

**LUNENBURG COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
GENERAL DISTRICT COURTROOM  
LUNENBURG COURTS BUILDING  
LUNENBURG, VIRGINIA**

**Minutes of the March 9, 2023 Meeting**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Lunenburg County Board of Supervisors was held on Thursday, March 9, 2023 at 6:00 pm in the General District Courtroom, Lunenburg Courts Building, Lunenburg, Virginia. The following members were present: Supervisors Alvester Edmonds, Mike Hankins, T. Wayne Hoover, Edward Pennington, Charles R. Slayton, Robert Zava, County Administrator Tracy M. Gee, Deputy Administrator Nicole A. Clark, and County Attorney Frank Rennie. Supervisor Frank Bacon was absent.

Chairman Slayton called the meeting to order.

Supervisor Edmonds provided the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Slayton requested additions to the agenda from the Board and the public. Supervisor Hoover requested that Victoria Fire and Rescue be added as 7D.

Chairman Slayton called for any conflicts of interest from any board members. There were none.

Chairman Slayton called for any citizen comments. There were none.

Supervisor Hankins made motion, seconded by Supervisor Edmonds and unanimously approved, to accept the Consent Agenda to include the February 9, 2023 meeting minutes, the Treasurer’s December 2022 and January 2023 reports and the following Warrants for Approval:

February 2023:

Payroll: Direct Deposit	\$ 176,491.89
Payroll Check #2018	\$ 673.21
Payroll Taxes Federal:	\$ 55,835.13
Payroll Taxes State:	\$ 10,294.35
Payroll VRS payment:	\$ 36,548.60
Payroll ICMA-RC payment:	\$ 2,316.74
Payroll Health Savings Deposits:	\$ 3,882.11
Accounts Payable: #82329-82444	\$ <u>313,168.14</u>
Total:	\$ 599,210.17

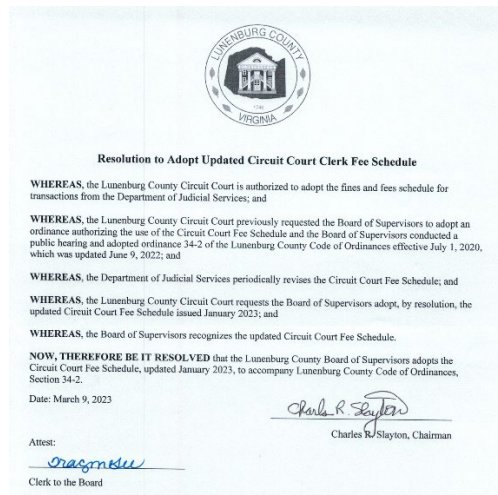
Assistant School Superintendent James Abernathy presented the monthly school board report. He noted that enrollment was up by seventeen (17) students since the previous month, bringing the total student count to one-thousand five-hundred and eight (1,508) students. Mr. Abernathy shared that the State is eliminating the grocery tax across the Commonwealth, which is one source of state funding for school systems. Mr. Abernathy said they are projecting a reduction of \$124,950 for the current fiscal year and \$308,713 for FY2024. He expects the State to supplement the current fiscal year’s amount through other funding sources, however, they will have more details in April. Mr. Abernathy advised that they have plans for a \$1.4 million construction project at Central High School. Construction would include renovations to the bathrooms, as well as plumbing upgrades, as the current system is nearly sixty years old. They have guided a camera through all the pipes to identify any issues needing repair. Mr. Abernathy noted that they have applied for a \$6 million energy

grant and they have progressed through the first round of applicants. The next step is to review the facilities and make recommendations for how the funds will be used. A five percent buy in is required, equating to about \$300,000. Mr. Abernathy shared that they plan to use energy savings as well as carry over funds. The second part of the application is due April 21, 2023. Mr. Abernathy advised that he will have two supplemental appropriations for state grants to present for approval at the next meeting. Supervisor Zava asked how the school budget would sustain cuts for ADM. Mr. Abernathy replied that they created a “skinny” budget in preparation but they will have a better idea in April. He is projecting a decrease of about \$300,000, however, that is due to the decrease in ADM. He plans to use vacancy savings for this shortfall.

Mr. Kevin Smith provided the monthly VDOT report. He advised that crews are working to repair shoulders and drainage issues on various secondary routes. Mr. Smith indicated that crews would begin working on rural rustic projects soon. He stated that they have received assistance from inmates on litter control and maintenance. They have not had use of inmates to pick up litter since before the pandemic. Mr. Smith shared that the Hardy Road Construction project had begun and, weather permitting, they are hopeful construction will be completed early May.

Administrator Gee shared a resolution to adopt the Circuit Court Fee Schedule, as updated in January 2023. She requested the Board’s review and approval.

Supervisor Pennington made motion, seconded by Supervisor Bacon and unanimously approved, to adopt the Circuit Court Fee Schedule, as updated in January 2023.



Supervisor Hoover commented on the recent second quarter meeting of county-wide Fire and EMS workers and volunteers. He added that the meetings have been very productive and all are working together well. He noted that this is the first time all parties have worked together so closely and the county should be proud of the collaboration efforts.

Ms. Chrissy Sherriff and Mr. Whit Blake of ABM Building Solutions, LLC gave a presentation regarding innovative infrastructure funding solutions for the county. Their company assesses facility needs and prepares a plan to create energy savings and revenue enhancements to fund needed upgrades to the current facilities, without increasing taxpayer burden. They evaluate lighting, water fixtures, building envelope enhancements, HVAC systems and install building automation systems. They will then present their assessment and suggestions for improvements and energy savings. Ms. Sherriff explained that the county first contacted her company with concerns regarding the slate roofing on the old courthouse building. The slate shingles and flashing have deteriorated from age and are in need of repair. Due to the historic nature of the building and roof, the estimated replacement cost is between \$312,500 and \$375,000. Ms. Sherriff explained that repairing the roof

was an estimated cost of \$12,500 to \$18,750. She and Mr. Blake further discussed their firm's process of creating energy savings and revenue enhancements to fund needed upgrades and how energy savings implemented by their company would help fund the repair of the slate roof. Ms. Sherriff advised that the assessment did not require up-front funds. Once the assessment is performed, County staff and the Board would review the suggestions and choose which improvements to implement. Supervisor Hoover questioned the cost if no projects were implemented. Ms. Sherriff replied the cost would be \$12,500, however, in past assessments, clients have always chosen to proceed with some improvements. Supervisor Hankins inquired if the Animal Control Shelter would be included in the assessment. Administrator Gee responded that the dog runs at the shelter are opened daily for animal exercise. Therefore, it is difficult to adjust the HVAC system for efficiency. However, lighting and water at the facility may benefit from the assessment. Administrator Gee indicated that she and Deputy Administrator Clark visited neighboring Nottoway County as they recently went through the process. Nottoway staff shared that the improvements made have been effective and cost-saving. Ms. Sherriff shared that two contracts would be presented before the Board for approval. The first was the letter of intent and would allow for the assessment to begin. The second would be a construction contract and would include the construction projects chosen to implement from the analysis of the audit findings. County Attorney Rennie stated that he would like to research and review an updated Letter of Intent, specific to Lunenburg, before providing an opinion. Supervisor Edmonds suggested the project be revisited in April.

County Attorney Rennie requested the Board's review and approval of a resolution approving the County's participation in the proposed settlement of opioid-related claims against Teva, Allergan, Walmart, Walgreens, CVS, and their related corporate entities, and explained the process.

Supervisor Pennington made motion, seconded by Supervisor Edmonds, and unanimously approved, to approve the resolution allowing the County's participation in the proposed additional settlement of opioid-related claims, and directs the County Attorney to execute the documents necessary to effectuate the County's participation in the settlements, including the required release of claims against settling entities.

A RESOLUTION OF THE LUNENBURG COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
APPROVING OF THE COUNTY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT  
OF OPIOID-RELATED CLAIMS AGAINST TEVA, ALLERGAN, WALMART,  
WALGREENS, CVS, AND THEIR RELATED CORPORATE ENTITIES, AND DIRECTING  
THE COUNTY ATTORNEY AND/OR THE COUNTY'S OUTSIDE COUNSEL TO  
EXECUTE THE DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THE COUNTY'S  
PARTICIPATION IN THE SETTLEMENTS

WHEREAS, the opioid epidemic that has cost thousands of human lives across the country also impacts the Commonwealth of Virginia and its counties and cities, including the County of Lunenburg, by adversely impacting the delivery of emergency medical, law enforcement, criminal justice, mental health and substance abuse services, and other services by Lunenburg's various departments and agencies; and

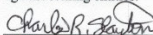
WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Virginia and its counties and cities, including Lunenburg, have been required and will continue to be required to allocate substantial taxpayer dollars, resources, staff energy and time to address the damage the opioid epidemic has caused and continues to cause the citizens of the Commonwealth and Lunenburg County; and

WHEREAS, settlement proposals have been negotiated that will cause Teva, Allergan, Walmart, Walgreens, and CVS to pay billions of dollars nationwide to resolve opioid-related claims against them; and

WHEREAS, the County has approved and adopted the Virginia Opioid Abatement Fund and Settlement Allocation Memorandum of Understanding (the "Virginia MOU"), and affirms that these pending settlements with Teva, Allergan, Walmart, CVS, and Walgreens shall be considered "Settlements" that are subject to the Virginia MOU, and shall be administered and allocated in the same manner as the opioid settlements entered into previously with opioid distributors McKesson, Cardinal Health, and AmerisourceBergen, and opioid manufacturer Janssen Pharmaceuticals; and

WHEREAS, the County Attorney has reviewed the available information about the proposed settlements and has recommended that the County participate in the settlements in order to recover its share of the funds that the settlement would provide;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lunenburg County Board of Supervisors, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023, approves of the County's participation in the proposed settlement of opioid-related claims against Teva, Allergan, Walmart, Walgreens, CVS, and their related corporate entities, and directs the County Attorney to execute the documents necessary to effectuate the County's participation in the settlements, including the required release of claims against settling entities.

  
Charles R. Slayton, Chairman  
Lunenburg County Board of Supervisors

Attest:   
Tracy M. Gee, County Administrator

Director of Economic Development Taylor Newton provided her monthly report. She advised that she provided a tour of Lunenburg County to members of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership on February 13<sup>th</sup>. She provided an update on the extension of miles of broadband lines run within the county. She directed questions specific to addresses in Lunenburg gaining access should be directed to Kinex for additional information. Ms. Newton commented that there would be three solar facility applications presented to the Planning Commission in April for 2232 hearings. They will be presented before the Board in the following months, if approved. Ms. Newton reported that the County has received over one million dollars related to the Red Brick solar facility thus far. Ms. Newton advised that, through the assistance of the Commonwealth Council, the County has been awarded \$1,211,787.50 in grant funds for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

Administrator Gee provided her monthly report. She noted that a request for bids on health insurance consultant services is out and she hopes to have a consultant chosen within the week. She shared a letter she drafted on behalf of the county, supporting the efforts of STEPS Inc. to apply for funding to create and operate trauma-informed, evidence-based domestic violence and sexual assault services for the region. She advised that she and Ms. Newton will meet an airport easement owner to discuss obstruction mitigation, an appraisal, and possible purchase of her property. She shared that the Sheriff's Office requested two additional full-time and two additional part-time dispatchers to assist with the new dispatch requirements in the FY24 budget. She expects an increase for Piedmont Regional Jail due to medical provider/services increases. Administrator Gee shared that the school system struggles with hiring of new staff members due to the higher starting salaries in other localities. She commented that she and the Finance Committee will continue preparing a proposed budget to present to the Board.

County Attorney Rennie advised that a motion to dismiss the case regarding the petition filed by the Friends of Meherrin against the Red Brick Solar CUP, would be heard on Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup> in the historic courthouse at 11:00 a.m. He is hopefully the request to dismiss the case will be granted.

Supervisor Hoover made motion, seconded by Supervisor Edmonds and unanimously approved, to adjourn.

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Tracy M. Gee, Clerk  
County Administrator

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Charles R. Slayton, Chairman  
Board of Supervisors