

Board of Supervisors - February 8, 2018 Regular Meeting

The Wise County Board of Supervisors met in a Regular Meeting on Thursday, February 8, 2018 @ 6:00 PM in the School Board Education Center located 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
Shannon C. Scott – County Administrator
Karen T. Mullins – County Attorney
David Cox – Finance Administrator
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 Fred Luntsford, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

AGENDA

A motion was made by Robby Robbins, seconded by Bob Adkins, to approve the agenda as presented to include the items in red.

Supervisor Rivers asked that every effort be made to abstain from adding items to the agenda once the packet has been delivered to Board members. Board members do not have sufficient time to review new items to make a decision if needed.

The motion to approve the agenda was unanimously approved.

ROADS AND HIGHWAYS

Supervisor Rivers asked that VDOT be contacted to find out whether or not accidents have increased or decreased at Union High School since the construction of the Roundabout.

Supervisor Robbins asked that VDOT be contacted as to why the last mile marker was not installed at the last exit in Pound along Rt. 23.

Mr. Robbins also wanted to know if VDOT was aware that a study was made by Maxim Engineering in FY 2000 on Innovation Highway for a cost of \$19M, and today's study has been estimated to cost almost \$100M. He would like to know the reason for the increase in cost.

IN RE: PUBLIC HEARING – NAMING OF BRIDGE IN COEBURN

A public hearing was duly advertised for this date to receive citizens' comments regarding a request to designate the bridge at the Route 58 and Route 72 Intersection located in downtown Coeburn as the Fallen Firefighters Memorial Bridge.

Rick Sullivan voiced his appreciation to the Board for their support in getting this bridge named in honor of the fallen firefighters. He fully supported the naming of the bridge.

There being no further public comments, the public hearing was closed.

IN RE: PUBLIC HEARING - CHANGES TO 2ND DUE EMERGENCY RESPONDER – FIRE RESPONSE ZONE

A public hearing was duly advertised for this date to receive citizens' comments on changing the 2nd due emergency responder as a fire response zone for an area of Big Stone Gap.

There being no public comment, the public hearing was closed.

IN RE: AUDIT REPORT – FY 2017

Emily Viers, CPA for Robinson, Farmer, Cox Association, provided the Board with an overview of the County's audit for year ending June 30, 2017. The audit has been completed with a clean opinion, which means that the books and records were in good order under the quality of standards and in general compliance.

IN RE: APPALACHIA FIRE DEPARTMENT– ADDITIONAL FUNDING REQUEST

Travis Anderson, representing Appalachia Fire Department, came before the Board requesting financial assistance with the recent purchase of a Utility Vehicle that will be able to do rescues in the most remote areas in our region. This vehicle can go where other vehicles cannot go. He explained that the fire department began providing emergency medical services in Appalachia in 2014, which has doubled the department's cost and call volume. The cost of equipment and maintenance has increased, and is an ongoing expense. The department is in a constant search for grants to help with these expenses, and recently was awarded a State Emergency Medical Services Grant in the amount of \$10,000. Those funds went toward the cost of the Utility Vehicle.

The total cost for the rescue unit was \$21,000 plus \$3,500 for an attachment used to transport a patient on the back of the vehicle. The department paid the \$14,500 from its operations budget, which has put them over budget.

Supervisor Luntsford reminded the Board that hiking trails are becoming a tourist attraction in our region and a vehicle such as this is an asset to the County.

Mr. Anderson ask the Board to consider a contribution of \$14,500 to the Appalachia Fire Department to recoup their cost for the Utility Vehicle.

Chair Kilgore stated that the Board will take his request under consideration.

PUBLIC EXPRESSION

Walter Crouse, a resident of the Hurricane section of Wise County, voiced his concerns on the following:

- Citizens remember to recycle and not litter
- Put a citizen on the Budget Committee for a different view of the budget & ideas for savings
- Property is being overvalued and should be decrease not increased

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

IN RE: CONSENT AGENDA

J. H. Rivers made a motion to approve the consent agenda. John Schoolcraft seconded the motion.

Supervisor Rivers asked that item #3 (approval for two members of the Board of Supervisors to serve on the Social Services Board) be pulled and voted on with a separate motion. He explained that he did not want this to be a motion that would open the door, without Board approval, for more than one supervisor to be placed on that Board. He felt the motion should be for this one particular situation.

J. H. Rivers withdrew his motion to approve the consent agenda. John Schoolcraft withdrew his second.

Fred Luntsford made a motion to approve the following consent agenda with the removal of item #3 (approval for two Board of Supervisor members to serve on the Social Service Board) to be voted on as a separate item. John Schoolcraft seconded the motion.

IN RE: RESOLUTION HONORING EASTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL ONE ACT PLAY TEAM

Approved the resolution honoring the Eastside High School One Act Play Team

RESOLUTION # 2018

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

IN RE: REFUND – COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE

Approved the request from the Commissioner of Revenue for a refund of \$2,763.62 payable to W.L. Construction Paving, Inc.

IN RE: AUDIT ENDING FY 2017

Accepted the County's FY 2017 Audit Report as presented

IN RE: RESOLUTION ACCESS ROAD TO UVA-WISE

Approved the resolution of support for an access road to UVA-Wise

RESOLUTION # 2018

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

The motion to approve the consent agenda was unanimously approved.

IN RE: SOCIAL SERVICE BOARD APPOINTMENT

It was noted, for clarification, that Bobby Cassell, a member of the DSS Board, was recently elected to the Board of Supervisors. Steve Bates, a member of the Board of Supervisors, also serves on the DSS Board. The Code of Virginia stated that two (2) members of the Board of Supervisors cannot serve at the same time on the DSS Board unless approved by the Board of Supervisors. Therefore, the following motion was made:

A motion was made by J. H. Rivers, seconded by John Schoolcraft, to allow two members of the Board of Supervisors, Bobby Cassell and Steve Bates, to serve simultaneously on the DSS Board for their appointed terms as members of the DSS Board. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: RESOLUTION FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL BRIDGE

A public hearing was held on February 8, 2018 to receive citizens comments regarding the proposed naming of the bridge in the Town of Coeburn. There was no public opposition to the naming of the bridge.

A motion was made by Robby Robbins, seconded by Steve Bates, to approve the resolution naming the bridge in Coeburn the "Fallen Firefighters Memorial Bridge." The motion was unanimously approved

RESOLUTION # 2018

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

IN RE: EMERGENCY RESPONDER CHANGE

A public hearing was held on February 8, 2018 to receive citizens' comments regarding changes to the 2nd due emergency responder for fire response zone in the Big Stone Gap area. There were no public comments regarding the proposed change.

A motion was made by Fred Luntsford, seconded by J. H. Rivers, to approve changes to the 2nd emergency responder for fire response in the Big Stone Gap area as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: RESOLUTION SUPPORTING HYDROELECTRIC PUMP STORAGE FACILITY

A motion was made by Bob Adkins, seconded by John Schoolcraft, to approve the resolution in support of the Revenue Sharing Legislation for the Hydroelectric Pump Storage Facility. The motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION # 2018

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

IN RE: BUDGET COMMITTEE

Chair Kilgore noted that she and Supervisor Rivers would serve on the Budget Committee, and the whole Board will have a workshop to review the committee's recommendations, and make other adjustments the Board may have.

IN RE: COMPREHENSIVE PLAN WORKSHOP

Chair Kilgore stated that she would like to schedule a workshop on Friday, February 16, 2018 @ 9:00 AM in the conference room of the County Administrator's Office, for review of the final draft on the Comp Plan. Board members were in agreement with the workshop.

IN RE: BUDGET AMENDMENTS

A motion was made by Bob Adkins, seconded by Robby Robbins, to approve budget amendments #11 & #12 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Supervisor Rivers voiced his concern that the Board of Equalization has not been put in place for the recent reassessment process. He felt the Commissioner of Revenue should be contacted regarding the time frame for the Equalization Board to be in place.

Attorney Mullins stated that she would speak with the Commissioner of Revenue, and advise the Board accordingly.

IN RE: CLOSE SESSION

A motion was made by Robby Robbins, seconded by Bob Adkins, 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.

After a lengthy close session, a motion was made by Fred Luntsford, seconded by Robby Robbins, to reconvene the regular meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: RESOLUTION – CERTIFICATION FOR 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 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)

IN RE: AGENDA ADDITION

A motion was made by Robby Robbins, seconded by Fred Luntsford, to add to the agenda the Appalachia Fire Department request for funding, and personnel. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: APPALACHIA FIRE DEPARTMENT FUNDING

A motion was made by Fred Luntsford, seconded by Bobby Cassell, to contribute \$14,500 to the Appalachia fire department as reimbursement of funds to cover the cost of the side-by-side Utility Vehicle. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: VACANT POSITIONS FOR ADVERTISEMENT

A motion was made by Robby Robbins, seconded by Bob Adkins, to authorize the advertisement of two (2) vacant 911 Dispatcher positions, and one custodial position. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: MERIT INCREASES

A motion was made by J. H. Rivers, seconded by John Schoolcraft, to approve merit increases for two (2) County employees due to increased education. The motion was unanimously approved.

RECESS

There being no further business to come before the Board a motion was made by Fred Luntsford, seconded by J. H. Rivers, to recess the meeting until Friday, February 16, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m. in the conference room of the County Administrator's Office. The motion was unanimously approved.

ATTEST:

WISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Shannon C. Scott, Clerk

Dana G. Kilgore, Chair