

September 22, 2015

County of Greene, Virginia

THE GREENE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MET ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2015, AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE COUNTY MEETING ROOM.

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

RE: EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion by Eddie Deane and unanimous vote, the Board entered into Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 Subsection (a, 1-7) of the Code of Virginia.

1) PERSONNEL MATTERS

Virginia Code Reference

2.2-3711 A.1: 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.

2) LEGAL

Virginia Code Reference

2.2-3711 A.7: Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

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

Motion carried.

Upon motion by Davis Lamb and unanimous vote, the Board returned to Open Session.

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

Motion carried.

By unanimous vote, all members certified that only public business matters lawfully exempted from the Open Meeting requirement and only such matters as identified by the motion to enter into Executive Session were discussed.

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

Motion carried.

RE: PUBLIC MEETING

The Chairman opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

RE: BUDGET

Mr. Cox noted the figures being reviewed are not reconciled. He also said he would like to discuss an emergency services vehicle replacement program.

Mr. Barkley said thanks to Mrs. Morris, Finance Director/Deputy County Administrator, for putting reports together. The big picture looks good. Figures are preliminary but indicate departments have done a good job managing County operations in an efficient manner. Revenue appears to exceed budget estimates in many categories. Taxpayer dollars are still subsidizing payments for water and sewer infrastructure. County needs to continue moving towards a more sustainable water and sewer financial system.

Budget priorities for FY 2017 include:

- Water resources and reservoir impoundment
- Central VA Regional Jail facility expansion/staffing
- EMS contract
- Capital projects
- Vehicle replacement program for fire and rescue
- Public safety radio communications
- Broadband expansion
- School facility expansion and vehicles
- Small business growth incentives
- Public safety initiatives
- Road improvements and construction
- Updates to GIS mapping software
- Personnel and program cuts

Participating in regional initiative through TJPDC regarding equalized taxing authority. Look at fees charged for services to see if covering costs.

In response to a question by Mr. Lamb, Mrs. Tracy Morris said approximately \$346,000 has been collected thru revenue recovery.

Mr. Barkley said the audit will be completed in November prior to the State deadline. Mr. Martin asked for a timeline for the budget process for this year. He also felt a discussion about the reserve policy would be beneficial for both Board members and citizens. Mr. Martin said he hoped there is a way to share more information with the public sooner. (scanning, sharing electronically) He felt it is good to start early.

Mr. Lamb said he contacted the Treasurer and the cash and investment accounts were reconciled while the checking account was not. The balance as of July 30 was \$12,328,586.52. Of that amount \$384,113.33 is restricted, leaving a balance of \$11,944,473.19. Mr. Lamb said \$4 million was drawn from reserve for the budget this year. Budget has definitely got to be cut. If we continue to draw from the reserve, at some point there will not be anything left.

Mr. Deane asked if the discussion would include a review of the amount or percentage of reserve.

Mr. Martin said he wants to make sure the members of the Board and the public understand the reserve policy. That may just be changing the wording.

Mr. Deane said \$11 million is below the reserve policy. He said he would not want to cut jobs but feels some areas are overstaffed. Mr. Deane said he supports Parks and Rec Department when we're out of the recession. He agreed with Mr. Lamb that if budgeted amounts are spent, the County will be almost \$4 million below the reserve policy next year.

Mr. Frydl echoed what Mr. Martin and Mr. Deane said and felt it is proven because the reserve policy is not understood. The previous Board had multiple discussions. A cash policy and cash balance is a portion of the reserve but it's not the reserve balance. The reserve is an accounting formula based on the audit. It is a year-end snap shot that includes assets and cash, etc. If the level is above the minimum recommended by accountants then cash flow is protected and the County has the opportunity to respond to contingencies. That's the whole purpose for a minimum reserve. Any money the Board keeps above and beyond the minimum reserve is money taken from taxpayer pockets and put in bank account to hold so we feel better.

The second half that the Board has not taken time to look at is what amount, if any, do we keep above the minimum for safety. We have large projects such as the jail budget and water impoundment. How much do we want to keep to be able to respond to those needs that can be transferred from general fund to capital account? Mr. Frydl said the Board developed a very large reserve which was close to 30% at one time. Did this for the purpose and with knowledge of water impoundment project and that collected fees from sale of edus were running out. Since then, we have been paying \$2 million per year to cover cost of existing infrastructure. The reserve has gone down but the main purpose of building it was to fund water and sewer infrastructure. Mr. Frydl felt it would be irresponsible to keep a large amount of taxpayer money for no stated reason.

Mr. Frydl said estimates vs. reality figures for the last budget cycle indicate the County has collected 5% less revenue than expected. Mr. Barkley and Mrs. Morris are to be commended for controls in place as departments have spent about 15% less than budgeted. This shows amount of diligence staff is putting forward and they deserve to be commended for that.

Mr. Frydl said the focus needs to be on the \$2 million in debt service for water and sewer infrastructure. The jail budget is another \$1 million off the top. A fleet replacement program is a great idea and worthwhile investment. Radios are a big safety issue. Mr. Frydl suggested the Board look at ways to improve on efficiency with support from Mrs. Morris and Mr. Barkley. Possible to begin with smaller numbers and smaller estimates too. He said he would probably pick radios over fleet replacement if he had to choose this particular year.

Mr. Lamb said drawing from the reserve is borrowing from the future. He does not know that the County will be able to borrow money for impoundment because we are not bond rated. Mr. Frydl said the County has never had a bond rating and has borrowed millions for projects in the past. Mr. Lamb said water impoundment is going to be \$40 million and the County needs to save for capital projects. Can't say we'll pay for it with the future. Mr. Frydl said the Board can't tax citizens the \$40 million in one year either. Mr. Lamb said we need to build the reserve.

Mr. Martin said County audits are stellar and we have a solid track record of financial integrity that is exceedingly strong. The County will not have a problem borrowing if decision is made to have water impoundment.

Mr. Lamb said the Board will have to make some cuts and be frugal in order to build the reserve. He said the equalized tax rate for last year would have been 90 cents. Do not draw reserve all the way down.

Mr. Deane asked when the County stopped borrowing money to operate. Mr. Frydl said around 2006 and we're not anywhere close to borrowing at this point. Mr. Deane asked how long before we're at that point again given the current situation.

Mr. Frydl said his philosophy would be to have a smaller reserve for protection of citizens and not to pre-tax beyond what is necessary. He did not agree with collecting to just hold and never spend.

Mr. Lamb felt growth will require both spending and saving of money. It is not good business to spend everything and take the reserve down to bare minimum. The Board should focus on the future and save a little at a time.

Mr. Martin said he has gone through two budget cycles and felt the decisions made as a group were sound. He did not witness spendthrift behavior. Departments were defending tight budgets. There was no increase his first year and a 3 cent increase last year. He will look at budget again this year with a keen eye to making smart cuts when possible but he's also not going to be foolish. The Board has major responsibilities to take care of.

Mr. Lamb agreed but said he saw the same thing happening at the Regional Jail last year as is happening here. Jail used \$2.3 million from the reserve to satisfy jurisdictions. Can't keep digging into reserve at Jail because sooner or later will have to come back to counties for money.

Mr. Cox asked if Board members had any suggestions as to changes in the budget process. Mr. Frydl agreed with Mr. Martin about the need to start now. Find the most efficient budget possible and continue diligence. Get budgets from departments earlier. Have meeting to discuss philosophy with departments. Find way to work with staff to be more timely and public with "how are we doing" reports. Departments need up-to-date information on monthly basis. .

Mr. Lamb thanked the Treasurer for the reconciled cash balance report and asked if that could be available on a quarterly basis.

Mr. Cox thanked everyone for their work on the budget. The reserve policy definitely needs to be reviewed and a policy drafted that everyone understands.

RE: CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a. Minutes of September 8, 2015 meeting.
- b. Resolution proclaiming October, 2015 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
(See Attachment "A")

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

Motion carried.

RE: OTHER MATTERS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Martin said the new email system is a great change and more efficient.

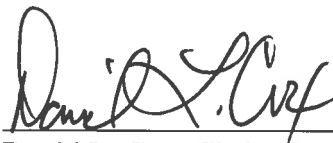
RE: MATTERS FROM PUBLIC

Mrs. Brooke Frautschi – Tractor Supply is open. Mothers and young children are forced to walk in streets because there are no sidewalks. Residents would love sidewalks. A 50 foot buffer area on both sides of Greenecroft Boulevard was included in proffers and there is supposed to be a crosswalk. This is a public safety issue.

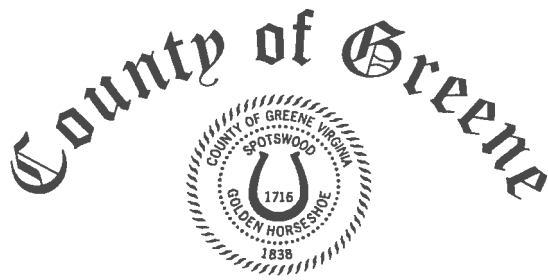
Mr. Jay Willer - Planning Commission decision on gun range is controversial. Recognized Bart Svoboda, Stephanie Golon, Shawn Leake, and Marsha Alley for their work on this project. Staff did amazing job of processing paperwork/information.

RE: ADJOURN MEETING

Meeting ended at 8:34 p.m. The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be on Tuesday, October 13, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at the Raymond C. Dingleline Performing Arts Center at William Monroe High School



David L. Cox, Chairman
Greene County Board of Supervisors



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PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, violence against women, children, and men continues to become more prevalent as a social problem in our society; and

WHEREAS, the problems of domestic violence are not confined to any group or groups of people but cross all economic, racial and societal barriers, and are supported by societal indifference; and

WHEREAS, the crime of domestic violence violates an individual's privacy, dignity, security, and humanity, due to systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological and economic control and/or abuse, with the impact of this crime being wide-ranging; and

WHEREAS, in our quest to impose sanctions on those who break the law by perpetrating violence, we must also meet the needs of victims of domestic violence who often suffer grave physical, psychological and financial losses; and

WHEREAS, it is victims of domestic violence themselves who have been in the forefront of efforts to bring peace and equality to the home; and

WHEREAS, no one person, organization, agency or community can eliminate domestic violence on their own—we must work together to educate our entire population about what can be done to prevent such violence, support victims/survivors and their families, and increase support for agencies providing services to those community members; and

WHEREAS, the Shelter for Help in Emergency has led the way in the County of Greene in addressing domestic violence by providing 24-hour hotline services to victims/survivors and their families, offering support and information, and empowering survivors to chart their own course for healing; and

WHEREAS, the Shelter for Help in Emergency commemorates its 36^h year of providing unparalleled services to women, children and men who have been victimized by domestic violence;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in recognition of the important work being done by the Shelter for Help in Emergency, that I, David Cox, Chair of the Greene Board of Supervisors, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2015 as DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH, and urge all citizens to actively participate in the scheduled activities and programs sponsored by the Shelter for Help in Emergency, and to work toward the elimination of personal and institutional violence against women, children and men.

Signed and sealed this 22nd day of September, 2015.

David L. Cox, Chairman
Greene County Board of Supervisors