

**May 12, 2015**

The Wythe County Board of Supervisors held its regularly scheduled meeting at 3 p.m., Tuesday, May 12, 2015. The location of the meeting was in the Boardroom of the County Administration Office, 340 South Sixth Street, Wytheville, Virginia.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Timothy A. Reeves, Sr., Chair	Joe F. Hale
Arthur E. "Artie" Hall, Vice Chair	Coy L. McRoberts
Gary M. Houseman	B. G. "Gene" Horney
Steven T. Willis	

**STAFF PRESENT:**

R. Cellell Dalton, County Administrator  
Stephen D. Bear, Assistant County Administrator  
Martha G. Collins, Administrative Assistant

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Jeff Russell  
Andy Fowler

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Reeves determined that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

**VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WORK SESSION**

The Board met with Virginia Department of Transportation representatives to discuss the draft Secondary Road Six Year Plan for fiscal years 2016 through 2021.

Following discussion, the Board agreed to the addition of New Bethel Road, Major Graham Road, Crawford Road, Nixon Road, and Pump Hollow Road to the Secondary Road Six Year Plan.

Mr. Russell advised that they would amend the Plan to include the requested roads for presentation at the public hearing.

Mr. Dalton noted that the Secondary Road Six Year Plan public hearing is scheduled for May 26, 2015, at 7 p.m.

**RECESS**

The Board recessed at 4:16 p.m. until 7 p.m.

**RECONVENE**

The Board reconvened at 7 p.m.

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Timothy A. Reeves, Sr., Chair	Joe F. Hale
Arthur E. "Artie" Hall, Vice Chair	Coy L. McRoberts
Gary M. Houseman	B. G. "Gene" Horney
Steven T. Willis	

**STAFF PRESENT:**

R. Cellell Dalton, County Administrator  
Stephen D. Bear, Assistant County Administrator  
Martha G. Collins, Administrative Assistant  
Bill Vaughan, County Engineer  
Bruce Grant, Finance Director

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Gary Cope	Chris King
Lee Brannon	Anne B. Crockett-Stark
Sis Cassell	John Benham
Carolyn King	Brian Burkett
Robert Kegley	Jack Weaver
G. W. Catron	Gerald Spraker
Brian Vaught	Jerry Hurt
Zoë Belle Lowe	Linda Meyer
Mark Munsey	Millie Rothrock
Jordan Hall	Denise Davis
Ron Kime	Chris Brown
Tom Eggers	Five Other Citizens

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Community Service Chaplain Gary Cope provided the invocation and Chair Reeves led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CITIZENS' TIME**

Chair Reeves welcomed the citizens present at the meeting and inquired if anyone wished to address the Board.

1. Miss Virginia Junior High School America – Zoë Belle Lowe, resident of 226 Fox Fire Road in Max Meadows and Fort Chiswell High School eighth grader addressed the Board. Ms. Lowe reported that last June she was honored to be chosen as Miss Virginia Junior High School America 2015. She noted that she has traveled across the State of Virginia making over 40 appearances and completing over 500 hours of community service, while working to promote anti-bullying initiatives and programs to prevent crimes against young women. Ms. Lowe explained that she is planning a father-daughter princess dance on Father's Day weekend to raise awareness and funds to provide all Wythe County school and public libraries with age appropriate anti-bullying books. She advised that she is also working to start a chapter of Help Save the Next Girl, an

organization that distributes safety information to help prevent crimes against young women. Ms. Lowe stated that she is planning a rally in Wytheville in September to promote personal safety, provide fingerprinting of young children, and help young girls learn safety practices that will assist them throughout life. She requested the Board's support in her efforts to organize the father-daughter dance and spread the message of Help Save the Next Girl throughout Wythe County and the State of Virginia. Ms. Lowe also requested the Board's support as she travels this summer to Orlando, Florida, to compete with 52 other State titleholders for the title of Miss Junior High School America.

2. Trails – Linda Meyer of 1118 Dry Road in Speedwell addressed the Board. Ms. Meyer questioned if the Board has prepared a resolution in support of the Trail Advocates Coalition, as previously requested.

Chair Reeves noted that the Board is still considering the resolution.

Ms. Meyer noted that over 1,000 individuals have joined the Trail Advocates Coalition, with over 2,950 individuals signing their petition in opposition to the proposed trail closures.

3. Elk – Ms. Meyer presented the Board with information from the Farm Bureau concerning elk hunting. She noted that the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries has proposed limiting the hunting of elk in 31 counties. Ms. Meyer requested that the Board contact the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to discuss this issue.
4. Elk – Gerald Spraker of 310 Slate Spring Branch Road in Wytheville addressed the Board. Mr. Spraker advised that the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF), at its meeting on March 17, proposed to close elk season in all 31 counties west of the Blue Ridge, including Wythe County. He explained that elk carry disease; damage crops, fencing, structures, and other property; and cause a major road hazard. Mr. Spraker reported that the DGIF would receive comments concerning this issue April 8 through May 22. He presented a draft resolution in opposition to the DGIF's decision to the Board for their consideration.

Chair Reeves noted that the Board would review the resolution and address the issue at the Thursday reconvened Board meeting.

With no one else to address the Board, Chair Reeves closed Citizens' Time.

### **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Board was presented with the April 28, 2015, minutes for adoption.

Supervisor McRoberts made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Horney to approve the April 28, 2015, minutes as presented.

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The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Gary M. Houseman Coy L. McRoberts  
Arthur E. "Artie" Hall B. G. "Gene" Horney  
Steven T. Willis Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.  
Joe F. Hale

NAYS: None

**PAYMENT OF COUNTY INVOICES**

Supervisor Hall made a motion to pay the invoices for approval on May 12, 2015, for the various departments of County government. The invoices were paid on General Warrants 30091303, 30091371-30091373, 30091375-30091395, 30091397-30091445, and 30091447-30091505 as follows:

**EXPENDITURES BY DEPARTMENT  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
May 12, 2015**

<b>CHECK #</b>	<b>ISSUE DATE</b>	<b>VENDOR</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
30091303	04/28/15	VIRGINIA LOGOS	\$1,000
<b>TOTAL CHECK 04/28/15</b>			<b>\$1,000</b>

<b>CHECK #</b>	<b>ISSUE DATE</b>	<b>VENDOR</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
30091371	05/04/15	APPALACHIAN POWER	\$1,646.42
30091372	05/04/15	CENTURYLINK	\$3,329.25
30091373	05/04/15	CENTURYLINK	\$42.62
30091375	05/04/15	CENTURYLINK TELECOMMUNICATIONS	\$4,952.82
30091376	05/04/15	CENTURYLINK	\$52.76
30091377	05/04/15	CENTURYLINK	\$246.44
30091378	05/04/15	CENTURYLINK	\$212.52
30091379	05/04/15	CENTURYLINK	\$102.70
30091380	05/04/15	CENTURYLINK	\$42.62
30091381	05/04/15	CENTURYLINK	\$104.05
30091382	05/04/15	CENTURYLINK	\$39.98
30091383	05/04/15	CENTURYLINK	\$134.23
30091384	05/04/15	CENTURYLINK	\$56.93
30091385	05/04/15	CENTURYLINK	\$60.67
30091386	05/04/15	CENTURYLINK	\$97.86
30091387	05/04/15	CENTURYLINK LABOR	\$241.13
30091388	05/04/15	CITIZENS TELEPHONE COOP	\$742.00
30091389	05/04/15	TOWN OF WYTHEVILLE	\$4,164.23
30091390	05/04/15	VITA	\$287.73
<b>TOTAL CHECKS 05/04/15</b>			<b>\$16,556.96</b>

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<b>CHECK #</b>	<b>ISSUE DATE</b>	<b>VENDOR</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
30091391	05/12/15	AKER, TIMOTHY W	\$30.00
30091392	05/12/15	ANGLIKER, SARAH N	\$30.00
30091393	05/12/15	APPALACHIAN POWER	\$589.47
30091394	05/12/15	AYERS AND SONS SEPTIC LLC	\$650.00
30091395	05/12/15	BAKER, JAMES C	\$30.00
30091397	05/12/15	BKT UNIFORMS	\$2,924.12
30091398	05/12/15	BLACK, VANESSA F	\$30.00
30091399	05/12/15	BLUE RIDGE AUTO PARTS INC	\$121.60
30091400	05/12/15	BOLASH, JAMES A SR	\$30.00
30091401	05/12/15	BRENTAG MID-SOUTH INC	\$1,480.53
30091402	05/12/15	BROWNELLS INC	\$254.53
30091403	05/12/15	C W WARTHEN	\$773.16
30091404	05/12/15	CAMPBELL, CONNIE S	\$30.00
30091405	05/12/15	CARPENTER, RUSSELL	\$30.00
30091406	05/12/15	CARPIO, DIANE L	\$30.00
30091407	05/12/15	CASH CYCLE SOLUTIONS INC	\$1,372.23
30091408	05/12/15	CASKIE GRAPHICS INC	\$3,968.00
30091409	05/12/15	CAVALIER SUPPLY CO	\$1,650.35
30091410	05/12/15	CDW GOVERNMENT INC	\$454.74
30091411	05/12/15	COM TEC	\$295.00
30091412	05/12/15	COMMUNITY ANIMAL CLINIC INC	\$162.00
30091413	05/12/15	COMSONICS	\$474.00
30091414	05/12/15	CORRECTION PRODUCT COMPANY	\$59.66
30091415	05/12/15	COULSON, TERESA L	\$30.00
30091416	05/12/15	CROCKETT, WALTER S	\$25.15
30091417	05/12/15	DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES	\$8,300.00
30091418	05/12/15	DUNAGAN, KEITH	\$505.98
30091419	05/12/15	EDMONDS, BETTY F	\$30.00
30091420	05/12/15	FARTHING, SCOT S	\$2,712.50
30091421	05/12/15	FERGUSON ENTERPRISES	\$2,288.46
30091422	05/12/15	FIDELITY ENGINEERING CORP	\$950.00
30091423	05/12/15	FIRST CALL ENVIRONMENTAL	\$2,070.00
30091424	05/12/15	FISHER, SUSAN	\$30.00
30091425	05/12/15	FOWLKES MACHINE CO INC	\$272.94
30091426	05/12/15	GALLS	\$384.12
30091427	05/12/15	GRANT, BRUCE M	\$3,965.21
30091428	05/12/15	HALE, JOE	\$149.60
30091429	05/12/15	HARPO'S HARDWARE AND BLDG SUPPLY INC	\$5.14
30091430	05/12/15	HARRAH, BONNIE S	\$30.00
30091431	05/12/15	HAWKINS, GAY Q	\$60.00
30091432	05/12/15	HD SUPPLY WATERWORKS	\$4,034.40
30091433	05/12/15	HOMESTEAD OIL CORP	\$75.00
30091434	05/12/15	HORNEY, B GENE JR	\$140.40
30091435	05/12/15	HORNEY, HAYDEN H	\$358.78

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30091436	05/12/15	HOUSEMAN, GARY M	\$72.80
30091437	05/12/15	JOINT PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY	\$44,098.60
30091438	05/12/15	JONAS, PRISCILLA	\$30.00
30091439	05/12/15	KC AUTOMOTIVE	\$95.20
30091440	05/12/15	KMART	\$98.51
30091441	05/12/15	L & L STORAGE SOLUTIONS	\$250.00
30091442	05/12/15	LARRY'S SMALL ENGINE REPAIR	\$65.76
30091443	05/12/15	LAWRENCE, DEBORAH G	\$30.00
30091444	05/12/15	LEXISNEXIS	\$696.00
30091445	05/12/15	LINDSEY, LARRY	\$30.00
30091447	05/12/15	LOWE'S	\$1,457.46
30091448	05/12/15	LUMOS NETWORKS	\$30.90
30091449	05/12/15	MALONE, JASON B	\$1,000.00
30091450	05/12/15	MANSFIELD OIL CO	\$7,763.35
30091451	05/12/15	MCROBERTS, COY L	\$166.40
30091452	05/12/15	MEREDITH'S GARAGE	\$1,016.17
30091453	05/12/15	MILLER, JENNIFER K	\$30.00
30091454	05/12/15	MONAHAN, JAMES R JR	\$30.00
30091455	05/12/15	MONTGOMERY, SANDRA	\$30.00
30091456	05/12/15	MORRIS, KENDRA B	\$30.00
30091457	05/12/15	MOUNT ROGERS PLANNING DISTRICT	\$4,484.25
30091458	05/12/15	NATIONAL POOLS	\$186.50
30091459	05/12/15	NEW RIVER REGIONAL WATER AUTH.	\$14,228.41
30091460	05/12/15	NEW RIVER RESOURCE AUTHORITY	\$1,384.64
30091461	05/12/15	OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER	\$20.00
30091462	05/12/15	PAPER CLIP	\$72.41
30091463	05/12/15	POLYTEC INC	\$2,901.96
30091464	05/12/15	POSITIVE PROMOTIONS	\$93.87
30091465	05/12/15	POSTAGE BY PHONE RESERVE ACCT	\$1,130.00
30091466	05/12/15	POSTON, TIFFANY M	\$30.00
30091467	05/12/15	PUCKETT, ALLEN	\$30.00
30091468	05/12/15	PUGH, JAMES F SR	\$30.00
30091469	05/12/15	R & C TOWING AND REPAIR CO	\$513.46
30091470	05/12/15	R & R ENTERPRISES INC	\$75.00
30091471	05/12/15	R & R SEPTIC	\$60.00
30091472	05/12/15	RCI	\$285.00
30091473	05/12/15	REEVES, TIMOTHY A SR	\$188.40
30091474	05/12/15	REGION I VBCOA	\$40.00
30091475	05/12/15	ROGERS, BRENDA J	\$30.00
30091476	05/12/15	SHAKING ENTERPRISES INC	\$860.00
30091477	05/12/15	SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA CRIMINAL	\$50.00
30091478	05/12/15	SUNTRUST	\$36,881.92
30091479	05/12/15	SUPPLY WORKS	\$471.95
30091480	05/12/15	SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA	\$350.00
30091481	05/12/15	THOMPSON TIRE	\$1,129.53

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30091482	05/12/15	THRASHER GROUP INC	\$61,900.00
30091483	05/12/15	THREE RIVERS MEDIA CORP	\$330.00
30091484	05/12/15	TOWN POLICE SUPPLY	\$14,751.45
30091485	05/12/15	TRANSUNION RISK AND ALTERNATIVE	\$24.25
30091486	05/12/15	TWO WAY RADIO	\$5,449.50
30091487	05/12/15	US CELLULAR	\$64.10
30091488	05/12/15	US CELLULAR	\$717.92
30091489	05/12/15	V & M RECYCLING	\$65,143.86
30091490	05/12/15	VALLEY, WILLIAM F	\$30.00
30091491	05/12/15	VAUGHT, KATHY	\$88.40
30091492	05/12/15	VERIZON	\$13.50
30091493	05/12/15	VERIZON WIRELESS	\$50.71
30091494	05/12/15	VIRGINIA BUSINESS SYSTEMS	\$912.11
30091495	05/12/15	VIRGINIA LAWYERS WEEKLY	\$184.50
30091496	05/12/15	VIRGINIA POLICE CHIEFS FOUNDATION	\$250.00
30091497	05/12/15	VITA	\$154.10
30091498	05/12/15	VUPS	\$65.49
30091499	05/12/15	WEATHERINGTON, SHAWN M	\$30.00
30091500	05/12/15	WHITE, TERRY A	\$30.00
30091501	05/12/15	WILSON, REX E	\$30.00
30091502	05/12/15	WYTHE SHEET METAL INC	\$6,500.00
30091503	05/12/15	WYTHE TIRE AND MUFFLER	\$774.99
30091504	05/12/15	WYTHEVILLE OFFICE SUPPLY	\$240.51
30091505	05/12/15	XEROX	\$503.62
<b>TOTAL CHECKS 05/12/15</b>			<b>\$322,674.53</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES APPROVED 05/12/15</b>			<b>\$340,231.49</b>

Supervisor McRoberts seconded the motion.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Gary M. Houseman Coy L. McRoberts  
Arthur E. "Artie" Hall B. G. "Gene" Horney  
Steven T. Willis Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.  
Joe F. Hale

NAYS: None

**PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED WYTHE COUNTY AND WYTHE COUNTY  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 BUDGETS AND  
PROPOSED TAX LEVY FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2015**

Chair Reeves announced that, notice is hereby given that the Board of Supervisors of Wythe County, Virginia, pursuant to Section 15.2-2506 of the Code of Virginia and amendments thereto, will hold a public hearing to receive comments on the proposed Wythe County and Wythe County School Board fiscal year 2015-2016 budgets and the

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proposed calendar year 2015 tax levy. The public hearing, which may be continued or adjourned, and at which persons may appear and present their views on the issues, will be held at 7:05 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, on May 12, 2015, before the Board in the Boardroom of the County Administration Building, 340 South Sixth Street, Wytheville, Virginia.

Chair Reeves inquired if anyone present wished to address the Board concerning the proposed Wythe County and Wythe County School Board fiscal year (FY) 2015-2016 budgets and tax levy for calendar year (CY) 2015.

County Administrator Dalton addressed the Board. Mr. Dalton reviewed with the Board and those present a synopsis of the proposed FY 16 County budget and CY 15 tax levy. He reported that as part of the budgetary process, the Board of Supervisors set several goals for the FY 16 Budget including stabilization of employee health insurance costs and raises for County, school system, Public Service Authority, and library employees. Mr. Dalton explained that the Board received over \$87 million in requests for the upcoming budget, and ultimately recommended a proposed budget of \$72 million; designating \$70 million for operating costs, with an additional \$2 million proposed for capital improvements. He advised that 67.2% of the total County budget is allocated to the school system with the Department of Social Services and public safety receiving significant portions of the remaining budget. Mr. Dalton noted that in order to fulfill the recommended budget as presented, a \$0.05 real estate tax increase and implementation of a \$30 trash disposal permit have been proposed.

Lee Brannon, Wythe County Public Schools Superintendent, addressed the Board. Dr. Brannon reported that Bland County schools would not participate in the Career and Technical Center next year, which has contributed to a decrease in revenue to the Wythe County school system. He explained that the School Board has included in their budget a salary increase of 2% for all support staff and 1.5% for administrators, with the State providing .8769% of that increase. Dr. Brannon advised that in order to provide raises and health insurance coverage for their 538 employees, an additional \$78,175 would be needed.

Dr. Brannon explained that renovations of area schools significantly impact both the teachers and students. He noted that it is important for the Board to continue with these projects and begin Phase Two of the renovation process. Dr. Brannon proposed that the School Board be permitted to use carryover funds from the previous budget, fuel savings, and retirement savings to begin the design process of Phase Two of school construction projects. He requested that the Board commit to providing the debt service for the Phase Two projects in the FY 17 budget. Dr. Brannon noted that alternatively, Phase Two could include one large renovation project and several smaller projects, if two major renovation projects are not feasible. He advised that completion of the Spiller Elementary school project and renovation of the Speedwell Elementary School bathrooms could be completed along with one large project.

Wythe County Registrar Carolyn King addressed the Board. Ms. King advised that in the Registrar's proposed budget, postal services were reduced from \$2,500 to \$1,500 and office supplies decreased from \$2,000 to \$1,000. She explained that with a large election, as is expected this year, additional ballots and mailings would be required. Ms. King added that \$1,500 would also be needed for attendance of mandatory workshops and their annual meeting in the upcoming year. She noted that only \$750 was included in their budget for travel, convention, and education expenses.

Sis Cassell of the Wythe County Electoral Board addressed the Board. Ms. Cassell requested, on behalf of the Electoral Board, additional purchase of services funding needed for the programming of voting machines. She advised that the Electoral Board had requested \$13,000, but only \$8,000 was included in the proposed budget. Ms. Cassell noted that every election costs approximately \$8,000 for programming of the voting machines and ballots. She reported that if a primary election were held in the spring, as expected, additional funding would be required. Ms. Cassell added that \$12,995 was expended in 2011-2012, the previous fiscal year in which two elections were held.

Jack Weaver of Rural Retreat addressed the Board. Mr. Weaver reported that the Southwest Virginia region suffers the highest cost of living relative to lowest median family income, as compared to other communities in Virginia. He noted that low wages and cost inflation caused by affluent retirees contribute to this problem. Mr. Weaver added that the presence of too many colleges and schools, which do not contribute to the tax base, also add to this issue. He asked that the Board work to reduce the budget and live within their means without increasing taxes.

Jerry Hurt of Rural Retreat addressed the Board. Mr. Hurt noted that raises and increased benefits are important to retain employees, but cannot be afforded at this time. He asked that the School Board work to reduce their budget further to decrease the burden on the taxpayers. Mr. Hurt also requested that the Board review the budget to determine if additional reductions could be implemented.

Brian Burkett, Mountain Empire Airport Manager, addressed the Board. Mr. Burkett reviewed with the Board the Airport's special project budget, comprised of local funding one-time costs of \$28,000 for runway resurfacing in 2016 and \$5,000 for aviation easements. He noted that Wythe County would be responsible for \$11,000 of the total resurfacing cost, which would be in addition to the \$60,222 yearly operations appropriation. Mr. Burkett advised that the yearly appropriation is necessary for the operation of the Airport.

Anne B. Crockett-Stark, Smyth Wythe Airport Commission member, addressed the Board. Ms. Crockett-Stark advised that of the \$64,776 that was included in the County's approved fiscal year 2015 budget, \$47,361.63 has yet to be appropriated to the Airport. She noted that the other four entities have each paid their portion. Ms. Crockett-Stark added that she believes that if Wythe County cuts funding to the Airport, the other entities would follow suit.

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Linda Meyer of 1118 Dry Road in Speedwell addressed the Board. Ms. Meyer explained that the FY 16 budget includes funding to the Southwest Virginia Alliance for Manufacturing, who expended over \$15,000 on their Christmas dinner and luncheons and do not deserve the County's support. She advised that in reviewing the budget, she has located several hundred thousand dollars in expenses, which could be eliminated, including \$10,000 in funding to the Southwest Virginia Heritage Foundation. Ms. Meyer questioned hybrid disability insurance and asked for an explanation of this additional cost. She noted that \$104,600 was included in the budget for an attorney, and inquired if an attorney has been hired or if this service is still subcontracted. Ms. Meyer reported that \$80,000 was included in the Tourism budget for signage, and asked if these funds would be taken from the hotel taxes collected. She stated that \$9,000 was budgeted for heating of the Animal Shelter, which she believes is an outrageous amount to heat a kennel. Ms. Meyer added that school employees had stated in a recent survey completed by the School Board, that they were satisfied with their working conditions and raises and asked why, then, the County is providing raises to these employees.

Jordan Hall, Wythe County Rural Retreat Fair Association president, addressed the Board. Mr. Hall reported that \$10,100 is needed each year just to cover the insurance, utilities, and maintenance of the fairgrounds. He advised that that amount does not include concessions, advertising, and entertainment for events, which significantly increase that cost. Mr. Hall noted that the Fair Association provides activities throughout the year including the annual fair, a circus, all-terrain vehicle (ATV) rodeos, equestrian events, and a fiddler's convention. He added that it is not fair that Chautauqua receives \$10,000 in funding for a seven-day event, when the Fair Association does not receive any funding for their many events.

Ron Kime, Wythe County Rural Retreat Fair Association member, addressed the Board. Mr. Kime requested that the Board provide at least \$10,000 in funding to the Fair Association. He recommended that the Board reduce Chautauqua's funding to \$5,000 and provide the other \$5,000 plus an additional \$10,000 to the Fair Association.

Tom Eggers, Wythe Grayson Regional Library Director, addressed the Board. Mr. Eggers reviewed with the Board an equitable pay scale for library staff. He proposed beginning with each employee's base pay and then adding 3% per year to obtain equitable pay for employees. Mr. Eggers noted that currently the library staff is paid a very low wage, compared to that of other employers.

Denise Davis addressed the Board. Ms. Davis advised that the Board recently adopted a resolution to put kids first. She noted that by initiating the proposed tax increase, she believes that the Board is placing kids first. Ms. Davis added that each year teachers are asked to do more, while receiving less compensation. She commended the Board for working to fund local schools and education.

Chris Brown, local business owner, addressed the Board. Mr. Brown encouraged the Board to re-examine employee medical insurance. He noted that he, as a local business

owner, has also experienced increased premiums for his employees. Mr. Brown explained that the County provides a great health insurance plan to employees, but asked if it is realistic for the future. He added that low cost health insurance benefits should be considered as part of an employee's salary.

**MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY**

The Board reviewed and discussed a letter from Jacqueline King, Wall of Honor Committee Chair, inviting Board members to attend their annual Memorial Day ceremony to be held on May 24, 2015, at 1:30 p.m. in Withers Park.

**CLOSED MEETING – DISCUSSION OF PROSPECTIVE INDUSTRY**

Supervisor Hall made a motion, seconded by Supervisor McRoberts to enter into Closed Meeting under Section 2.2-3711-A.5 (Prospective New Business or Industry) of the Code of Virginia.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Gary M. Houseman Coy L. McRoberts  
Arthur E. "Artie" Hall B. G. "Gene" Horney  
Steven T. Willis Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.  
Joe F. Hale

NAYS: None

Supervisor Hall made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Willis to return to open meeting.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Gary M. Houseman Coy L. McRoberts  
Arthur E. "Artie" Hall B. G. "Gene" Horney  
Steven T. Willis Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.  
Joe F. Hale

NAYS: None

Supervisor Hall made a motion, seconded by Supervisor McRoberts to adopt the following Resolution certifying the business conducted in closed meeting as follows:

**RESOLUTION  
CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING**

**WHEREAS**, the Wythe County Board of Supervisors has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and,

**May 12, 2015**

**WHEREAS**, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Wythe County Board of Supervisors that such meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Wythe County Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Wythe County Board of Supervisors.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Gary M. Houseman Coy L. McRoberts  
Arthur E. "Artie" Hall B. G. "Gene" Horney  
Steven T. Willis Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.  
Joe F. Hale

NAYS: None

**RECESS**

The Board recessed at 9:25 p.m. until Thursday, May 14, 2015, at 5 p.m.

**RECONVENE**

The Board reconvened on May 14 at 5:01 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Timothy A. Reeves, Sr., Chair Joe F. Hale  
Arthur E. "Artie" Hall, Vice Chair Coy L. McRoberts  
Gary M. Houseman B. G. "Gene" Horney  
Steven T. Willis

**STAFF PRESENT:**

R. Cellell Dalton, County Administrator  
Stephen D. Bear, Assistant County Administrator  
Martha G. Collins, Administrative Assistant

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Sam Crockett

**TRAIL CLOSURES**

The Board reviewed Resolution 2015-08 concerning the United States Forest Service's proposal to close trails as follows:

**RESOLUTION 2015-08  
CONCERNING THE U. S. FOREST SERVICE'S PROPOSAL  
TO CLOSE TRAILS WITHIN THE  
MOUNT ROGERS NATIONAL RECREATION AREA  
EAST END TRAIL ASSESSMENT/REALIGNMENT PROCESS**

**WHEREAS**, the Wythe County Board of Supervisors considers recreation and tourism to be a vital part of the local economy and important to the overall quality of life for its citizens; and,

**WHEREAS**, the National Forest is a component of Wythe County's tourism and recreation assets and is known to many for its scenic and historic trail system that is enjoyed by both the equestrian and biking communities; and,

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Forest Service is considering the closing of trails under a Forest Supervisor Closure Order; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board has concern that closing current trails would yield a negative environmental consequence due to the increased concentration of usage on the remaining trail system; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Wythe County Board of Supervisors request that the U.S. Forest Service's proposal to close existing trails be reviewed and that an advisory committee including members of local and regional equestrian groups, the biking community, and others be formed to evaluate the current use and recommend a plan that facilitates the use of the National Forest by all groups; and,

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Wythe County Board of Supervisors further requests that no Forest Supervisor Closure Order be issued on any of the existing trail network; and,

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Wythe County Board of Supervisors support any required actions of the U.S. Forest Service deemed necessary for the continued access and use of this vitally important trail system, and encourages the U.S. Forest Service to work with local equestrian groups, friends of the forest, and biking communities to identify ways of preserving this tourism and recreation asset for generations to come.

Supervisor Hall made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Horney to adopt Resolution 2015-08 concerning the United States Forest Service's proposal to close trails within the Mount Rogers Recreation Area.

**May 12, 2015**

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Gary M. Houseman Coy L. McRoberts  
Arthur E. "Artie" Hall B. G. "Gene" Horney  
Steven T. Willis Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.  
Joe F. Hale

NAYS: None

**ELK HUNTING**

The Board reviewed Resolution 2015-09 in opposition to the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries' proposal to limit elk hunting as follows:

**RESOLUTION 2015-09**

**WHEREAS**, the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries has proposed to amend the regulation found in 4VAC15-90-85. Game: Elk Hunting; and,

**WHEREAS**, under the present regulation, elk of either sex, antlered or antlerless may be taken during any open deer season, using weapons legal for deer hunting in that season, except in the counties of Buchanan, Dickenson, and Wise; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries proposes to amend the aforesaid regulation by establishing a continuous closed season for elk hunting in Alleghany, Augusta, Bath, Bland, Botetourt, Carroll, Clarke, Craig, Floyd, Frederick, Giles, Grayson, Highland, Lee, Montgomery, Page, Pulaski, Roanoke, Rockbridge, Rockingham, Russell, Scott, Shenandoah, Smyth, Tazewell, Warren, Washington, and Wythe counties; and,

**WHEREAS**, prohibiting the harvest of elk is a reintroduction of the species in the aforesaid counties and regions; and,

**WHEREAS**, state law prohibits the reintroduction of species that threaten agriculture without the consultation and authorization of the local government; and,

**WHEREAS**, agriculture and our citizens will bear the cost of the lack of hunting of elk through crop damage, property damage, and potential closed markets due to disease; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries has solicited comments upon the proposed regulation for the sixty (60) day period beginning April 8, 2015, and ending May 22, 2015; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Wythe County Board of Supervisors has been requested to adopt the following resolution concerning establishment of an elk population in Wythe County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Wythe County Board of Supervisors is opposed to the amendment of 4VAC15-90-85. Game: Deer Elk Hunting; and,

**BE IT FURTHER HEREBY RESOLVED AND ORDERED** that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries prior to the expiration date for comment upon the proposed regulation and that Wythe County's opposition to the amendment of the aforesaid regulation be noted upon the records of the May 14, 2015, meeting of the Wythe County Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Horney made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Willis to adopt Resolution 2015-09 in opposition to the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries' proposal to limit elk hunting.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Gary M. Houseman	Coy L. McRoberts
	Arthur E. "Artie" Hall	B. G. "Gene" Horney
	Steven T. Willis	Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.
	Joe F. Hale	

NAYS: None

**CLOSED MEETING – DISCUSSION OF PROSPECTIVE INDUSTRY**

Supervisor Hall made a motion, seconded by Supervisor McRoberts to enter into Closed Meeting under Section 2.2-3711-A.5 (Prospective New Business or Industry) of the Code of Virginia.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Gary M. Houseman	Coy L. McRoberts
	Arthur E. "Artie" Hall	B. G. "Gene" Horney
	Steven T. Willis	Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.
	Joe F. Hale	

NAYS: None

Supervisor Hall made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Willis to return to open meeting.

**May 12, 2015**

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Gary M. Houseman Coy L. McRoberts  
Arthur E. "Artie" Hall B. G. "Gene" Horney  
Steven T. Willis Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.  
Joe F. Hale

NAYS: None

Upon returning to open meeting, Supervisor Hall made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Willis to adopt the following Resolution certifying the business conducted in closed meeting as follows:

**RESOLUTION  
CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING**

**WHEREAS**, the Wythe County Board of Supervisors has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and,

**WHEREAS**, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Wythe County Board of Supervisors that such meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Wythe County Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Wythe County Board of Supervisors.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Gary M. Houseman Coy L. McRoberts  
Arthur E. "Artie" Hall B. G. "Gene" Horney  
Steven T. Willis Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.  
Joe F. Hale

NAYS: None

Supervisor Hall made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Hale to proceed with the purchase of tax parcel 043-000-0000-0026, 95.62 acres for the purposes of economic development.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:            Arthur E. "Artie" Hall            Coy L. McRoberts  
                     Steven T. Willis                    B. G. "Gene" Horney  
                     Joe F. Hale                         Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.

NAYS:            Gary M. Houseman

Chair Reeves noted that the Virginia Tobacco Commission has scheduled a meeting for May 20, 2015, at 8 a.m. to discuss the County's grant.

**BUDGET WORK SESSION**

The Board reviewed and discussed the comments received at the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Wythe County and Wythe County School Budgets and Calendar Year 2015 tax levy public hearings.

Mr. Dalton recommended delaying any adjustments to the budget until after the trash disposal fee public hearing, due to its significant impact on the budget.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business to come before the Board, Chair Reeves adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:16 p.m.

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Timothy A. Reeves, Sr., Chair