

There was a Regular meeting of the Wise County Redevelopment and Housing Authority Board of Commissioners on Tuesday February 10, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. at the John Vandiver Community Center in Coeburn, Virginia.

Upon roll call, the following members were present:

Robert Harrison
Terry Bates
Randy Carter
James Cooper
Eula Hughes
John Markham
Karon Johnson

Absent:
Gail Luntford

Attorney Greg Gilbert was also present.

Randy Carter opened the meeting with prayer, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Harrison asked if there were any public comments. Mr. Glenn Cantrell who is on Pound Town Council, asked to speak to the board concerning the water lines at Old Mill Village Apartments. He stated that the materials they have and the water lines that were put in at Old Mill Village are not compatible. He wanted to ask that when upgrades are done to the existing water lines, he would like to have some input as to the type of material that will be used. Mr. Salyer told Mr. Cantrell he would be glad to meet with them and go over the problems that are happening with the water lines in Pound.

Chairman Harrison asked if there was any other public comment and Mr. Salyer stated that he just wanted to mention the Virginia Weldon Cooper Center study that stated Wise County has suffered the highest population loss in the whole state. He wanted to bring this to every ones attention and mention that this does have an effect on our housing needs in Wise County. Lower population means less people on our waiting list for housing.

Chairman Harrison asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of December 9, 2014. Randy Carter made a motion to approve the minutes as received; the motion was seconded by James Cooper. All members voted aye.

Chairman Harrison asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda. Mr. Salyer had one addition to make to the agenda, under new business; Old Mill Village. John Markham made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition; a second was made by Eula Hughes. All members voted aye.

Chairman Harrison moved on to Old Business, Appalachian Towers Renovations. Mr. Salyer stated that the Appalachian Towers contract is coming to a close. He also said that he had to make a change of \$15,000 on the contract last month due to a roof issue. He said that all the renovations have made a dramatic difference in the water issue behind Appalachian Towers. The water problem can never totally be eliminated because of the location of the building and the fact

that the basement is below the water table. All the construction will be finished soon if weather allows. All of the residents at Appalachia Towers are pleased with the renovations.

Karon Johnson asked if was a possibility of getting some historical grant money for Appalachian Towers due to the age of the building. Mr. Salyer said that he would check on the aspect of grant money.

Mr. Jack Mooney wanted to let the board know of an incident that occurred at the Appalachia Towers of a resident that was staying in the unit rented by Frontier Health. A gentleman lit a piece of paper and threw it in a dresser and yelled fire. Another resident called the fire department and they came to the Towers. No damage occurred to the apartment, only to the dresser that belonged to Frontier Health. The gentleman was taken out of the apartment and will not be returning.

Chairman Harrison continued on to the next item on the agenda, Big Stone Gap Housing Authority jurisdiction issues. Mr. Salyer wanted to bring to the attention of the Board that Big Stone Gap Housing is having jurisdictional issues with Wise County Redevelopment and Housing Authority. Mr. Salyer stated that he had received a call from his HUD representative, Ms. Wilma Henry and she stated that they had received several calls concerning tenants not being allowed to port their voucher from Big Stone Gap Housing to Wise County Redevelopment and Housing Authority. Mr. Salyer told her that this is a problem that will need to be addressed by HUD. In January there was a telephone conference with Big Stone Gap Housing Authority, Wise County Housing Authority, Representative Wilma Henry, HUD's legal advisor and Director Catherine Lamberg, HUD wishes to mediate the issue.

Chairman Harrison moved on to new business, Litchfield Manor/Town water. Litchfield Manor had 2 residents that had murky water and they decided to attend a Town Council meeting and address this issue. Mr. Salyer said that he found out about the water issues, when he received a phone call from a reporter for the newspaper, enquiring about the problem. He in turn called the Wise County Health Department and they came and took samples and everything came back safe. Mr. Salyer contacted Lane Engineering and they came and constructed a blow off valve to clear out the lines. This should take care of the cloudy water in those 2 apartments.

Chairman Harrison continued on to other new business, Old Mill Village. Mr. Salyer wanted to advise the board of an issue with residents at Old Mill Village. We have a resident that wished to add someone to their lease and a couple of the residents was under the impression that this person was on the sex offenders list. He is not. When we screen applicants, we do a National Criminal check and that is one item that is always checked. We have told the residents that they themselves can go online and look on the Virginia State Police Sex Offender Registry and check any name.

Chairman Harrison asked if there were any other comments, there were none.

Chairman Harrison asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Randy Carter made a motion to adjourn; and was seconded by Terry Bates. All members voted aye.