive approach by schools. The advertised budget includes level local funding for schools. He was glad Richmond finally was able to “pony up” and help situation with schools this year. All departments go through the same process and presented very realistic budgets with no fat or frills. County has challenges to face. He recognizes need for education for children, public safety concerns, law enforcement, fire and rescue. Those cost money and we have to find a way to do it. The County must also deal with State mandates, jail system costs, VRS increases, land purchases for water impoundment, etc. Need water to have new houses and business growth. Mr. Martin felt debt, \$2 to \$2.5 million, each year is killing us. Revenue projections for water and sewer infrastructure did not work out. The economy and times have changed and this has to be dealt with. The Board is looking at some good ideas about restructuring debt. The County Administrator is working with the Board to get through this. The EDA Director is working on finding new income streams. Mr. Martin said he supports the budget and tax rates as advertised.

Mr. Deane agreed with the “go along to get along” comment. We feel like we are entitled and before long entitlement will sink us. He said he is concerned about the future of Greene County funds. The Board is here to be good stewards of money for citizens. Schools are the biggest employer in County and needs to be focused on. The School Board chose to give increase in raise using additional funding from State. Mr. Deane said he trusts that money will be there again next year because if not, the County will have to dig a deeper hole. He is not against schools but against wasteful spending. He felt this is a conservative budget and expressed concern about debt. The water impoundment project will be another \$40 million. Mr. Deane said he is trying to make the right decision to reach a balance where citizens and children won't suffer. He felt the Board must be vigilant about decisions regarding spending. The County needs more businesses. Mr. Deane said that while he supports the advertised budget and tax levies he does so with nervousness.

Mr. Lamb agreed with statements made by Mr. Martin and Mr. Deane. The County needs water impoundment to get industry to build the tax base. Mr. Lamb said he is not against education which he feels starts at home. He wants the best possible for all children. We're all in this together and it is a balancing act so everyone will be happy.

Mr. Cox thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He also expressed his appreciation to the School Board and staff for their cooperation in working with the Board of Supervisors this year. He noted the Sheriff's Department is showing a conservative attitude. Mr. Cox agreed with previous comments and supports this fair and conservative budget.

Mr. Frydl felt the Schools information was presented in a manner that was much easier to understand. He agreed that now is not the time to consider raising taxes. We need to take a

hard look on administrative level to see what can be found to get through hard economic times. Schools are the largest part of County budget as is the case in most counties. Teacher salaries have fallen to the lowest in region. The School Board was able to address that this year.

Mr. Frydl agreed that debt is concerning but the County's debt level is well below the recommended threshold. The County is not in a danger area but has to be mindful of the future and any new obligations. It is not necessarily the wisest choice for county government to pay cash for projects. County staff does a really fine job of being frugal with every penny in the budget which is proven when budgets are underspent.

The Board will take action on the budget at the May 13, 2014 meeting.

RE: TAX LEVIES

Mr. Frydl reviewed the tax levies as proposed.

Upon motion by David Cox and unanimous vote, the Board approved the following tax levies for FY 2014-2015:

Levies on \$100 assessed valuation:

Real Estate	\$0.72
Public Service Corp.	\$0.72
Personal Property	\$5.00
Except Farm Machinery & Livestock	\$0.00
Industrial Machinery & Tools	\$2.50

Recorded vote:	Jim Frydl	-	Yes
	David Cox	-	Yes
	Eddie Deane	-	Yes
	Davis Lamb	-	Yes
	Bill Martin	-	Yes

Motion carried.

RE: PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF RESOLUTION

Mr. Frydl reviewed the proposed resolution to set the percentage of tax relief for FY 2014-2015 as authorized by the Personal Property Tax Relief Act of 1998 as amended by the 2005 Appropriations Act.

Upon motion by David Cox and unanimous vote, the Board approved the resolution as proposed. (See Attachment "A")

Recorded vote:	Jim Frydl	-	Yes
	David Cox	-	Yes
	Eddie Deane	-	Yes
	Davis Lamb	-	Yes
	Bill Martin	-	Yes

Motion carried.

RE: RESOLUTION TO URGE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ADOPT BIENNAL BUDGET

Mr. Frydl said two resolutions were included in the information packet. One presented by Mr. Ed Yensho at an earlier meeting and the other from the Virginia Association of Counties.

Mr. Yensho's proposed resolution includes a statement that Medicaid expansion should be decoupled from budget negotiations.

Mr. Lamb was not in favor of the resolution including the statement regarding Medicaid expansion. He felt this was a political statement and did not want to tell the General Assembly what they should do as he doesn't want them telling us what to do.

Mr. Deane disagreed with Mr. Lamb noting Board members are politicians and all of this is political. He felt the Affordable Care Act should be taken into consideration.

Mr. Martin agreed with Mr. Lamb saying Board members are politicians at local level but he believes this is a State and national issue when talking about Medicaid expansion. He would not support either resolution.

Mr. Cox agreed that the County should not get involved with Medicaid expansion issue. He would support the VACO version.

Mr. Frydl suggested both resolutions be ignored. Board members are local politicians and as such are tasked with specific duties in Greene County for the County. The Board does not have authority over the General Assembly or the federal government. Medicaid expansion is not county business. He did not want to pursue either resolution.

Mr. Deane said it's all about money. Greene County is small and can't control the State and Federal governments but sometimes things go from the bottom up. He felt the Board is responsible because of the money involved.

Mr. Lamb agreed with Mr. Frydl and encouraged citizens to contact their representatives regarding issues.

Upon motion by David Cox and affirmative vote, the Board declined to take action on either resolution presented.

Recorded vote:	Jim Frydl	-	Yes
	David Cox	-	Yes
	Eddie Deane	-	No
	Davis Lamb	-	Yes
	Bill Martin	-	Yes

Motion carried.

RE: CONSENT AGENDA

Upon motion by David Cox and unanimous vote, the Board approved the following items on the consent agenda:

- a. Minutes of March 22, 2014 meeting.
- b. Resolution to accept and appropriate \$2,476 in grant funds from the Department of Justice for the Sheriff's Department. (Attachment "B")
- c. Resolution to accept and appropriate \$404.82 from the Department of Motor Vehicles for the Animal Control Department to be used for the sterilization program for dogs and cats. (Attachment "C")
- d. Resolution to accept and appropriate \$4,203 in Fire Program Funds. (Attachment "D")
- e. Resolution to accept and appropriate \$41,400 in Fire Program Funds. (Attachment "E")
- f. Request for authorization to apply for grants from the Department of Criminal Justice Services for the Victim Witness program.

Recorded vote:	Jim Frydl	-	Yes
	David Cox	-	Yes
	Eddie Deane	-	Yes
	Davis Lamb	-	Yes
	Bill Martin	-	Yes

Motion carried.

RE: OTHER MATTERS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Frydl said a business owner brought it to his attention that Greene County is actually not business friendly and this is disturbing to him. He felt the County has strived to be business friendly and in doing so has given extra help to people who didn't understand or chose not to follow rules/ordinances. The County has been rewarding people that choose not to follow the rules, which in essence punishes those who do. It seems some people choose to ignore regulations because they feel nothing is going to happen.

Mr. Frydl suggested the Board encourage staff to give people a fair chance with a strict deadline. If no effort is made to comply with ordinances and regulations, then that person should suffer the consequence of their actions. It is a matter of political will of the Board to allow staff to move forward in a reasonable way and in a way that allows for people to come into compliance.

Mr. Deane reiterated his earlier comments that he feels the Board should send a message to Richmond. We count even though Greene County is small.

RE: ADJOURN MEETING

The meeting ended at 9:00 p.m. The next scheduled meeting of the Board will be on Tuesday, May 13, 2014 in the County Meeting Room.

  
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Jim Frydl, Chairman  
Greene County Board of Supervisors

## RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, the Personal Property Tax Relief Act of 1998, VA Code Section 58.1-3523 et. seq. ("PPTRA"), has been substantially modified by the enactment of Chapter 1 of the Acts of Assembly, 2004 Special Session I (Senate Bill 5005), and the provisions of Item 503 of Chapter 951 of the 2005 Acts of Assembly (the 2005 revisions to the 2004-06 Appropriations Act, hereinafter cited as the "2005 Appropriations Act"); and

**WHEREAS**, these legislative enactments require the County to take affirmative steps to implement these changes, and to provide for the computation and allocation of relief provided pursuant to the PPTRA as revised; and

**WHEREAS**, these legislative enactments provide for the appropriation to the County, of a fixed sum to be used exclusively for the provision of tax relief to owners of qualifying personal use vehicles that are subject to the personal property tax on such vehicles.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Greene County Board of Supervisors that:

qualifying vehicles obtaining situs within the County during tax year 2014, shall receive personal property tax relief in the following manner:

- Personal use vehicles valued at \$1,000 or less will be eligible for 100% tax relief;
- Personal use vehicles valued at \$1,001 to \$20,000 will be eligible for 52% tax relief;
- Personal use vehicles valued at \$20,001 or more shall only receive 52% tax relief on the first \$20,000 of value; and
- All other vehicles which do not meet the definition of "qualifying" (business use vehicles, farm use vehicles, motor homes, etc.) will not be eligible for any form of tax relief under this program.
- In accordance with Item 503.D.1, the entitlement to personal property tax relief for qualifying vehicles for tax year 2005 and all prior tax years shall expire on September 1, 2006. Supplemental assessments for tax years 2005 and prior that are made on or after September 1, 2006 shall be deemed "non-qualifying" for purposes of state tax relief and the local share due from the taxpayer shall represent 100% of the tax assessable.

Adopted in Open Meeting this 22<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2014.

  
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Jim Frydl, Chairman  
Greene County Board of Supervisors

**RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE  
TWO THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED SEVENTY-SIX DOLLARS  
FOR BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT**

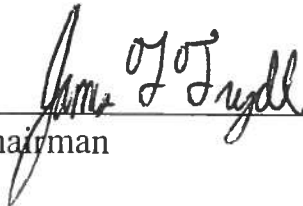
WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Department has received funding from the Department of Justice; and

WHEREAS, the funds in the amount of two thousand four hundred seventy-six dollars (\$2,476.00) need to be appropriated to the appropriate line item in the 2013-2014 budget of the County of Greene, Virginia.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Greene, Virginia that two thousand four hundred seventy-six dollars (\$2,476.00) be appropriated to the 2013-2014 budget of the County of Greene.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator of the County of Greene, Virginia is authorized to make the appropriate accounting adjustments in the budget to do all things necessary to give this resolution effect.

Adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2014.

  
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Chairman

  
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John C. Barkley, Clerk



**RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE  
FOUR HUNDRED FOUR DOLLARS AND EIGHT-TWO CENT FOR  
THE STERILIZATION PROGRAM FOR CATS & DOGS**

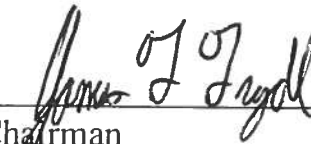
WHEREAS, the Animal Control Department for the County of Greene has received funding from the Department of Motor Vehicles for a sterilization program for cats & dogs; and


WHEREAS, the funds in the amount of four hundred four dollars and eighty-two cent (\$404.82) need to be appropriated to the appropriate line item in the 2013-2014 budget of the County of Greene, Virginia.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Greene, Virginia that four hundred four dollars and eighty-two cent (\$404.82) be appropriated to the 2013-2014 budget of the County of Greene.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator of the County of Greene, Virginia is authorized to make the appropriate accounting adjustments in the budget to do all things necessary to give this resolution effect.

Adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2014.

  
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Chairman

  
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John C. Barkley, Clerk

**RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE FOUR  
THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED THREE DOLLARS FROM THE  
STATE GOVERNMENT FOR FIRE PROGRAM FUNDS**

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Greene, Virginia has received funding from the State Government for expenses; and,

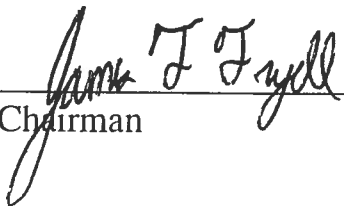
WHEREAS, the following funds in the amount of four thousand two hundred three dollars (\$4,203.00) need to be accepted and appropriated to the 2013-14 Operating Budget of the County of Greene, Virginia.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Greene, Virginia that the amount of four thousand two hundred three dollars (\$4,203.00) to be received from the above program be accepted and appropriated to the appropriate line items in the 2013-14 Operating Budget of the County of Greene, Virginia.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator of the County of Greene, Virginia is authorized to make the appropriate accounting adjustments in the budget and to do all things necessary to give this resolution effect.

Adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2014.

  
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John C. Barkley, Clerk

  
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Chairman

**RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE FORTY-ONE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS FROM THE STATE GOVERNMENT FOR CARRYOVER PROGRAMS**

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Greene, Virginia has received grant funding; and,


WHEREAS, the following funds in the amount of forty-one thousand four hundred dollars (\$41,400.00) need to be accepted and appropriated to the 2013-14 Operating Budget of the County of Greene, Virginia:

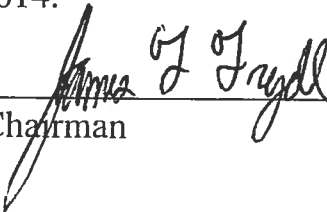
<u>Grant</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Fire Program Funds	\$41,400.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Greene, Virginia that the amount of forty-one thousand four hundred dollars (\$41,400.00) to be received from the above program be accepted and appropriated to the appropriate line items in the 2013-14 Operating Budget of the County of Greene, Virginia.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator of the County of Greene, Virginia is authorized to make the appropriate accounting adjustments in the budget and to do all things necessary to give this resolution effect.

Adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2014.

  
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John C. Barkley, Clerk

  
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Chairman