

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

Minutes of October 8, 2020 Meeting

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Lunenburg County Board of Supervisors was held on Thursday, October 8, 2020 at 6:00 pm in the General District Courtroom, Lunenburg Courts Building, Lunenburg, Virginia. The following members were present: Supervisors Frank Bacon, Edward Pennington, T. Wayne Hoover, Alvester Edmonds, Mike Hankins, Charles R. Slayton, Robert Zava, County Administrator Tracy M. Gee, Deputy Administrator Nicole A. Clark, and County Attorney Frank Rennie.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, guests, Supervisors and staff adhered to social distancing (maintaining a distance of at least six feet from others) and masks when social distancing was not possible in the courtroom.

Chairman Slayton called the meeting to order.

Supervisor Pennington 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 the annual community donations from Meridian Waste was added as 6A-1.

Supervisor Pennington made motion, seconded by Supervisor Hankins and approved by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes and none voting no, to accept the Consent Agenda to include the Minutes of the September 10, 2020 meeting, the Treasurer's July reports and the following Warrants for Approval:

Additions for June 2020 printed in September 2020:
(for inclusion in FY20 expenses)

	Accounts Payable: #59851-59852	\$ 42,749.00
September 2020:	Payroll: Direct Deposit	\$ 138,285.84
	Payroll Check #17221	\$ 843.54
	Payroll Taxes Federal:	\$ 44,406.57
	Payroll Taxes State:	\$ 7,897.38
	Payroll VRS payment:	\$ 30,825.31
	Payroll ICMA-RC payment:	\$ 639.22
	Payroll Health Savings Deposits:	\$ 4,602.74
	Accounts Payable:#59766-850, 59853-874	<u>\$ 408,134.10</u>
	September Total:	\$ 635,634.70

Administrator Gee noted that the monthly VDOT and School Board reports were provided. Supervisor Zava questioned why representatives from the school were not in attendance to review the end of the year reports. Administrator Gee advised that the County Administration Office received a letter to the Chairman, signed by all seven School Board members, stating that representatives from the school system would no longer be attending Board of Supervisors' meetings. Due to unsolicited comments made at a prior meeting, their reports would now be provided prior to the supervisors' meetings and be included in the monthly Board packets

for review. Supervisor Zava noted that the school system receives the largest portion of the county's budget and he thought they should attend to present their reports Supervisor Hankins agreed, adding that an open line of communication between the two boards is crucial. He suggested that the Board of Supervisors craft a letter to the School Board requesting they send a representative to each Board of Supervisors' meeting to discuss the monthly reports.

Supervisor Hoover made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Bacon and by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes and none voting no, to craft a letter, to be signed by all seven Board of Supervisors members, to the School Board requesting they send a representative to each Board of Supervisors' meeting to review the monthly reports.

Administrator Gee discussed the preparations of the upcoming closures of the two remaining open container dump sites in the county, one located on Gigg Road and one on Potts Spring Road, as well as the operating hours of the two convenience sites that currently remain open twenty-four hours a day. She advised that the landowners of the open container sites had been contacted and advised of the upcoming closures. Administrator Gee added that a meeting was scheduled for October 15th with all of the current site workers to discuss the upcoming changes in hours and acceptable items at the convenience sites. All open hours will be manned and workers may require proof of Lunenburg County residency. Supervisor Hankins suggested that the Sheriff's Office be alerted to monitor the sites outside of operating hours.

Supervisor Hoover reminded the Board of the annual community donations from Meridian Waste. He added that donations are usually awarded to public schools, safety, health or welfare. He noted that the only ongoing project that was not receiving CARES Act funding support was the upgrade to the E911 radio communications system. He suggested that the annual \$50,000 donation be earmarked for this project.

Supervisor Hoover made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Bacon and by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes and none voting no, to earmark the 2020 Meridian Waste annual donation for the E911 radio system upgrade.

Administrator Gee shared a letter from the Center for Tech and Civic Life advising of a grant award, in the amount of \$9,860, to support the planning and operating of a safe, secure 2020 election in Lunenburg County. Grant funds may be used for poll worker hazard pay and/or training expenses, temporary staffing and recruitment funds. Electoral Board Chair, Donna Dagner, sent an email explaining that the grant funds would be used to provide an additional \$100 in hazardous pay for each of the eighty poll workers and to provide training to the twenty-seven new poll workers needed to replace those unable to work due to a number of older, high-risk poll workers uncomfortable working this year due to the pandemic. Administrator Gee requested the Board's approval to sign the grant agreement and accept the grant funds.

Supervisor Hoover made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Bacon and by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes and none voting no, to authorize Administrator Gee to sign the grant agreement and approve and appropriate \$9,860 in CTCL grant funds for the purpose of hazard pay and training of poll workers in the 2020 election.

Ms. Cheryl Giggetts of CTA Consultants, made a presentation on the Public Safety Radio System Evaluation and Assessment. She presented CTA Consultants' recommendation for a UHF P25 Phase 1 Conventional Radio system, noting that it was best fit for Lunenburg County based on their assessment. Based on a multi-vendor estimate, the new system would cost approximately \$3.5 million. She noted that some grant funds are available for assistance. Supervisor Hoover commented that CTA Consultants are the best in their field

and have high reviews from their previous clients. He added that Cheryl Giggetts and Victoria Fire & Rescue Chief Rodney Newton had secured a grant for \$89,000 for this project. Supervisor Hoover stated that with the grant funds already earmarked for the project, there would be no costs to move forward with the next steps. The county will need to look at financing options later in the project. Ms. Giggetts commented that the grant funds are enough to get the county to the point of contract signing, which would probably be summer to fall of 2021.

Supervisor Hoover made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Bacon and by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes and none voting no, to move forward with CTA Consultants' recommendation and conceptual design of a UHF P25 Phase 1 Conventional Radio system.

Administrator Gee requested that the Board appoint a voting delegate for the VACo 2020 Annual Meeting which will be held virtually this year.

Supervisor Edmonds made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Bacon and by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes and none voting no, to appoint Administrator Gee as the voting delegate for the VACo 2020 Annual Meeting.

Administrator Gee provided an update on Cares Act fund spending. She advised that she completed the second reporting of Lunenburg County's spending to the federal government. This reporting included an updated form and provided more guidance on how to categorize the expenses. Administrator Gee noted that sixteen applications had been received for the second round of Small Business Grants. She shared a letter from Major DJ Penland of the Sheriff's Office requesting the purchase of 911 equipment to support a back-up E911 call center in the case the current center has to shut down or be evacuated due to illness. The total cost of the project has been estimated not to exceed \$24,478.26. Victoria Fire & Rescue has agreed to host the back-up center in their building.

Supervisor Bacon made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Bacon and by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes and none voting no, for an amount not to exceed \$24,478.26, to set up a back-up E911 call center to be housed at the Victoria Fire & Rescue building.

County Planner Glenn Millican provided his monthly report. He advised the business registration process was progressing. He noted that bid documents had been released for the old middle school demolition project. He estimates an additional \$100,000-\$125,000 will be needed for the purpose of asbestos removal. Mr. Millican requested the board join the Planning Commission for a joint work session on solar facilities on Tuesday, October 20th at 5:00 p.m. Supervisor Zava asked Mr. Millican if there were any discussions of improving the internet capabilities in the county. Mr. Millican advised that the Governor's Office just announced an additional \$30 million in broadband funding to assist rural areas in Virginia with internet connectivity. Supervisor Hoover added that poor internet service was a state-wide problem. County Attorney Rennie advised that Dominion Power currently has a pilot program in the works for establishing broadband to rural areas and will get that information to Glenn.

Administrator Gee provided her monthly report. She advised that No Limits Skydiving will no longer operate at the Lunenburg Airport because they had to reduce their expenses due to the pandemic. Administrator Gee stated that she recently met with contractors to see the installation of the Civil Rights in Education Heritage Trail sign at the "Lunenburg High School" location on K-V Road and the Peoples Community Center. She and local alumni will be setting a date for the unveiling and dedication. She noted that Meridian

Waste will be hosting a Recycling Day on Saturday, October 10th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Central High School parking lot. They hope the event will be educational and bring awareness of the correct way to recycle.

County Attorney Rennie advised that Commonwealth Attorney Robert Clement recently announced his retirement for December 31, 2020. Attorney Rennie added that under Virginia Code, in the case of retirement of an elected official, the chief deputy assistant will assume the role. He commented that the Board of Supervisors may, if desired, elect to offer a special election to allow constituents to vote for a replacement, otherwise it will fall to the next general election in November 2021.

Supervisor Hoover made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Bacon and by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes and none voting no, to prepare a resolution of retirement to be presented to Commonwealth Attorney Robert Clement upon his retirement.

Supervisor Hoover made motion, seconded by Supervisor Bacon and by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes and none voting no, approved to adjourn.

Tracy M. Gee, Clerk
County Administrator

Charles R. Slayton, Chairman
Board of Supervisors