

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

Minutes of the December 9, 2021 Meeting

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Lunenburg County Board of Supervisors was held on Thursday, December 9, 2021 at 6:00 pm in the General District Courtroom, Lunenburg Courts Building, Lunenburg, Virginia. The following members were present: Supervisors Frank Bacon, 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.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, guests, Supervisors and staff adhered to social distancing and wearing masks per the CDC guidelines.

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. County Attorney Rennie requested that the appointment of an Assistant County Attorney be added as 10A. Administrator Gee requested that a notice of award from the Department of Aviation be added as 7C. Supervisor Hoover requested an update on the Crossroads Community Services Board be added as 10B

Chairman Slayton called for any wishing to speak under Citizen Comment. There were none.

Supervisor Hankins made motion, seconded by Supervisor Pennington and approved by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes, and none voting no, to accept the Consent Agenda to include the November 11, 2021, the Treasurer's October 2021 reports and the following Warrants for Approval:

November 2021:	Payroll: Direct Deposit	\$ 170,176.16
	Payroll Check #2000	\$ 753.58
	Payroll Taxes Federal:	\$ 54,897.32
	Payroll Taxes State:	\$ 9,831.11
	Payroll VRS payment:	\$ 32,274.44
	Payroll ICMA-RC payment:	\$ 956.57
	Payroll Health Savings Deposits:	\$ 3,508.61
	<i>WIRES (DEBT SERVICE)</i>	\$ 255,821.25
	Accounts Payable: #80001-80151	\$ <u>452,852.58</u>
	Total:	\$ 981,071.62

Assistant School Superintendent and Director of Finance James Abernathy, provided the monthly school report. He advised that the revenue figures for CARES funds were low as numerous reimbursements have been approved but not all the funds have been received. They expect the revenue to increase as those reimbursements are received. Mr. Abernathy advised that enrollment is currently at 1,511 students. He hopes enrollment has seen its low point and will start to increase for the remainder of the school year. He added that a large number of students are still being home schooled. He advised that he will have a request to accept COVID grant funds as a supplement to the budget. He expects an additional grant to be approved, so he will present both requests before the Board at an upcoming meeting. Mr. Abernathy noted that budget planning and preparations are underway for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Supervisor Hankins questioned if they are projecting an increase or decrease in enrollment. Mr. Abernathy replied that they are

reviewing state projections and the size of incoming and outgoing classes. He will have a better idea of projected enrollment after those numbers are analyzed. Supervisor Bacon commented that by his calculation, with current enrollment of 1,511, the school budget would be reduced by \$300,000. Mr. Abernathy added that each student represents an average of \$7,900.

Mr. Kevin Smith of VDOT provided the monthly report. He advised that mowing along primary roads had been completed. He noted that trash pick-up was completed in Kenbridge. Sweeping along curbs and gutters will begin in the coming weeks. Mr. Smith shared that local VDOT Kenbridge Headquarters Superintendent, Mr. Jimmy Chumney, had recently retired after forty-two years of service. Chairman Slayton inquired about performing a traffic study on Ontario Road, as he believes traffic has increased considerably. Mr. Smith advised they will get that completed in the spring and provide the results to the Board for review. Supervisor Pennington questioned if VDOT could post 'Children at Play' signs in high traffic areas along Mecklenburg Avenue and Mecklenburg Street. Mr. Smith indicated that VDOT did not promote children at play signs, however, the recent traffic study did suggest installing 'Pedestrian Walking' signs, which has been completed.

Administrator Gee advised that the Department of Aviation approved the county's request of funding, not to exceed \$17,600 state funds, for the Runway & Apron Rehabilitation (Preliminary Engineering) project. She requested the Board accept the funds and authorize the Chairman and County Attorney to sign the agreement.

Supervisor Bacon made motion, seconded by Supervisor Hoover, and approved by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes, and none voting no, to accept state funding, not to exceed \$17,600, for the Runway & Apron Rehabilitation (Preliminary Engineering) project from the Department of Aviation and authorize the Chairman and County Attorney to sign the agreement.

Administrator Gee advised that someone with the Department of Aviation would be at the airport on December 21st to mark trees that need removal. She believes this will aid in obtaining quotes for removal.

Mr. David Denny introduced himself as the recently hired Director for Virginia's Growth Alliance (VGA). Mr. Denny shared that he is working on a refresh for the VGA. He is working to obtain a 501C-3 status, so they may accept donations in addition to dues from the member localities. Mr. Denny is also preparing a workforce analysis across the region to better understand target segments. Earlier in the day, he met with Director of Economic and Community Development, Taylor Newton and explored Lunenburg County as well as the two towns. He thanked the Board for their time.

Mr. Paul Lee of Robinson Farmer Cox Associates presented the FY2020-2021 Annual Audit to the Board. He reported that there were no issues or concerns found. Expenditures were largely increased due to CARES Act Funds and ESSER funds for the school system. He advised that an increase will also be notable next year as a result of ARPA funds. Mr. Lee reported that the tax collection rate is very good, around ninety-six percent. Mr. Lee noted that due to the pandemic and addition of CARES Act Funds and requirements the work load has become much heavier on all. He commended Administrator Gee, her staff and other county offices involved in the audit, for their flexibility and cooperation during the audit process of 2021.

Supervisor Bacon made motion, seconded by Supervisor Hoover and approved by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes, and none voting no, to accept the FY2020-2021 Annual Audit presented by Robinson Farmer Cox Associates.

Administrator Gee advised the Board of several committee reappointments and vacancies. Mr. David Hite (District #2) and Mr. Fred Wilkinson (District #3) have agreed to serve another term on the Industrial Development Authority Board beginning January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2025. Also, Mr. Kevin Smith of 115 High Tower Road, Green Bay has agreed to serve for District #7 on the Industrial Development Authority beginning January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2025. There will be two remaining vacancies on the IDA.

Administrator Gee shared that the Planning Commission now has two vacancies due to the resignation of two commissioners. Ms. Brenda Jennings (District #5) and Mr. James Tharpe (District #7) have agreed to serve another term on the Planning Commission beginning January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2025.

Administrator Gee noted that the Social Services Advisory Board had vacancies in Districts 2, 5, 6 and 7. Supervisor Hankins nominated Mr. David Fereday of 301 East 5th Avenue, Kenbridge to serve for District #2 Brown's Store for a term beginning January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2025.

Supervisor Hoover made motion, seconded by Supervisor Hankins, and approved by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes, and none voting no, to reappoint Mr. David Hite (District #2) and Mr. Fred Wilkinson (District #3) to the Industrial Development Authority, Ms. Brenda Jennings (District #5) and Mr. James Tharpe (District #7) to the Planning Commission and appoint Mr. Kevin Smith of 115 High Tower Road, Green Bay to serve for District #7 on the Industrial Development Authority and Mr. David Fereday of Kenbridge to serve for District #2 on the Social Services Advisory Board, with all terms beginning January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2025.

County Attorney Rennie introduced Attorney Drew DiStanislao, noting that Attorney DiStanislao had been working with him at CowanGates for one year, and two years prior in a part-time role. County Attorney Rennie requested the Board's approval in naming Attorney DiStanislao the Assistant County Attorney for Lunenburg County.

Supervisor Bacon made motion, seconded by Supervisor Edmonds, and approved by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes, and none voting no, to appoint Mr. Drew DiStanislao as Assistant County Attorney for Lunenburg County.

Assistant Attorney DiStanislao provided an overview of the redistricting process. He noted that a committee comprised of ten individuals had been established to work through the process of adjusting district lines according to population figures from the 2020 U.S. Census. Each district total population must be within five percent deviation of the other. Assistant Attorney DiStanislao expects the committee will have a proposal ready for review and public hearing at the February 2022 meeting.

Supervisor Hoover updated the Board on the changes occurring at the Crossroads Community Services Board. He noted that they are currently recruiting and interviewing for a new Executive Director.

Director of Planning and Community Development Taylor Newton provided her monthly report. She advised that final numbers for the demolition of the Old Middle School had been submitted for reimbursement. She explained that the Planning Commission had approved for recommendation to the Board, the Sixth Street Solar Project, however, the applicant has since withdrawn their application. Ms. Newton reported that the next Planning Commission meeting would be the first Tuesday in February 2022.

Administrator Gee provided her monthly report. She shared that Animal Control Officer Ray Elliott has raised over \$15,000 in donations for the SPCA through his 2021 Ruff 'N It campaign. She advised that Deputy Treasurer Dawn Buchanan had resigned from her position. Administrator Gee advised that a vaccine clinic for children ages five to eleven would be held at the Railroad Park in Victoria on December 15th. She commented that Project LUIS was progressing. She provided a report from Rodney Newton on the project and thanked him for his involvement. Administrator Gee noted that all CARES Act funding and projects would be coming to an end on December 31, 2021. All reports and remaining funds will be returned in January.

Supervisor Bacon made motion, seconded by Supervisor Hoover, and approved by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes, and none voting no, to prepare resolutions for presentation to the Lunenburg Lightning Football League Varsity and Flag teams at the January 2022 meeting for winning the Southside Region Super Bowl.

Supervisor Pennington made motion, seconded by Supervisor Hoover, and approved by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes, and none voting no, to enter Closed Session citing Virginia Code Section §2.2-3711A3 Acquisition of Real Property or Disposition of Publicly held Real Property.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION MEETING

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lunenburg County, Virginia (“Board”) convened a Closed Session Meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section §2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, requires a certification by the Board that such Closed Meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each member’s knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from Open Meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the Closed Meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the Closed Meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Board.

VOTING YES

Supervisor Edmonds
Supervisor Hankins
Supervisor Bacon
Supervisor Hoover
Supervisor Pennington
Supervisor Slayton
Supervisor Zava

VOTING NO

ABSENT

Supervisor Hankins made motion, seconded by Supervisor Bacon, and approved by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes, and none voting no, to return to Open Session.

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

Tracy M. Gee, Clerk
County Administrator

Charles R. Slayton, Chairman
Board of Supervisors