

Board of Supervisors - August 9, 2018 Regular Meeting

The Wise County Board of Supervisors met in a Regular Meeting on Thursday, August 9, 2018 @ 6:00 pm at the School Board Education Center located on 628 Lake Street in Wise. The following members were present:

Honorable Dana G. Kilgore – Chair
Honorable Robert E. Robbins, Jr. – Vice-Chair
Honorable Fred Luntsford
Honorable Bobby Cassell
Honorable Steve Bates
Honorable Robert R. Adkins
Honorable J. H. Rivers
Honorable John Schoolcraft – members of said Board and
David L. Cox – Finance Administrator
Karen T. Mullins – County Attorney
Annette Underwood – Executive Secretary

PRAYER

Bob Adkins led in prayer.

PLEDGE

All led in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Robby Robbins, seconded by Steve Bates, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

Fred Luntsford left the meeting at this time.

AGENDA

A motion was made by John Schoolcraft, seconded by Bob Adkins, to approve the agenda as presented to include item in red.

Aye - Bobby Cassell
Steve Bates
Bob Adkins
J. H. Rivers
John Schoolcraft
Robby Robbins
Dana Kilgore

Absent: Fred Luntsford

ROADS AND HIGHWAYS

Supervisor Bates advised the Board that he has been talking with VDOT regarding the road on Birchfield above his house that is breaking off in places, which has become a safety hazard. VDOT is checking the road to see what can be done to make the road safe.

Supervisor Cassell noted that on Fishman Road, Rt. 695, the road is also breaking off in places due to the heavy rains. He asked that VDOT check that area too.

Supervisor Adkins noted that he had received a call from a resident on Cumbo Road with a complaint that he cannot get to his mail because of the ruts in front of his mail box. This is at the end of the road that is used as a turn-a-round for residents on that road.

IN RE: HYDRO ELECTRIC POWER PLANT

Dominion representatives Dan Poteet, Senior Manager of Business Development, Mark Walker, Manager of Generation Production, and Bill Murray, Vice President for State and Electric Public Policy, addressed the Board with an overview of the proposed pumped storage hydroelectric facility that is being considered for this region. The two (2) sites being considered is Tazewell County and Wise County. At this time, Dominion is working with Virginia Tech scientist Michael Karmis to study building a pumped storage facility at the former Bullitt mine site in Appalachia. This would be an unconventional facility in which the flooded underground mine cavity would be used as a lower reservoir.

Dominion has filed a preliminary permit with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to build a pumped storage facility on a 4,100 acre site in Tazewell County. If built, it would be a conventional facility.

Workers are now conducting geotechnical studies at the Tazewell site. In the fall, they will begin an environmental survey that will continue through 2019. Dominion expects to file further application documents with FERC in late 2019.

It was noted the Mr. Karmis and his team continue to study Bullitt mine site with heavy focus on how the presence of water affects the mine roof. Mr. Karmis' suggestions for the next level of study are under discussion. It is Dominion's goal to make final decisions by the end of 2019.

Fred Luntsford returned to the meeting at 6:27 pm.

PUBLIC EXPRESSION

There being no one to speak, the public expression period was closed.

IN RE: CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by J. H. Rivers, seconded by Robby Robbins, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

IN RE: MECC GRANT APPLICATION LETTER OF SUPPORT

Ratified the Letter of Support to be submitted with the MECC Grant Application

The motion to approve the consent agenda was unanimously approved.

IN RE: RESOLUTION –SMART SCALE APPLICATION

Finance Administrator Cox stated that this resolution of support is to be submitted with the Smart Scale application, which lists the three (3) projects that has been identified for Wise County that meets the criteria set forth for Smart Scale funding.

A motion was made by Steve Bates, seconded by John Schoolcraft, to approve the resolution of support to be submitted with the Wise County's Smart Scale Application for FY 2018.

Supervisor Rivers voiced his concern that this resolution does not prioritize the projects. He understood from VDOT that funding was available at one time for the Tacoma Project but the Board of Supervisors rejected the funds, and the funds were used on another project.

Supervisor Robbins and Chair Kilgore were not in favor of the Tacoma Mountain study because it will take homes.

Aye-	Fred Luntsford	Abstain:	Robby Robbins
	Bobby Cassell		
	Dana Kilgore		
	Steve Bates		
	Bob Adkins		
	J. H. Rivers		
	John Schoolcraft		

RESOLUTION # -2018

(Said resolution is on file in the County Administrator's Office)

IN RE: COMMITTEE FOR BLIGHTED/CONDEMNED BUILDINGS

Attorney Mullins explained that the Board received a draft policy on blighted/condemned buildings at its June meeting. In the policy, there needs to be some guidelines setting forth a procedure for removal of the buildings. The Board agreed early on that a Committee be appointed to review the policy and bring suggested changes and guidelines for removal of properties. Ms. Mullins further explained that some of the properties that are on the condemned list have been taken care of by the owner or has been removed.

Board members made suggestions as to steps for removal of buildings that would be fair to all districts.

After further discussion, the Board appointed the following individuals to a Committee for Blighted/Condemned Buildings:

Steve Bates, Robby Robbins, Finance Administrator David Cox, County Attorney Mullins, Zoning Administrator Robert Mullins, and Public Works Director Jackie Darter.

The purpose of this committee would be to provide the Board with some guidelines for removal of these blighted/condemned properties, and any suggested changes to the proposed policy.

IN RE: PUMP AND HAUL PERMIT – CLINCH RIVER CAMPGROUND --VEARL HILEMAN

A motion was made by Fred Luntsford, seconded by Robby Robbins, to approve the request from Vearl Hileman to add Clinch River Campground, LLC to the County's Pump and Haul Permit. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: PUMP AND HAUL PERMIT – GLAMORGAN NATURAL GAS LLC ---MONROE ROBINETTE

A motion was made by Steve Bates, seconded by John Schoolcraft, to approve the request from Monroe Robinette to add Glamorgan Natural Gas LLC to the County's Pump and Haul Permit. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: BUDGET AMENDMENTS

The budget amendments were reviewed and discussed.

A motion was made by Robby Robbins, seconded by Steve Bates, to approve budget amendments #1 & #2 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: APPOINTMENT – RECREATIONAL AUTHORITY

A motion was made by Fred Luntsford, seconded by John Schoolcraft, to appoint Brian Estep to fill the unexpired term of Angela Honeycutt on the Recreational Authority . The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: APPOINTMENT – INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

A motion was made by Steve Bates, seconded by Bob Adkins, to re-appoint Russell Wampler to the IDA for a term of four (4) years. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by J. H. Rivers, seconded by John Schoolcraft, to table the IDA appoint for district 3 until the September meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: APPOINTMENT – WISE COUNTY TOURISM COMMITTEE

A motion was made by Robby Robbins, seconded by Dana Kilgore, to re-appoint Debra Wells to the Wise County Tourism Committee for a term of four (4) years. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: APPOINTMENT – COAL AND GAS ROAD IMPROVEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A motion was made by J. H. Rivers, seconded by John Schoolcraft, to table the appointment to the Coal & Gas Road Committee until the September meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

Supervisor Rivers stated that he would like to further review possible candidates that would qualify for this position.

IN RE: APPOINTMENT – SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD

A motion was made by Steve Bates, seconded by Bob Adkins, to re-appoint Darlene Moore to the Social Services Board for a term of four (4) years. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: APPOINTMENT – HEART OF APPALACHIA TOURISM AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

As of July 1, 2018, new legislation from the General Assembly went into effect that restructures the membership of the Heart of Appalachia Tourism Authority Board of Directors, which provides two (2) seats for each of the eight (8) localities. This legislation better aligns the Appalachia Tourism Board with tourism partners in the region and provides a better opportunity to share in larger grant opportunities.

The Board of Supervisors approved a resolution of support for the revised language in the legislation earlier this year.

Steve Bates made a motion that the two appointments on the Heart of Appalachia Tourism Authority Board of Directors be tabled until the September meeting for further review.

It was noted that the Tourism Director of each locality has a permanent seat on the Board of Directors, but must be appointed by the Board of Supervisors of each locality to be sworn in by the county clerk.

Mr. Bates withdrew his motion to table and Bob Adkins withdrew his second.

A motion was made by Robby Robbins, seconded by Bob Adkins, to appoint Tourism Director Michael Wampler to the Heart of Appalachia Tourism Authority Board of Directors per the new legislation from the General Assembly. The motion was unanimously approved.

It was further noted that each Tourism Director, working with the tourism committee from the localities, shall provide a slate of nominations to the governing body for selection of one (1) representative preferably from the tourism industry.

Tourism Director Wampler submitted a recommendation to appoint Sharon Hatfield who is currently serving as the chair-person for the Wise County Tourism Committee, and is willing to serve if appointed.

After discussion, a motion was made by Steve Bates, seconded by Bobby Cassell, to table this seat on the Appalachia Tourism Board for further review of other possible nominations. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: CLOSE SESSION

A motion was made by Bobby Cassell, seconded by Robby Robbins, to go into close session as permitted by the Code of Virginia per the following Code Section:

- Section 2.2-3711(A)(6) Investing of public funds
 - (A)(7) Consultation with legal counsel
 - (A)(1) Personnel

The motion was unanimously approved.

Following close session, a motion was made by Bob Adkins, seconded by Robby Robbins, to reconvene the regular meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: RESOLUTION CLOSE SESSION CERTIFICATION

A motion was made by Fred Luntsford, seconded by Bobby Cassell, to approve the resolution certifying that only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements as were identified in the motion convening the close meeting were discussed or heard by the Board of Supervisors. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION # -2018

(Said resolution is on file in the County Administrator's Office)

RECESS

A motion was made by J. H. Rivers, seconded by Fred Luntsford, to recess the meeting until Wednesday, August 15, 2018 @ 1:00 pm in the County Administrator's Office conference room. The motion was unanimously approved.

ATTEST:

WISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

David L. Cox, Interim Clerk

Dana G. Kilgore, Chair