

Board of Supervisors - November 8, 2018 Regular Meeting

The Wise County Board of Supervisors met in a Regular meeting on Thursday, November 8, 2018 @ 6:00 pm in the School Board Education Center located at 628 Lake Street in Wise. The following members were present:

Honorable Dana G. Kilgore – Chair
Honorable Robert E. Robbins, Jr. – Vice-Chair
Honorable J. H. Rivers
Honorable John Schoolcraft
Honorable Fred Luntsford
Honorable Bobby Cassell
Honorable Robert R. Adkins
Honorable Steve Bates – members of said Board and
Michael W. Hatfield – County 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 John Schoolcraft, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

AGENDA

A motion was made by John Schoolcraft, seconded by Bobby Cassell, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC EXPRESSION

Lisa Odle came before the Board with complaints of animal cruelty against Animal Control Officer Glen Arwood. She alluded to the report from Eileen McAfee the animal activist in Richmond, and the claims she had against Mr. Arwood. She said citizens want Mr. Arwood off the Buchanan property, and the home be used as a clinic per Ms. Buchanan's wishes. At this time, no one is able to adopt from the shelter, and no one will volunteer to help until Mr. Arwood has been dismissed from his duties.

Theresa Kelly, a resident of Big Stone Gap, came before the Board on behalf of her friend that is having problems with a neighbor's goats, cows, and chickens that have taken up residence in her yard. She and her husband are sick with major health issues and not able to clean up after these animals. The owner of the animals is not cooperating in keeping his animals on his property. She asked for some assistance in getting these animals removed.

Mr. Kelly also asked for names and addresses of rescue agencies that are used by the County Animal Shelter. One of her concerns is that people are losing their dogs to animal rescue. People should be allowed to adopt the animals from the shelter before going to rescue.

Tammy Dotson, a volunteer at the shelter, stated that dogs can be adopted from the shelter to people that are responsible.

Sheryl Basham stated that Mr. Arwood has a temper and his behavior is uncalled for as an Animal Control Officer. He shows no compassion or concern for the animals. He's a disgrace as a representative of Wise County, and the Board of Supervisors should do something about this problem and get rid of Mr. Arwood

Yvonne Whitaker and Amy Jackson told the Board that they are still waiting for their dog to be returned. When they call the shelter, they get no assurance that the dog will be returned. Ms. Whitaker said it seems that her only recourse is to get a lawyer, since she cannot get any assistance from the Board.

Patricia Flanary, a resident of Appalachia, and Amy Jackson, a resident of Wise, voiced their concerns regarding the adoption rules at the shelter. They felt that residents of Wise County should have a choice of adoption prior to dogs going to rescue. They said it was time for the Board of Supervisors to do something about making a change at the animal shelter.

Catherine Stallard, a resident of Pound, voiced her concern for a clinic to be set up on the Buchanan property, which was the will of Ms. Buchanan, and use the funds left to the estate for spay and neuter of the animals to cut down on the growing population of dogs and cats. Ms. Stallard is concerned that there is no place local that people can afford to have their animals spayed or neutered. A clinic would not only cut down on the animal population but also bring in revenue to operate the clinic. Any assistance the Board can give to make this happen is appreciated.

She also spoke about the fate of Ms. Buchanan's animals, and Ms. Buchanan's desire to make sure that her animals were cared for during their life time. Regarding Mr. Arwood, she said he should be charged and prosecuted for what he has done over the years to innocent animals. The Board needs to stand up and do what is right and fire Arwood.

Joann Harding stated that people need to come together and work to find a solution for the animal problems in Wise County. Mr. Arwood should be relieved of his duties and made to leave the Buchanan house. It is also important to work with rescue in finding homes for the animals.

Walter Crouse, a resident of Hurricane, made the following comments:

- Increase rate for recycling
- Go zero budget in Wise County
- Reduce waste
- Need to control bear population
- Solve problem with Elk destroying farms
- Decrease deer population

Claude Blair addressed the Board with an alleyway problem on Shawnee Avenue in Big Stone Gap. There seems to be a misunderstanding on the property line. He explained that he has a deed showing his property and Baker Street is not part of that deed. This misunderstanding has created a problem that is ongoing with his neighbor Ms Dalton and his dumpster. He produced a map for the Board to see.

Chair Kilgore asked Mr. Blair to make an appointment with the County Administrator and he and Attorney Mullins will assist him in addressing this problem.

There being no further comments, the public expression period was closed.

IN RE: CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Bob Adkins, seconded by Robby Robbins, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

IN RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT

Ratified the Support Letter for Appalachian Sustainable Development AML Pilot Proposal

The motion to approve the consent agenda was unanimously approved.

IN RE: MAINTENANCE CODE FOR WISE COUNTY

Chair Kilgore stated that she felt the Board should have a workshop to discuss the proposed Maintenance Code prior to setting a public hearing. After discussion, a motion was made by Bobby Cassell, seconded by Bob Adkins, to hold a workshop for more discussion on the proposed Maintenance Code. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: AGENDA AMENDMENT

A motion was made by Robby Robbins, seconded by Steve Bates, to amend the agenda to add setting a workshop on the proposed Maintenance Code. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: MAINTENANCE CODE ---WORKSHOP

A motion was made by Fred Luntsford, seconded by Bobby Cassell, to set a workshop for Wednesday, November 28th, 2018 @ 12:00 Noon in the School Board Education Center, if available, or the County Administrator's Conference Room to discuss the proposed Maintenance Code for Wise County. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: CARDNO SERVICES AGREEMENT

Attorney Mullins stated that the School Board has made some modifications to the document. She and the County Administrator have not had an opportunity to contact Cardno representatives to confirm all these modifications / changes. She asked the Board to consider approving the document subject to the modifications/changes being approved by the County Administrator and County Attorney.

A motion was made by J. H. Rivers, seconded by Bobby Cassell, to approve the Cardno Services Agreement subject to approval of the County Administrator and the County Attorney to the modifications/changes made by the School. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: ANIMAL RESCUE COALITION – TAX EXEMPT STATUS

A motion was made by J. H. Rivers, seconded by Robby Robbins, to set a public hearing on December 13, 2018 at 6:00 PM in the School Board Education Center to receive citizens' comments on a proposed ordinance for a tax exempt status for Animal Rescue Coalition. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: BUDGET AMENDMENTS

A motion was made by John Schoolcraft, seconded by Robby Robbins, to approve budget amendments #7 thru #10 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: CLOSE SESSION

A motion was made by Bob Adkins, seconded by Robby Robbins, to go into close session as permitted by the Code of Virginia per the following Code Sections:

- 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 John Schoolcraft, to reconvene the regular meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: RESOLUTION CERTIFYING CLOSE SESSION

A motion was made by Fred Luntsford, seconded by J. H. Rivers, to approve the resolution certifying that only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements as were identified in the motion convening the meeting were heard or discussed 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)

ADJOURN

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, a motion was made by Robby Robbins, seconded by John Schoolcraft, to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 PM. The motion was unanimously approved.

ATTEST:

WISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Michael W. Hatfield, Clerk

Dana G. Kilgore, Chair