

Board of Supervisors – April 13, 2023 Regular Meeting

The Wise County Board of Supervisors met in a Regular Meeting on Thursday, April 13, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m. in the School Board Education Center located at 628 Lake Street in Wise. The following members were present:

Honorable J. H. Rivers – Chairman
Honorable John T. Schoolcraft – Vice-Chairman
Honorable Tim Boardwine
Honorable James R. Lawson
Honorable Robert R. Adkins
Honorable Steve Bates
Honorable Fred Luntsford (By Phone)
Honorable Randy Carter – members of said Board and
Michael W. Hatfield – County Administrator
Karen T. Mullins – County Attorney
Annette Underwood – Executive Secretary

PRAYER

Randy Carter led in prayer.

PLEDGE

All led in the Pledge.

MINUTES

A motion was made by John Schoolcraft, seconded by Randy Carter, to approve the minutes of March 9, 2023, as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

AGENDA

A motion was made by Tim Boardwine, seconded by John Schoolcraft, to add to the agenda a resolution opposing Appalachian Power Company's Petition for a rate increase, and to approve the agenda as presented to include the items in red. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: PUBLIC HEARING – NAMING OF BRIDGE - PAUL E. TRAMMELL MEMORIAL BRIDGE

A public hearing was duly advertised for this date to receive citizens' comments regarding naming of bridge located near Intersection of Callahan Avenue & Roda Road in the Appalachia area as Paul E. Trammell Memorial Bridge.

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

IN RE: PUBLIC HEARING – ORDINANCE FOR WISE COUNTY OFF-ROAD RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

A public hearing was duly advertised for this date to receive citizens' comments regarding a proposed ordinance for Wise County Off-Road Recreational Vehicles.

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

IN RE: PUBLIC HEARING -E-911 ROAD NAME ADDITIONS

A public hearing was duly advertised for this date to receive citizens' comments on the proposed naming of two (2) E-911 road names additions (Tilda Lane – BSG) and (Adventure Lane – St. Paul).

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

IN RE: HEART OF APPALACHIA UPDATE

Kimberly Smith, Executive Director for the Heart of Appalachia, provided the Board with an update on the Heart of Appalachia activities. The Heart of Appalachia continues to grow its partnerships with many area organizations and governmental agencies to achieve a robust portfolio of marketing success in each of the seven counties and one city that they serve.

She gave a brief overview of the economic impact analysis for Wise County and our region. This study is designed to quantify the economic impact of visitor spending in the Heart of Appalachia Region. Utilizing the spending projections from the Virginia Tourism Corporation, the analysis captures the economic activity generated by visitor spending.

In this study, economic impact is measured in terms of direct, indirect, and induced jobs, wages, and local tax revenues. This impact represents the total dollars flowing through the local economy from tourism activity and provides local leaders and policy makers with an understanding of the significant economic role tourism plays in the Heart of Appalachia Region.

IN RE: FAMILY CRISIS UPDATE

Mary Beth Adkins, Family Crisis Support Services Director, addressed the Board with a reminder that she met with several local governments a couple of years ago regarding the need for a larger facility to serve the five-county area that FCC serves. She noted that this need is being met with a new facility, which has been set to open sometime in October. She introduced the Project Development Administrator, Michael Wampler, that has been hired to oversee the project.

Mr. Wampler provided a power point on the new FCC Facility that is located on five-acres of land between Norton and Wise. At the present time, there are fourteen funding partners for the new facility,

which serves the homeless, sexual assault victims and victims of domestic violence. A ribbon cutting for the new facility is set for October.

PUBLIC EXPRESSION

Walter Crouse, a resident of the Hurricane section of Wise County, expressed the following concerns he has that need attention:

- Litter Control needs help with litter pickup
- Citizens need to stop littering the highways
- Need to recycle to help save our landfill space
- No electric buses... electric vehicles are not reliable
- VDOT needs to clean the ditches
- Need food services at the Wise Inn

Stephany Kern stated that the Hurst Marker should be put back at the Kent Junction site with lighting, a camera, and a fence. She voiced her opposition to the school site. She made further comments that the lynching of Dave Hurst was a hideous crime and should never have happened: but it did. We should learn from that evil time in our history by moving forward and working together to heal our nation. The past cannot be undone, but the future is ours to overcome evil with good.

Greg Moore, representing the Community Remembrance Coalition that organized the marker projects, voiced his appreciation to the Board of Supervisors and Mr. Hatfield for their support of the markers. He asked the Board to consider placing the Hurst Marker at the former Appalachia Elementary School, which has good lighting and has fencing to make it more secure.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

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

IN RE: RESOLUTION REGIONAL IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION FUNDS

Approved the Resolution of the County of Wise, Virginia Regional Improvement Funds for improvements in education

RESOLUTION #4 - 2023

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

IN RE: SIX-YEAR PLAN AND SECONDARY SYSTEM CONSTRUCTION BUDGET

Set public hearing (5-11-2023 @ 6:00 p.m.) on the proposed Wise County Secondary Six-Year Plan & Secondary System Construction Budget

IN RE: ELECTRONIC MEETINGS POLICY

Set public hearing (5-11-2023 @ 6:00 p.m.) on a proposed Wise County Electronic Meetings Policy

IN RE: RESOLUTION - ODP'S RATE INCREASE

Approved a Resolution Opposing ODP's Application for a Rate Increase

RESOLUTION #5 - 2023

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

IN RE: AGREEMENT - HOUSING NEEDS & MARKET ASSESSMENT STUDY

Approved the Agreement for Professional Services for Housing Needs & Market Assessment Study

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

IN RE: MOU - T&L RETAINER AGREEMENT - SEMI-GROUNDWATER REPORT

Approved MOU #32 to T&L Retainer Agreement for the purpose of preparing the County's 2023 Semi-Annual Groundwater Report for submission to DEQ

IN RE: PROCLAMATION OF APPRECIATION & RECOGNITION

Approved the Proclamation of Appreciation and Recognition proclaiming April 9-15, 2023, as Public Safety Telecommunicators Week in Wise County

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

IN RE: RESOLUTION – LEASE PURCHASE FINANCING

Approved the Resolution Approving the Lease Purchase Financing for the design, acquisition, improvement, installation and equipping of various vehicles and related equipment by the County

RESOLUTION #6 - 2023

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

IN RE: RESOLUTION OPPOSING APPALACHIAN POWER RATE INCREASE

Adopted the resolution opposing Appalachian Power Company's Petition to Approve its 2023 HPS and Waivers

RESOLUTION #7 - 2023

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

The motion to approve the consent agenda was unanimously approved.

IN RE: RESOLUTION – NAMING OF BRIDGE - PAUL E. TRAMMELL MEMORIAL BRIDGE

A public hearing was held on 4-13-2023, to receive citizens' comments regarding the naming of bridge #1055 as the Paul E. Trammell Memorial Bridge. There was no public opposition to the proposed naming of the bridge.

A motion was made by Fred Luntsford, seconded by John Schoolcraft, to approve the Resolution naming Bridge #1055 located in the Appalachia area of Wise County as the Paul E. Trammell Memorial Bridge. The motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION #8 - 2023

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

IN RE: ORDINANCE OFF-ROAD RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

A public hearing was held on 4-13-2023, to receive citizens' comments regarding a proposed Ordinance for Wise County Off-Road Recreational Vehicles. There was no public opposition to the proposed ordinance.

A motion was made by James Lawson, seconded by Randy Carter, to approve the ordinance for Wise County Off-Road Recreational Vehicles to promote tourism and recreational activities in Wise County. The motion was unanimously approved.

Attorney Mullins noted that this is only the basic document regarding the off-road recreational vehicles. The County does not, by this ordinance, authorize the operation of any off-road recreational vehicles within its boundaries. A specific land use permit for ATV use on eligible sections of highway must be applied for, and approved, by VDOT with necessary signage, and will be identified at future dates.

ORDINANCE #1 - 2023

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

IN RE: ORDINANCE (AMENDMENT) - POLICY ON MARKERS, PLAQUES & MONUMENTS

A motion was made by Steve Bates, seconded by Tim Boardwine, to table the proposed amendment to the Ordinance on Policy for Markers, Plaques & Monuments located on property of Wise County. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: HURST MARKER PLACEMENT

A motion was made by Steve Bates, seconded by Tim Boardwine, to place the Hurst Marker at the former Appalachia Elementary School, which has good lighting and is surrounded by fencing, making it a more secure location. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: E-911 ROAD NAMES

A public hearing was held on April 13, 2023, to receive public comments on the proposed naming of two (2) E-911 road name additions (Tilda Lane – BSG) & (Adventure Lane – St. Paul). There was no opposition to the proposed names.

A motion was made by John Schoolcraft, seconded by Tim Boardwine, to approve the two (2) E-911 Road names as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

IN RE: BUDGET AMENDMENTS

A motion was made by Randy Carter, seconded by Bob Adkins, to approve budget amendments # 41 – #42 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

BOARD COMMENTS

The Board discussed the littering problem that is facing Wise County and the surrounding area. Several suggestions were made as possible solutions, as well as more control on property maintenance.

There were comments on a Regional Animal Shelter for Wise County, which could be a possible economic engine for our area.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Tim Boardwine, seconded by James Lawson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m. The motion was unanimously approved.

ATTEST:

WISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Michael W. Hatfield, Clerk

J. H. Rivers, Chairman