

**CRAIG COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 2nd, 2020**

AT A REGULAR MEETING of the Craig County Board of Supervisors conducted on the 2nd day of January 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the Craig County Court House Courtroom.

PRESENT:

- Jesse Spence – Chair
- Carl Bailey – Vice Chair
- Lindsey Dunne– Supervisor
- Kathi Toelke, Supervisor
- Rusty Zimmerman – Supervisor
- Dan Collins – Clerk

OPEN MEETING

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mr. Spence. The invocation was given by Mr. Zimmerman, followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

REQUESTS TO POSTPONE, ADD TO OR CHANGE THE ORDER OF AGENDA ITEMS

No Requests.

REORGANIZATION

- A. Election of the Chairman: Mr. Spence asked for nominations from the Board, Mr. Bailey nominated Mr. Spence, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. There were no additional nominations and the motion was approved.
- B. Election of Vice Chairman: Mr. Spence asked for nominations for Vice Chairman, Mr. Spence nominated Mr. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. There were no additional nominations and the motion was approved.
- C. Appointment of Clerk, Zoning Administrator, and Subdivision Agent to the Board of Supervisors: Mr. Bailey made a motion to nominate Mr. Collins as Clerk, Zoning Administrator, and Subdivision Agent to the Board of Supervisors, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. There were no additional nominations and the motion was approved.
- D. Adopt Roberts Rules of Order: Mr. Spence asked if the Board wished to adopt the Roberts Rules of Order: Mr. Bailey made a motion to adopt the Roberts Rules of Order, seconded by Ms. Toelke. There were no additional motions and the motion was approved.

CONSENT ITEMS

Mr. Spence presented the consent items to the Board:

- A. Minutes of December 5th, 2019
- B. Claims and Warrants

Mr. Bailey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman, to approve the minutes and consent items with Resolution R20-01. Voting was as follows: Mr. Zimmerman, yes, Ms. Toelke, yes, Ms. Dunne, yes, Mr. Bailey, yes and Mr. Spence, yes.

R20-01

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF CRAIG COUNTY, VIRGINIA, HELD AT THE CRAIG COUNTY COURTHOUSE ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 2ND, 2020

RESOLUTION APPROVING AND CONCURRING IN CERTAIN ITEMS SET FORTH ON THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA FOR THIS DATE DESIGNATED AS THE CONSENT ITEMS

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Craig County, Virginia, as follows:

- 1. That the certain section of the agenda of the Board of Supervisors for December 5th, 2019 designated as the Consent Items be, and hereby is, approved and concurred in

as to each item separately set forth in said section designated Items 1 through 2, inclusive, as follows:

- 1. Approval of minutes – December 5th, 2019
- 2. Claims and Warrants

- 2. That the Clerk to the Board is hereby authorized and directed where required by law to set forth upon any of said items the separate vote tabulation for any such item pursuant to this resolution.

The Board of Supervisors of Craig County, in a regular meeting on 2ND day of January 2020 adopted this Resolution.

PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS

The Board of Supervisors recognized retiring Board member Casey McKenzie with a framed certificate of recognition. Mr. McKenzie was unable to attend, but the certificate will be delivered to him. Mr. Spence asked for a motion to approve the recognition. A motion was made by Mr. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. Voting was as follows: Mr. Zimmerman, yes, Ms. Toelke, yes, Ms. Dunne, yes, Mr. Bailey, yes and Mr. Spence, yes.

Certificate of Recognition

Presented to

Casey McKenzie

WHEREAS, Casey McKenzie was elected to the Craig County Board of Supervisors representing the Craig Creek District in November 2015 and began serving his first term on January 1, 2016, and

WHEREAS, Casey McKenzie retired from the Craig County Board of Supervisors on December 31, 2019, and

WHEREAS, Casey McKenzie has served the citizens of the Craig Creek District and the County of Craig with dedication and commitment,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RECOGNIZED that it is with sincere gratitude and appreciation that we recognize the services of Casey McKenzie and the commitment that he brought to the Board of Supervisors.

BRIEFINGS

- A. Ray Varney, VDOT: Mr. Varney provided the board with a Monthly Report on work in the County. Mr. Spence asked for additional information concerning the Rails-to-Trails work. Mr. Varney said that at present, VDOT is beginning a study to determine if it is feasible with landowners using right of ways and bridges that would need replaced. First step after the study will be to arrive at an estimated cost and then funding options. At this point a timeline for the project would be many years down the road.

- B. J.D. Carlin, Prevention & Wellness Specialist for Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare: Mr. Carlin presented the Board a report concerning Youth Risk Behavior Survey which was conducted at the Middle and High Schools that included approximately 300 students. It showed statistics on Alcohol, Tobacco, Drugs, Mental Health and Healthy Social Behaviors.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Resolution Honoring the Service of Deputy Jeff Huffman and Approving the Purchase of Service Firearm: Mr. Zimmerman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve Resolution R20-02. Voting was as follows: Mr. Zimmerman, yes, Ms. Toelke, yes, Ms. Dunne, yes, Mr. Bailey, yes and Mr. Spence, yes.

R20-02

A Resolution Honoring the Service of Deputy Jeff Huffman and Approving the Purchase of Service Firearm

WHEREAS, Jeff Huffman began his career as a deputy for the Craig County Sheriff's Office on August 15th, 1994, serving over twenty-five years with dedication and distinction, and

WHEREAS, Jeff Huffman is retiring on December 31, 2019 and the Code of Virginia §59.1-148.3 allows retiring deputies to purchase their service firearm for \$1.00, and

WHEREAS, Deputy Jeff Huffman has requested purchasing his service firearm (Weapon Sig Sauer P229 Caliber 357 with serial number 55B058587), for \$1.00 pursuant to the referenced State Code, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Craig County that it is with sincere appreciation and gratitude that we recognize Jeff Huffman for his many years of service to the citizens of Craig County,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Craig County that Deputy Jeff Huffman is authorized to purchase his service firearm (Weapon Sig Sauer P229 Caliber 357 with serial number 55B058587), for \$1.00 pursuant to Code of Virginia §59.1-148.3.

The Board of Supervisors of Craig County, in a regular meeting on the 2nd day of January 2020 adopted this Resolution.

- B. Resolution in Support of Equal Taxing Authority for Virginia Counties: Ms. Toelke made a motion, seconded by Mr. Spence, to approve Resolution R20-03. Voting was as follows: Mr. Zimmerman, yes, Ms. Toelke, yes, Ms. Dunne, yes, Mr. Bailey, no and Mr. Spence, yes.

R20-03

Resolution in Support for Equal Taxing Authority for Virginia Counties

Whereas, under the Code of Virginia county governments have less authority to raise revenues to meet their responsibilities than do cities and towns, and

Whereas, limitations on counties' ability to raise revenues from diverse sources result in an over-reliance on real property taxes to fund basic services of local government; and

Whereas, counties are limited in their ability to raise revenues from meals, cigarette, transient occupancy, and admissions taxes that are available to cities and towns; and

Whereas, providing counties equal taxing authority merely provides local boards of supervisors the ability to levy the same taxes that may already be imposed by city councils; and

Whereas, county governments have the same responsibility as cities for the funding of and meeting state requirements for core services, such as K-12 education, public safety, social services, and public health; and

Whereas, relying too heavily on one source of revenue leaves counties vulnerable to downturns in the real estate market and population shifts; and

Whereas, additional tools to raise revenues would allow counties options to invest the necessary additional funds to respond to modern-day challenges, such as enhancing election cybersecurity; providing mental health treatment in jails; addressing substance abuse; maintaining vital infrastructure, such as water and sewer systems; and implementing Next-Generation 911 technology; and

Whereas, state enabling legislation is required to provide counties with this additional taxing authority; and

Whereas, each locality is best positioned to determine the appropriate mix of revenue sources to meet local needs;

Now Therefore, the Board of Supervisors of Craig County does hereby resolve and express its support and desire for the Virginia General Assembly to enact such legislation as is necessary to authorize Virginia counties to exercise additional taxing authority equal to that of cities and towns.

- C. The Board reviewed the 2020 Budget Meeting Schedule that was provided by Mr. Collins. The Board did not need to make any changes, so the schedule was approved as presented.

- D. The Treasurer, Jackie Parsons, had requested approval from the Board on a tax payment refund. Lereta Tax Services will need to be refunded in the amount of \$3,292.13 for an incorrect payment of real estate taxes. They requested information regarding an incorrect parcel number for their client. The Treasurer gave them the amount owed by the taxpayer in which they requested. Later they discovered they had requested and paid the wrong parcel number. Lereta Tax Services has sent another check for the correct taxpayer; however, they need a refund for the incorrect payment, so they can deposit the refund into the homeowner's escrow account. The Treasurer has only been given the authority by the BOS to refund up to \$2,500; therefore, approval to refund this request is needed from the Board. This is not the average semiannual payment for Craig County real estate taxes, the original request was for a taxpayer who had delinquent taxes and that is why this is a rather large refund. A motion was made by Mr. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Spence approving the request. Voting was as follows: Mr. Zimmerman, yes, Ms. Toelke, yes, Ms. Dunne, yes, Mr. Bailey, yes and Mr. Spence, yes.

INFORMATIONAL

- A. Treasurer's Report
- B. 2020 Calendar of Board Appointments
- C. USDA Implementation of Rehab of Johns Creek Dam Notification
- D. RVARC Legislative Meeting Memo
- E. Statement of Economic Interests Info

REPORTS AND INQUIRIES FROM THE BOARD

- A. Mr. Collins discussed the RVARC Legislative Memo he had provided the Board in their packet. He said two items of interest were the request for Catawba Hospital to expand and become a World Class facility and Roanoke County wanting to extend Broadband into the Catawba area.
- B. Mr. Spence announced that the Preserve Craig/Pipeline Committee would be holding a Public Meeting on January 9th, 2020 and Mr. Wolf had encouraged the public to attend.
- C. Mr. Bailey said that one of his constituents had telephoned him about another Virginia county obtaining funding for the full amount of rehabbing their dam. He asked if Mr. Collins would look into this.

HEAR THE PUBLIC

Mr. Gale Meadows, Paint Bank citizen wanted to ask the Board if it were possible to band together with other counties if we needed support with the Second Amendment. He was concerned that a small county like Craig might be targeted to challenge gun rights because we are small and did not have as much clout as larger counties. The Board answered that at this time there is not a foreseen crisis, but if it came to that, the County would seek alliance.

ADJOURN

Mr. Spence adjourned the meeting at 7:00 pm.


CHAIRMAN
CRAIG COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS


CLERK
CRAIG COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
