

The Wythe County Board of Supervisors held its regularly scheduled meeting at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 13, 2007. The location of the meeting was in the Board Room of the County Administration Building, 340 South Sixth Street, Wytheville, VA.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Wythe B. Sharitz, Chair
James E. Hagee, Vice Chair
Lisa R. Eaton

Charles S. Dix
Martha P. Umberger
Danny C. McDaniel

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Susan R. Crigger

STAFF PRESENT:

R. Cellell Dalton, Clerk
Stephen D. Bear, Assistant County Administrator
Mr. Jimmy Huffard, Chair Planning Commission
Kim Hite, Administration

WORK SESSION FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DRAFT

Chair Jimmy Huffard presented the drafted Comprehensive Plan for review and discussion stating the results of the survey mailed out indicated that county residents preferred slow to moderate growth, maintenance of the vistas, open land and balance of industry and agriculture. The draft presented represents the above stated survey results. Supervisor inquired as to the percentage of non English speaking percentages. Mr. Huffard referenced the need for foreign language options at the middle school level. Mr. Stephen Bear referred to the 2000 Census reporting 2.5% of our population speaks a language other than English at home. Population by education was discussed, reviewing percentage of diplomas received and other educational categories. Discussion was held regarding revising the reporting of educational breakdowns. Safety issues were discussed regarding multiuse in the industrial park particularly as it would relate to children. Mr. Bear stated that the recreational area referenced in the industrial park related to sports fields, such as football or soccer, as examples. Governmental funds were discussed. Mr. Bear stated that it is critical to combine transportation and land use planning for general assembly. Rural rustic roads are reference as adopted in the Comprehensive Plan and to remain in compliance with the Resolution previously passed by the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Huffard and Mr. Bear commented on the improved style and presentation of the Comprehensive Report, complimenting Sherry Hawthorne for her efforts.

Concern was expressed by Supervisor Eaton regarding the increase for judicial administration for 2004 through 2006 as compared to previous increases. Mr. Dalton responded explaining the General Assembly provided additional people.

Attorney's increased from two (2) to five (5) and referenced large increase in Public Works due to projects. Assistant County Administrator, Mr. Bear referenced the reported population growth since 1990 of approximately 3,000. Mr. Huffard confirmed the Capital Improvement Plan is a separate document. General discussion was held regarding Rural Retreat Annexation, school population, land use types (horticulture and/or agriculture), landscape, tipping, tree farms, woodlands, open land, mountain land and maintained forest land. Discussion regarding school population referenced the new federal preschool programs and the upward trend from two (2) to three (3) children per family. Mr. Dalton requested the board members pass the Comprehensive Plan as a draft, further requesting an adoption of the plan by June 15, 2007 prior to the end of the fiscal year due to new laws. Public education and input was encouraged regarding review of the proposed Comprehensive Plan. Three (3) public hearing at the high schools or the library maximizing access to the greatest number of residents to be given the opportunity to review the Comprehensive Plan were suggested. The Plan can be made available on the Wythe County Website. Discussion was held regarding dates for public hearings. Tentative dates of April 2, 2007 (Planning & Zoning) and April 10, 2007 (Board of Supervisor's) and May 7, 2007 (Planning and Zoning) or May 8, 2007 (Board of Supervisor's) for public hearings were suggested.

Supervisor Umberger made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Dix to accept the draft of the Comprehensive Plan and the roll call vote is as follows:

AYES:	Wythe C. Sharitz	Charles S. Dix
	James E. Hagee	Martha P. Umberger
	Lisa R. Eaton	Danny C. McDaniel

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Susan R. Crigger

RECESS

Chair Sharitz recessed the meeting until 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 13, 2007.

RECONVENE

Chair Sharitz reconvened at 7:10 p.m., Tuesday, March 13, 2007.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Wythe B. Sharitz, Chair	Charles S. Dix
James E. Hagee, Vice Chair	Martha P. Umberger
Lisa R. Eaton	Danny C. McDaniel
Susan R. Crigger	

STAFF PRESENT:

R. Cellell Dalton, Clerk
Stephen D. Bear, Assistant County Administrator
Kim Hite, Administration
Keith Dunagan, Investigator/Sheriffs Department
Kenny Hurst, Building Inspector

OTHERS PRESENT:

Pastor Brian Burch, Rural Retreat United Methodist Church
Justin Harmon, Wytheville Enterprise

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Pastor Brian Burch of Rural Retreat United Methodist Church and the Chair led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PAYMENT OF INVOICES

Supervisor Dix made a motion to approve the invoices for March 13, 2007 in the amount of \$1,098,534.23. The invoices for March 13, 2007 were paid on General Warrants 30062798-30062888 as follows:

**EXPENDITURES BY DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
March 13, 2007**

	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1101	Board of Supervisors	\$ 4,748.16
1202	County Administrator's Office	2,798.47
1209	Commissioner of the Revenue	449.77
1209A	Mapping	700.00
1213	Treasurer	150.12
1301	Electoral Board	757.47
1302	Registrar	713.25
2102	General District Court	79.48
2102A	Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court	482.14
2103	Magistrate	4,748.16
2106	Clerk of the Circuit Court	17,447.12
2108	Law Library	546.02
2109	Commissioner of Accounts	1,672.00
2201	Commonwealth's Attorney	922.07
3102	Enforcement & Traffic Control	13,334.08
3102A	Cops Universal Hiring Grant	2,208.78

3102B	Courtroom Security	39.70
3102D	Dare	154.87
3102J	Cops in Schools Grant	268.73
3202	Volunteer Fire Departments	17,567.00
3301	Correction and Detention	86,120.00
3302A	Victim Witness Assistance	92.48
3303	Probation Office	232.30
3401	Building Inspection	370.65
3501	Animal Control	668.26
3504	E911 Department	376.86
3505	Office of Emergency Services	1,055.96
4100	Road Construction	3,956.00
4203	Refuse Collection	87,999.43
4304A	Landfill Building	20.48
4304C	Courthouse Building	5,088.71
4304D	County Office Building	3,987.66
4320	B & G Maintenance	425.42
4401	Water Department	20,203.14
4401A	Regional WTP	17,560.00
4401B	Water Transmission System	188,589.54
4402	Wastewater Department	72,568.30
5401	District III Cooperative	3,458.75
7105	RR Lake Swimming Pool	136.71
7109	Recreation Commission	290.44
7110	RR Lake Campground	1,470.82
7111	Ager Park	130.91
7205	Festivals	1,551.85
8101	Planning Commission	456.42
8106A	Wythe County Progress Park	527,284.03
8305	Cooperative Extension Service	9,353.89
9201	Revenue Refunds	19.00
TOTAL:		\$ 1,098,534.23
Wythe County Water Department Fund		\$ 208,347.93
Wythe County Wastewater Department Fund		72,568.30
E-911 Department		25,810.16
Law Library		376.86
Police Activity Fund		546.02
County General Fund		808,102.35
TOTAL:		\$ 1,098,534.23

Supervisor Hagee seconded the motion and the roll call vote is as follows:

AYES: Wythe B. Sharitz
James E. Hagee
Susan R. Crigger
Danny C. McDaniel

Martha P. Umberger
Charles S. Dix
Lisa R. Eaton

NAYS: None

REASSESSMENT UPDATE

Mr. Dalton reported that the new assessments have been mailed out, noting that there are 6 classifications of parcels. Additional assessors have been brought in to cover the double scheduling and hearings will be conducted for property owners on a walk in basis as well as for regularly scheduled appointments. Mr. Dalton stated that issues regarding public hearings for the Board of Equalization need to be addressed. Dates need to be established for the hearings. Training for the BOA is scheduled and a new land book has been printed for review of land values. Mr. Dalton requested Blue Ridge Mass Appraisal supply a value of new construction for the current year so last years values can be added prior to setting the tax rate. Mr. Dalton suggested defining a specific start and finish date for the BOE. The increase on non taxable property, such as national forest properties was discussed. Inquires were made regarding the potential sale of wood lands to the state. Land sales or timber sales would result in payment in lieu of taxes as stated by Mr. Dalton, further implying that fair market value applies to everything including the National Forest.

Supervisor Dix made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Hagee, to establish an evening meeting of April 10, 2007, as the date for a Public Hearing, and the roll call vote is as follows:

AYES: Wythe C. Sharitz
James E. Hagee
Lisa R. Eaton
Susan R. Crigger

Charles S. Dix
Martha P. Umberger
Danny C. McDaniel

NAYS: None

REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY RESOLUTION

Supervisor McDaniel made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Hagee to approve a Two Thousand Dollar (\$2,000) like kind contribution to Mt. Rogers and the roll call vote is as follows:

AYES: Wythe B. Sharitz
James E. Hagee

Martha P. Umberger
Charles S. Dix

Susan R. Crigger
Danny C. McDaniel

Lisa R. Eaton

NAYS: None

LOCAL CHOICE – HEALTHCARE RENEWAL

Mr. Dalton reported that there will be a Three Dollar (\$3.00) increase per person per month for health insurance. Two (2) benefits have been added, which included a 24 hour Nurse Hotline and Wellness Benefit which increased from Two Hundred (\$200) to Five Hundred (\$500) per year. Consideration to provide upgraded options was present to the Board by Mr. Dalton, indicating that interest has been expressed. Discussion was held regarding retiree healthcare, of which current retirees pay a percentage. Budgeting, auditing and liability issues for the funding of unblended coverage were reported by Mr. Dalton indicating that the liability for future premiums would be the counties responsibility. Mr. Dalton was asked to obtain addition coverage option information.

Supervisor Hagee moved, seconded by Supervisor Crigger, to authorize renewal of the new insurance rate and the roll call vote is as follows:

AYES:	Wythe C. Sharitz	Charles S. Dix
	James E. Hagee	Martha P. Umberger
	Lisa R. Eaton	Danny C. McDaniel
	Susan R. Crigger	

NAYS: None

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Dalton presented the signed Order from Judge Josiah, T. Showalter, Jr., appointing the members of the Board of Equalization, further noting that Mr. Jerry Miller will not be serving. Written withdrawal from Mr. Miller is anticipated. The members of the Board of equalization are as follows: Cleta Roberts, Nathaniel Kelly, Jim Willis and Frank Hoch.

ROYAL OAK VOTING PRECINCT

County Attorney, Mr. Farthing reviewed the License Agreement from VDOT authorizing the use of their facilities as an approved voting location. Discussion was held regarding the location meeting the requirement the Electoral Board requires. VDOT, however; has the authority to request vacating the location at VDOT's discretion. Parking, handicap accessibility, restrooms facilities and heating needs were discussed.

Supervisor Dix made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Umberger to accept the license agreement with VDOT (Royal Oaks voting location), as presented and authorizes the Chairman to sign said license agreement.

AYES:	Wythe C. Sharitz	Charles S. Dix
	James E. Hagee	Martha P. Umberger
	Lisa R. Eaton	Danny C. McDaniel
	Susan R. Crigger	

NAYS: None

AGAPE ORDINANCE EXEMPTION

Chair Sharitz inquired as to the status of the Ordinance to exempt Agape. Mr. Farthing, County Attorney reported that he is working on this subject matter.

IMPOUNDED VEHICLES

Supervisor McDaniel inquired as to the intent to resolve the problem of parking impounded vehicles at the bus shop adding there has been concern expressed regarding bus parking once the school year ends. Chief Deputy Keith Dunagan, reported storage options are limited and vehicles must be held until hearings are completed. Alternative locations and/or solutions were discussed and will be considered.

CROCKETT'S COVE & EAST CROCKETT'S COVE AGRICULTURAL & FORESTAL DISTRICT

Mr. Bear, Assistant County Administrator reported that the Advisory Committee has met twice regarding the Agricultural and Forestal District. Mr. Bear stated the Planning Commission has recommended the Ordinance to the Board of Supervisors for adoption to avoid expiration of the old ordinance, further adding the citizens have been provided proper notification of the hearing.

RECESS

Chair Sharitz recessed the meeting until Monday, March 19, 2007 at 8:00 a.m.

RECONVENE

The Board reconvened on March 19, 2007 to hear budget requests from various departments and outside agencies. The budget requests were heard Monday, March 19, 2007; Wednesday, March 21, 2007; Thursday, March 22, 2007 and Friday, March 23, 2007.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Sharitz adjourned the meeting.

Wythe B. Sharitz, Chair