

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

**Minutes of August 9, 2018 Meeting**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Lunenburg County Board of Supervisors was held on Thursday, August 9, 2018 at 6:00 pm in the General District Courtroom, Lunenburg Courts Building, Lunenburg, Virginia. The following members were present: Supervisors T. Wayne Hoover, Edward Pennington, Frank Bacon, Charles R. Slayton, Mike Hankins, Alvester Edmonds, Robert Zava, County Administrator Tracy M. Gee, Deputy County Administrator Nicole Clark, and County Attorney Frank Rennie.

Chairman Slayton called the meeting to order.

Supervisor Zava gave the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance.

Chairman Slayton requested additions to the agenda from the Board and the public. Administrator Gee requested that the nomination for the Lunenburg County Public Library System be moved from 12A to 8A.

Supervisor Hankins made motion, seconded by Supervisor Edmonds and unanimously approved, to accept the Consent Agenda to include the Minutes of the July 12, 2018 meeting, the Treasurer's June 2018 reports and the following Warrants for Approval:

Additions for June 2018 printed in July 2018:  
(for inclusion in FY18 expenses)

	Accounts Payable: #56238-313, 56382-95	\$ 128,310.34
July 2018:	Payroll: Direct Deposit	\$ 130,026.34
	Payroll Taxes Federal:	\$ 40,440.50
	Payroll Taxes State:	\$ 7,186.22
	Payroll VRS payment:	\$ 24,980.01
	Payroll ICMA-RC payment:	\$ 398.38
	<i>Debt Service wire payments:</i>	\$ 372,479.83
	Accounts Payable: #56235-37, 56314-81, 56396-436	\$ <u>528,875.71</u>
	July Total:	\$ 1,104,386.99

Supervisor Hankins made motion, seconded by Supervisor Edmonds and unanimously approved, present the following letter of commendation to Animal Control Officer Ray Elliott.

*Animal Control Officer D. Ray Elliott,*

*On behalf of the Lunenburg County Board of Supervisors, I would like to congratulate Animal Control Officer, Ray Elliott, for the exceptional efforts he made during his "Ruff-N-IT" Spay/Neuter Campaign. Officer Elliott began his duties with the County in May 2014 and has grown into an exemplary employee.*

*Though, Officer Elliott has always been a reliable, honest, positive and diligent employee, his work on the "Ruff-N-IT" Spay/Neuter Campaign surpassed all expectation. His goal was to raise awareness of the importance of spaying and neutering companion animals. He launched his first "Ruff-N-IT" Spay/Neuter Campaign in 2016, volunteering to spend Thanksgiving evening through the next morning locked inside one of the dog kennels at the Animal Shelter. His goal was to raise \$12,000 in donations to assist Lunenburg County residents with the cost of spaying and neutering their pets. Officer Elliott's campaign was so successful in raising funds and awareness, he committed to another campaign in 2017 with a goal of \$15,000. Once again, he exceeded his goal raising a total of \$15,130.*

*The Board of Supervisors would also like to commend Officer Elliott for his dedication to the residents and domestic animals of Lunenburg County. He serves with diligence and compassion. His Deputy Animal Control Officer, Noyse King, is an asset to the county as well, providing assistance with kennel cleaning, calls and investigations, and serving in Officer Elliott's place when he is out of the office. Without the assistance of Deputy Officer King, Officer Elliott indicated that the Animal Shelter would not operate as efficiently and effectively.*

*Officer Elliott recently assisted the Attorney General's Office with a multi-county animal cruelty case. Senior Assistant Attorney General, K. Michelle Welch commented, "Ray Elliot exemplifies what an Animal Control Officer should be: professional, compassionate and hard working. He tracks down every lead in*

*his animal cruelty cases and always pursues justice for the animal victims. He never loses sight of what's important in his cases and he makes sure he is pursuing justice in all aspects of his investigations. In a recent case, he was fair and made sure the outcome for the animals was providing safe and loving homes. In addition, he goes above and beyond to secure homes for all the animals in the shelter. He is always trying to improve and I find him to be one of the best Animal Control Officers in the Commonwealth."*

*Again, on behalf of the Lunenburg County Board of Supervisors, I would like to applaud you on your unparalleled work on both "Ruff-N-IT" Spay/Neuter Campaigns. We greatly appreciate the support you and Deputy Officer King provide to the residents and domestic animals of Lunenburg County.*

*Signed by C. Randy Slayton, Chairman, Board of Supervisors*

Animal Control Officer Elliott thanked the Board. He added that he would not be able to do as much without the assistance and support from Deputy Animal Control Officer Noyse King, community partners and county staff.

Mr. Billy Smith of VDOT presented the monthly VDOT report. He noted that the construction projects on Battes Road as well as Red Level Lane have begun. He advised that the bridge on Whittles Mill Road that was damaged due to heavy rains in May should be reopened within a day or two. Mr. Smith advised that VDOT forces have been placing tar and gravel on roads throughout the county. This should be completed within the next couple of days. Mr. Smith stated that they have started preparing for snow removal by sending out brochures for contracts, which will be due to VDOT by September 9<sup>th</sup>.

School Superintendent, Charles Berkley, provided the monthly School Board reports. He stated that personnel are working on the final touches for the new school year which will begin on August 20<sup>th</sup>. He advised that 22 new employees have been hired to fill vacancies with several more pending. Mr. Berkley noted that a major goal for the upcoming year would be to improve attendance and graduation in order to meet or supersede the statewide average. He invited the Board to attend convocation on Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Berkley advised that both elementary schools have qualified for free breakfast and lunch for all students. They are working towards getting the secondary schools qualified as well. Mr. Berkley advised that VES benefited from a Lowe's tool kit project in which a retaining wall was erected to aid in erosion at the bus loop. He advised that local volunteers have been working on projects at KES.

Assistant Superintendent, James Abernathy, provided the monthly financial reports. He explained that there are a few remaining invoices for FY2018, however, they are small amounts. He requested the Board's approval of two transfers. The first in the amount of \$10,000 from the General Fund to the School Food Fund and the second in the amount of \$36,902.20 from the General Fund to the Textbook Fund for the purchase of 1<sup>st</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> grade math text books.

Supervisor Zava made motion, seconded by Supervisor Edmonds and unanimously approved, to approve a transfer in the amount of \$10,000 from the School's General Fund to the School Food Fund and a transfer in the amount of \$36,902.20 from the School's General Fund to the Textbook Fund.

Administrator Gee noted that there is a potential grant opportunity for an additional school resource officer. She added that the amount of the grant decreases over a 5-year period. Mr. Berkley noted that this grant opportunity allowed for more funding than in the past years. Major DJ Penland commented that the grant application was due August 24<sup>th</sup>. Supervisor Hoover suggested that Major Penland and Administrator Gee work on the grant application. If the county is awarded the grant, the Board will then make a decision on any required matching funds.

Mrs. Sallie Ann Buchanan, a member of the Lunenburg County Public Library System Board of Trustees, spoke before the Board of Supervisors to nominate Mr. Steven Hammock of the Rehoboth District #4 as a candidate to replace retiring Trustee Karen Scales.

Supervisor Zava made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Edmonds and unanimously approved, to appoint Mr. Steven Hammock of the Rehoboth District #4 to the Lunenburg County Public Library System Board of Trustees.

Mrs. Peggy Barton of 3497 Bethel Church Road in Green Bay, provided and read a concerned citizen letter she wrote regarding hunters coming onto and around her property, as well as threats she has received over the past few years. Chairman Slayton asked if Mrs. Barton had tried contacting the local Game Warden. She replied yes, as well as the State Police and local Sheriff's Office. Supervisor Hankins provided Mrs. Barton with a copy of the state hunting laws

booklet. He highlighted some of the rules and regulations that may aid Mrs. Barton. He then suggested she reach out the hunt club president to express her concerns regarding specific individuals. Major DJ Penland suggested that Mrs. Barton contact the Sheriff's Office at the time an incident occurs. He added that it's easier to address the issue as it occurs versus afterwards.

Administrator Gee advised that the monthly County Office and Department reports were included in the board packet. She advised that CFS is up to date on all outstanding payments and penalties have been collected. She noted that a Landfill Committee and Citizens Advisory meeting were scheduled for August 28<sup>th</sup>.

Administrator Gee shared a letter from Mecklenburg County requesting a letter of support to increase the local sales tax from 5.3% to 6.0% with the additional funds going to school construction or renovations. She noted that the increase is temporary as the resolution states once the project for which a referendum is held and approved is completed and all attendant debt satisfied by the increased sales tax and other available revenue sources, the additional sales tax would cease to be charged.

Supervisor Bacon made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Hoover and unanimously approved, to forward a supporting resolution to Mecklenburg County and Halifax County, supporting an increase of local sales tax from 5.3% to 6.0% with the additional funds going to school construction or renovations.



**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR SALES TAX REVENUE FOR SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENTS**

**Whereas**, in 2013 the Virginia General Assembly approved a sales tax increase in certain localities for Infrastructure Development from 5.3 to 6.0 percent to relieve traffic congestion, making available billions of dollars of local funding for infrastructure; and

**Whereas**, Virginia collects 5.3 percent of sales taxes with 1 percent of that going to the locality, currently representing approximately 1.7 million dollars annually returning to Lunenburg County for the public schools; and

**Whereas**, school building needs in many Virginia localities including Lunenburg County have become as acute a problem as traffic congestion in Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads; and

**Whereas**, rural localities in general lack an adequate tax base to support and fund major capital needs; and

**Whereas**, school children living in rural areas of Virginia should not be at a disadvantage as compared to other localities in attending safe, healthy school buildings; and

**Whereas**, the funding of capital projects constricts local school system operating funding and infringes on money for teacher pay and public safety; and

**Whereas**, state sales tax dollars invested in local construction projects would make available more local dollars to invest in the operation of schools, including more competitive teacher pay and meeting other pressing needs; and

**Whereas**, state sales revenue specifically earmarked for school funding would allow a locality to spend local property tax dollars on such needed areas as public safety, school operating budget and refuse collection and disposal; and

**Whereas**, sales tax revenue specifically designed for school infrastructure funding should not be counted towards the Local Required Effort for educational funding; and

**Whereas**, it is in the interest of having a thriving public education system that any enabling legislation guarantees that localities cannot supplant funding from the schools' operational budgets if new revenue is generated from a school infrastructure sales tax; and

**Whereas**, state enabling legislation is legally required for an additional sales tax which would be expressly dedicated to public school capital project funding; and

**Whereas**, each locality should obtain the support of its community by way of referendum approving any local sales tax increase for school improvement and construction;

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved** that the Lunenburg County Board of Supervisors does hereby resolve and express its support and desire for the Virginia General Assembly to enact such legislation as is necessary to permit localities to charge additional sales tax, conditioned upon a local referendum approving such sales tax, with the revenue generated thereby being returned to the localities for the express and exclusive purpose of providing funding for public school capital improvement and building purposes, with no dilution of Local Required Effort towards educational operational funding. Once a project for which a referendum is held and approved is completed and all attendant debt satisfied by the increased sales tax and other available revenue sources, the additional sales tax would cease to be charged.

  
Charles R. Slayton, Chairman  
Lunenburg County Board of Supervisors

Adopted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of August 2018.

Mr. Glenn Millican, County Planner, provided his monthly report. He explained that he has received interest in Lunenburg County from three solar panel companies, two cell tower companies and two retail businesses. He is also working on an informational packet to market the county to potential businesses.

Administrator Gee provided her monthly report. She advised that bids have been received for spraying herbicide on the cutover at the Lunenburg Commercentre and bids for reforestation will be received on August 17<sup>th</sup>. Administrator Gee noted that tree removal at the airport should be completed by August 10<sup>th</sup>. She explained that an unexpected purchase of 911 and County Hardware backup batteries in the amount of about \$15,000 was recently made. She stated that the purchase was necessary as 911 systems were down for several minutes when the backup recently failed due to a power outage. Administrator Gee commented that she is waiting on an updated site plan with requirements from VDOT from the engineer for the potential Gary Road site. The surveyor must show potential stormwater run-off options. Administrator Gee suggested the Board consider a resolution of achievement for the Dixie Youth Machine-pitch baseball team's success this season.

Supervisor Bacon made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Hoover and unanimously approved, to prepare a resolution of achievement for the Dixie Youth Machine-pitch baseball team to be presented at the September board meeting.

Administrator Gee requested the Board's approval of carryover funds from the FY2018 litter grant in the amount of \$1,056.

Supervisor Bacon made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Edmonds and unanimously approved, to approve carryover funds from the FY2018 litter grant in the amount of \$1,056.

Supervisor Bacon made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Hoover 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