

May 27, 2014

The Wythe County Board of Supervisors held its regularly scheduled meeting at 9 a.m., Tuesday, May 27, 2014. 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
Scot Farthing, County Attorney
Martha G. Collins, Administrative Assistant
Bill Vaughan, County Engineer

OTHERS PRESENT:

Alan Wilder	Linda DiYorio
Faye Barker	Kimber Simmons
Sam Crockett	David Manley
Doug King	Millie Rothrock
Bill Dixon	Linda Meyer
Two other citizens	

CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

Chair Reeves determined that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. Alan Wilder of the Sunny Hills Community Church 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. Budget – Linda Meyer of 1118 Dry Road in Speedwell addressed the Board. Ms. Meyer explained that the budget public hearing notice recently published in the newspaper contained several discrepancies. She noted that there was an \$8 million difference between the School Board's proposed budget and the amount the County budgeted to the School Board.

Chair Reeves explained that school construction in the previous year's budget would account for the \$8 million difference in the two budgets.

Ms. Meyer requested the publication of a County salary schedule. She then inquired when the proposed budget would be published on the County website.

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Mr. Dalton explained that the proposed line item budget would be posted on the website later this week. He noted that the Board would hold a public hearing for discussion of the budget on June 3, with the budget adoption on June 30.

2. Trail Brochure – Ms. Meyer commended the Tourism Advisory Committee for the recently printed trail brochure. She noted that she has passed out approximately 150 of the brochures in the last 10 days.

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

PUBLIC HEARING – WYTHE COUNTY ENTERPRISE ZONE

Chair Reeves announced that, notice is hereby given that the Board of Supervisors of Wythe County, Virginia, in compliance with the Code of Virginia and amendments thereto, will hold a public hearing to consider proposed amendment to the Wythe County Enterprise Zone incentives and boundaries. The public hearing, which may be continued or adjourned, and at which persons may appear and present their views on the proposed amendment, will be held at 9:05 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, on May 27, 2014, before the Board in the Board Room 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 Enterprise Zone amendment.

Kimber Simmons, Joint Industrial Development Authority Associate Director, addressed the Board. Ms. Simmons provided an overview of the proposed Enterprise Zone incentives and boundary amendments. She reported that the current Enterprise Zone was adopted in 2005 and most recently amended in 2011. Ms. Simmons explained that the State also provides incentives to businesses through the Real Property Investment Grant and Job Creation Grant. She noted that both Towns have passed resolutions agreeing to provide the proposed incentives and the County would be asked to adopt a similar resolution following the public hearing. Ms. Simmons advised that the Enterprise Zone application would then be submitted to the Department of Housing and Community Development and once accepted; the incentives and boundaries would retroactively become effective as of January 1, 2014.

Supervisor Houseman questioned if an existing business that is sold to a new owner would be eligible for the incentives.

Ms. Simmons advised that the incentives for hotels and restaurants are for new businesses only. She noted that an expansion to a current business may be eligible, but new incentives would not be offered with a change in ownership.

Mr. Dalton reported that the new business would continue to receive the reduced water rates incentive.

Ms. Meyer inquired if the proposed incentives are statewide.

Ms. Simmons noted that the incentives are for the County's Enterprise Zone only.

Ms. Meyer asked how much money the County has paid out in incentives.

Ms. Simmons explained that the County has not paid out incentives, but instead has provided a reduction in water rates, connection fees, and rebates of fees paid.

Mr. Dalton reported that those who reside outside of the Wytheville town corporate limits must pay a surcharge for water. He noted that the incentive reduces the business's water rate to the in-town rate. Mr. Dalton explained that they also provide a waiver of the water and wastewater connection fees to the applicable business.

With no one else to address the Board, Chair Reeves closed the public hearing.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Board was presented with the May 13, 2014, minutes for adoption.

Supervisor McRoberts made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Houseman to approve the May 13, 2014, minutes as presented.

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 27, 2014, for the various departments of County government. The invoices were paid on General Warrants 30088217, 30088219-30088265, and 30088267-30088311 as follows:

**EXPENDITURES BY DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
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CHECK #	ISSUE DATE	VENDOR	TOTAL
30088217	05/27/14	ALSCO	\$104.18
30088219	05/27/14	APPALACHIAN POWER	\$34,318.37
30088220	05/27/14	ARCET EQUIPMENT COMPANY	\$47.75
30088221	05/27/14	ASSOC OF DISTRICT COURT JUDGES	\$60.00
30088222	05/27/14	BKT UNIFORMS	\$192.44
30088223	05/27/14	BLUE RIDGE AUTO PARTS (MM)	\$8.68

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30088224	05/27/14	BLUE RIDGE AUTO PARTS INC	\$7.69
30088225	05/27/14	BRENTAG MID-SOUTH INC	\$923.40
30088226	05/27/14	BUTTON SLING INC	\$27.97
30088227	05/27/14	BW WILSON PAPER CO	\$296.00
30088228	05/27/14	CAMPBELL, JACQUELINE H	\$165.00
30088229	05/27/14	CARILION HEALTHCARE CORP	\$173.00
30088230	05/27/14	CASH CYCLE SOLUTIONS INC	\$1,319.78
30088231	05/27/14	CASELL, MARY B	\$115.00
30088232	05/27/14	CENTURYLINK	\$3,329.25
30088233	05/27/14	CENTURYLINK	\$39.98
30088234	05/27/14	CENTURYLINK	\$60.46
30088235	05/27/14	CENTURYLINK	\$46.05
30088236	05/27/14	CENTURYLINK	\$42.49
30088237	05/27/14	CENTURYLINK	\$42.49
30088238	05/27/14	CENTURYLINK	\$42.49
30088239	05/27/14	CENTURYLINK	\$42.49
30088240	05/27/14	CENTURYLINK	\$204.72
30088241	05/27/14	CENTURYLINK	\$42.49
30088242	05/27/14	CENTURYLINK	\$339.58
30088243	05/27/14	COM TEC	\$2,278.00
30088244	05/27/14	COMMONWEALTH ENGINEERING AND SALES	\$389.11
30088245	05/27/14	COMMUNITY ANIMAL CLINIC INC	\$82.13
30088246	05/27/14	DELTA PRODUCTS	\$372.00
30088247	05/27/14	DESIGN DIGITAL PRINTING LLC	\$441.57
30088248	05/27/14	DISTRICT THREE	\$3,632.50
30088249	05/27/14	EASTERN TANK AND UTILITY SERV. INC	\$98,684.39
30088250	05/27/14	F & R ELECTRIC INC	\$10,129.50
30088251	05/27/14	FARTHING, SCOT S	\$1,712.50
30088252	05/27/14	FASTENAL	\$58.71
30088253	05/27/14	FERGUSON ENTERPRISES	\$92.90
30088254	05/27/14	FOWLKES MACHINE CO INC	\$11.96
30088255	05/27/14	GALLS	\$1,139.40
30088256	05/27/14	GOLDEN RULE CREATIONS	\$384.43
30088257	05/27/14	GRANT, BRUCE M	\$3,965.21
30088258	05/27/14	HARPO'S HARDWARE AND BLDG SUPPLY INC	\$31.31
30088259	05/27/14	HASH, JOEL L JR	\$115.00
30088260	05/27/14	HEDRICKS AUTO REPAIR INC	\$16.00
30088261	05/27/14	KING, CAROLYN	\$15.06
30088262	05/27/14	KING, MARY ELLEN	\$18.00
30088263	05/27/14	LEXISNEXIS	\$158.00
30088264	05/27/14	LIFEGUARD STORE INC	\$226.10
30088265	05/27/14	LINDSEY, PATSY D	\$165.00
30088267	05/27/14	MANSFIELD OIL CO	\$10,421.25
30088268	05/27/14	MCI COMM SERVICE	\$310.34
30088269	05/27/14	MEREDITH'S GARAGE	\$420.50
30088270	05/27/14	MOORE'S MASONRY	\$850.00

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30088271	05/27/14	NATIONAL POOLS	\$897.10
30088272	05/27/14	NEW RIVER REGIONAL WATER AUTH.	\$13,625.43
30088273	05/27/14	NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL JAIL	\$113,409.32
30088274	05/27/14	OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER	\$20.00
30088275	05/27/14	PAPER CLIP	\$3,528.04
30088276	05/27/14	POSTAGE BY PHONE RESERVE ACCT	\$1,420.00
30088277	05/27/14	R & C TOWING AND REPAIR CO	\$16.00
30088278	05/27/14	R & R ENTERPRISES INC	\$135.00
30088279	05/27/14	R & R SEPTIC	\$285.00
30088280	05/27/14	ROBINETTE, GLEN C JR	\$115.00
30088281	05/27/14	ROOTX	\$1,338.45
30088282	05/27/14	RURAL DEVELOPMENT	\$2,282.00
30088283	05/27/14	RURAL DEVELOPMENT	\$2,514.00
30088284	05/27/14	RURAL DEVELOPMENT	\$11,572.00
30088285	05/27/14	S & S ENGINEERS INC	\$3,160.00
30088286	05/27/14	SHENTEL	\$55.22
30088287	05/27/14	SOUTHERN STATES	\$1,701.85
30088288	05/27/14	SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA CRIMINAL	\$100.00
30088289	05/27/14	SRP ENTERPRISES LLC	\$44.95
30088290	05/27/14	STATE ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY	\$237.92
30088291	05/27/14	T & T SPORTING GOODS	\$46.99
30088292	05/27/14	TACS	\$196.00
30088293	05/27/14	THOMPSON TIRE	\$1,405.28
30088294	05/27/14	TOWN POLICE SUPPLY	\$29,225.72
30088295	05/27/14	TRI CITIES/SW VA REGIONAL	\$183.75
30088296	05/27/14	TRI COUNTY GLASS INC	\$206.65
30088297	05/27/14	TWO WAY RADIO	\$95.84
30088298	05/27/14	US CELLULAR	\$541.84
30088299	05/27/14	US CELLULAR	\$549.99
30088300	05/27/14	US CELLULAR	\$60.00
30088301	05/27/14	VERIZON	\$13.53
30088302	05/27/14	WILLIAMS SUPPLY	\$364.04
30088303	05/27/14	WILLIAMS, MARY ANN	\$115.00
30088304	05/27/14	WILSON BAIT AND TACKLE INC	\$545.05
30088305	05/27/14	WYTHE CO WATER AND WASTEWATER	\$33.50
30088306	05/27/14	WYTHE CO WATER AND WASTEWATER	\$66.00
30088307	05/27/14	WYTHE CO WATER AND WASTEWATER	\$40.11
30088308	05/27/14	WYTHE CO WATER AND WASTEWATER	\$11.00
30088309	05/27/14	WYTHE TIRE AND MUFFLER	\$817.14
30088310	05/27/14	WYTHEVILLE OFFICE SUPPLY	\$2,034.12
30088311	05/27/14	XEROX	\$127.01
TOTAL EXPENDITURES APPROVED 05/27/14			\$371,248.46

Supervisor Willis seconded the motion.

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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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Wythe County Treasurer, Sam Crockett, appeared before the Board and presented the Treasurer's Report as follows:

1. Revenue Statement – Mr. Crockett reported that the consolidated account is currently at \$50,294,000 with \$31,506,000 in the General Fund account. He noted that the Treasurer's Office has collected \$17,991,000 to date this year. Mr. Crockett added that real estate tax second notices have been mailed.

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Sheriff Doug King appeared before the Board and reported the following:

1. Captain Doug Tuck – Sheriff King reported that Captain Doug Tuck will retire effective June 1 after 28 years of service. He explained that Virginia Statute 59.1-148.3 allows the retiree to purchase their duty weapon for \$1. Sheriff King requested authorization to allow Captain Tuck to purchase his weapon.

Supervisor McRoberts made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Horney to allow Doug Tuck to purchase his service weapon for \$1.

Supervisor Houseman and Chair Reeves expressed their appreciation to Captain Tuck for his service.

The motion passed unanimously.

Sheriff King paid \$1 for the purchase of Captain Tuck's service weapon.

2. Trash Pickup Detail – Sheriff King reported that the trash pickup detail has picked up 21,960 pounds of trash over the past 5 weeks. He noted that they have picked up 113,650 pounds of trash since the start of the program. Sheriff King advised that they would be concentrating on Route 21 South in preparation for the 76-mile yard sale. He added that they also plan to work on Castleton Road and Route 94.

Supervisor Hale advised that he recently contacted the Virginia Department of Transportation concerning the installation of "no littering" signs. He asked if Sheriff King could help recommend specific locations for the placement of signs.

Supervisor Hale questioned if the signs would assist with the enforcement of littering violations.

Sheriff King explained that the signs are not needed to allow the Sheriff's Office to enforce no littering laws.

3. Drive to Save Lives Initiative – Sheriff King reported that the Drive to Save Lives initiative is currently underway. He noted that the local and state initiative is working to reduce traffic fatalities by 15% in 2015.

FIRE AND RESCUE COMMITTEE REPORT

1. Lead Mines Rescue Squad – Supervisor Houseman made a motion, as recommended by the Fire and Rescue Committee to appoint Juanita Branscome to the Lead Mines Rescue Squad Board of Directors.

The motion passed unanimously.

AGRICULTURAL EXPOSITION CENTER STATUS UPDATE

Mr. Dalton updated the Board on the status of the Agricultural Exposition Center project. He reported that the Agricultural Exposition Center Committee is preparing a business plan, in addition to working on a strategy for grant applications.

WATER COMMITTEE REPORT

1. Speedwell Water Extension Project Division 1A – Supervisor Houseman made a motion, as recommended by the Water Committee to approve Speedwell Division 1A, Change Order No. 3.

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

2. Speedwell Water Extension Project Division 1B – Supervisor Houseman made a motion, as recommended by the Water Committee to approve Speedwell Division 1B, Change Order No. 2.

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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

3. Water Bill Adjustment Policy – Supervisor Houseman made a motion, as recommended by the Water Committee to adopt the proposed Water Bill Adjustment Policy as amended.

Supervisor Houseman noted that the proposed policy does not allow for an adjustment for leaks that may be under a manufactured home or in a rental home that is not currently occupied.

Supervisor Hale questioned if the Water Committee could still make adjustments at their discretion.

Supervisor Houseman stated that the proposed policy, as he understands it, would remove the Water Committee's ability to make adjustments.

Supervisor Hale recommended allowing the Water Committee to determine if an adjustment is viable on a case-by-case basis.

Supervisor Houseman made an amended motion, seconded by Supervisor Horney to revise the Water Bill Adjustment Policy to allow adjustments for subsurface leaks, and adjustments for non-subsurface, not immediately visible leaks pending approval, and subject to approval by the Water Committee.

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

BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

1. Wythe County Convenience Centers – Supervisor Hall made a motion, as recommended by the Budget Committee to accept the convenience center bid in the amount of \$109,000 per month of service, to direct the County Attorney to

prepare a contract for the service, and to authorize the County Administrator and Chair to execute the completed contract.

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

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

County Administrator, Cellell Dalton, appeared before the Board and reported the following:

1. Wythe County Public Schools Graduation Schedule – Mr. Dalton reviewed with the Board a letter from Wythe County Public Schools Superintendent, Lee Brannon, outlining dates and times for upcoming area high school graduations.
2. Wytheville Community College Appointment – Mr. Dalton reviewed with the Board a letter and supporting documents from Wytheville Community College President Charlie White requesting the appointment of two members to the Wytheville Community College Board. Mr. Dalton noted that the two appointments are needed prior to June 30.
3. Rural Retreat Depot – Mr. Dalton reviewed with the Board a letter from Julie Langan, Director of the Virginia Department of Historical Resources, concerning a nomination for inclusion of the Rural Retreat Depot in the National Register of Historic Places and Virginia Landmarks Register.
4. Southwest Virginia Paramedic Program – Mr. Dalton reviewed with the Board a letter and associated information from Bill Akers, Southwest Virginia Paramedic Program Director of EMS Programs, concerning their dual enrollment emergency medical technician program. Mr. Dalton noted that he has discussed the program with the schools and hopes to receive grant funding for the project.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

County Attorney, Scot Farthing, appeared before the Board and reported the following:

1. Solid Waste Ordinance Amendment – Mr. Farthing advised that he was asked to draft an ordinance amendment that would allow for the collection of a solid waste fee. He explained that each dwelling unit would be charged \$100 per year for solid waste disposal.

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SUPERVISOR'S REPORTS

1. Feed Lot – Supervisor Horney reported that he had been contacted by a citizen concerning manure running from a hilltop feedlot onto his property.

Mr. Dalton advised that he has contacted the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to discuss the issue. He noted that he believed that a DEQ representative was sent to the site to investigate the issue.

Supervisor Horney explained that DEQ asked the individual to move their cattle to a different lot, which did not resolve the issue. He noted that the manure is now running through both lots onto the citizen's property.

Mr. Dalton noted that he would request that DEQ contact the citizen to discuss the issue.

2. Bank – Chair Reeves reported that Ms. Fontaine has requested the placement of mulch on her bank so that she can replant flowers. He noted that her mailbox was replaced, but no other work was completed.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT – CONTINUED

Mr. Farthing reviewed the proposed solid waste ordinance amendment with the Board members. He noted that the amendment would add an additional section to the existing Solid Waste Ordinance, which would allow the County to charge a solid waste disposal fee to citizens for each dwelling unit on a property. Mr. Farthing stated that they hope to include the fee on the real estate tax bills with the fee to be paid by December 5.

Supervisor Hall questioned if each dwelling unit must be occupied to be included in the fee.

Mr. Farthing advised that all dwelling units would be included, occupied or not. He noted that the information would be compiled from the Commissioner of Revenue records.

Supervisor Hale recommended the addition of a section that would assist individuals who are unable to pay the fee. He also suggested the inclusion in the amendment of any property with a livable dwelling.

Mr. Dalton noted that many of those types of structures are not currently taxed, do not have a 911 address, and may not have a billing address on record. He explained that they would need to implement a process to identify those properties.

Chair Reeves suggested the issuance of a placard to be displayed in vehicles. He noted that Bland County charges their citizens quarterly for trash disposal and suggested a similar system in Wythe County.

Supervisor Hale recommended placing information about littering on one side of the placard to encourage citizens to keep the County clean.

Supervisor Houseman advised that he is not in favor of the solid waste disposal fee. He noted that he would have preferred a real estate tax increase over the addition of a fee.

Chair Reeves explained that everyone in the County produces trash and a trash disposal fee would be fair to all of the citizens.

Supervisor Hall questioned if they implement a quarterly billing system, could a discount be given to individuals who pay their fee annually.

Supervisor McRoberts agreed with Supervisor Houseman. He noted that many citizens may not meet the poverty guidelines, but may have difficulty paying the fee.

Supervisor Hall made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Hale to set a public hearing for the amendment of the Solid Waste Ordinance on June 17 at 7 p.m.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Arthur E. "Artie" Hall
Steven T. Willis
Joe F. Hale
Timothy A. Reeves

NAYS: Gary M. Houseman
Coy L. McRoberts
B. G. "Gene" Horney

CONSENT CALENDAR

Supervisor Horney made a motion to approve the consent calendar for May 27, 2014, as follows:

1. PAYROLL – April 2014:

Water Department	\$	23,810.61
Wythe County Wastewater Fund		7,136.92
Police Activity Fund		52,555.92
Courthouse Security Fund		18,471.79
General County Fund		<u>467,391.84</u>

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TOTAL

\$ 565,302.18

Check Numbers: 30087884-30087893; 30087991-30088002

Voucher Numbers: V408000-V408150; V410000-4010157

2. STATUS REPORTS:

- A. Animal Control – Arlan Dunford
- B. Building Inspection – Chip Dunford
- C. Emergency Services – Ikey Davidson
- D. Parks and Recreation – Kevin Williams

3. PERSONNEL:

- A. Hall, Kaylee – Resigned, Communications Officer, Effective April 24, 2014
- B. Hawks, Christopher – Resigned, Communications Officer, Effective April 30, 2014
- C. Gallimore, Brittany – Hired, Full-time Communications Officer, Effective April 16, 2014, Annual Salary \$20,473
- D. Nichols, Chasity – Transfer from Full-time Communications Officer Grant Position to County Position, Effective May 1, 2014, Annual Salary \$21,614

4. BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

- A. \$9,175 (3102-48205) – Auto Claim 5/1/14, 2011 Ford Crown Victoria
- B. \$1,000 (3102-48205) – Auto Claim 12/20/13, 2006 Ford Taurus

Supervisor Houseman 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

WYTHE BLAND FOUNDATION GRANT

The Board reviewed a letter from Travis Jackson, Wythe Bland Foundation Executive Director, awarding Wythe County a grant in the amount of \$193,600 for the purchase of fire and rescue equipment.

Supervisor Houseman made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Horney to accept the Wythe Bland Foundation grant in the amount of \$193,600 and to include the funding in the fiscal year 15 budget.

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

AMERICAN RED CROSS – MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The Board reviewed a memorandum of understanding between Wythe County and the Woods River Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Mr. Dalton explained that the Memorandum of Understanding would allow the American Red Cross to open and operate local shelters, while assuming the cost of operating those shelters.

Supervisor Horney made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Willis to accept the memorandum of understanding between Wythe County and the Woods River Chapter of the American Red Cross and to authorize County Administrator Dalton to execute the agreement.

The motion passed unanimously.

VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY ISSUES SURVEY

The Board reviewed an e-mail from Beau Blevins, Virginia Association of Counties Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, requesting assistance with the compilation of local legislative issues of concern, which could be addressed through legislation.

Mr. Dalton requested that Board members submit any items prior to June 6.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Dalton advised that a public hearing would be needed for amendment to the Water Bill Adjustment Policy. He suggested setting both the Water Bill Adjustment Policy and Solid Waste Disposal Ordinance amendment public hearings on the same date.

Supervisor Hall made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Horney to set the public hearing for amendment of Ordinance 96-4, Water Use and Management, on June 17 at 7:05 p.m.

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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

PARK STREET

Supervisor Hale advised that, at the request of the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), a resolution is needed to modify Park Street in Max Meadows to one-way traffic only.

Supervisor Hale made a motion, seconded by Supervisor McRoberts to adopt a resolution allowing for the modification of Park Street in Max Meadows to one-way traffic.

The motion passed unanimously.

CLOSED MEETING – ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY

Supervisor Hall made a motion, seconded by Supervisor McRoberts to enter into Closed Meeting under Section 2.2-3711-A.3 (Acquisition of Property for Public Purposes) 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 Horney to return to open session.

The motion passed unanimously.

Upon returning to open session, a motion was made by Supervisor Hall and seconded by Supervisor Horney 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 Hale made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Hall to authorize the County Administrator and staff to negotiate acquisition of property as discussed in the closed meeting.

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

RECESS

The Board recessed at 11:37 a.m. until May 29, 2014, at 7 p.m.

RECONVENE

The Board reconvened on May 29, 2014, at 7 p.m.

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MEMBERS PRESENT:

Timothy A. Reeves, Sr., Chair
Arthur E. "Artie" Hall, Vice Chair
Gary M. Houseman
Steven T. Willis

Joe F. Hale
Coy L. McRoberts
B. G. "Gene" Horney

STAFF PRESENT:

R. Cellell Dalton, County Administrator
Stephen D. Bear, Assistant County Administrator

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jeff Russell
Barbara Hounshell
Pat Dix
Michael Dix
Fran Mabe

Gary Harvey
Wayne Yoder
Cloyd Bishop
Joyce Bishop
Twenty-two other citizens

PUBLIC HEARING – SECONDARY ROAD SIX-YEAR PLAN

Chair Reeves announced that notice is hereby given that the Board of Supervisors of Wythe County and the Virginia Department of Transportation, in accordance with Section 33.1-70.01 of the Code of Virginia, will conduct a joint public hearing. The purpose of the public hearing will be to receive public comments on the proposed Secondary Six Year Plan for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 through Fiscal Year 2019-2020. The public hearing, which may be continued or adjourned, and at which persons may appear and present their views on the proposed Plan, will be held at 7 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, on May 29, 2014, in the Boardroom of the County Administration Building, 340 South Sixth Street Wytheville, Virginia.

Jeff Russell, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Residency Administrator, addressed the Board. Mr. Russell reviewed the proposed Secondary Road Six-Year Plan with the Board and those present. He advised that Wythe County's Six-Year Plan allocation would be \$2,377,000 less this year than what it was in the previous year. Mr. Russell explained that no projects have been removed from the Plan, but due to budget cuts, no new projects will be added.

Supervisor McRoberts questioned if Dunford Road is still on schedule for construction.

Mr. Russell explained that Dunford Road would be fully funded next year with construction to begin in July 2014. He noted that the Code of Virginia allows VDOT to begin a project if it will be fully funded within the next year.

Supervisor Hale inquired if construction of Archer Road as a rural rustic road would assist with budget shortfalls.

Mr. Russell noted that construction of Archer Road as a rural rustic road would drastically reduce the cost of the project. He noted that those additional funds could go towards unfunded projects on the current proposed Plan or fund other projects to be

added to the Plan. Mr. Russell added that they must first ensure that the project can be completed as a rural rustic road.

Mr. Dalton advised that several years ago the County was asked to remove several roads from the Six-Year Plan. He requested that those roads be added to the Plan if funds are available.

Mr. Russell reported that in 2009 VDOT edited the Six-Year Plan to attempt to make it more realistically a six-year plan. He noted that there were too many projects on the Plan, which could not be completed with the allocations provided. Mr. Russell explained that the Board of Supervisors submitted a resolution with a list of roads to VDOT requesting that those roads be added back to the Plan until the list was exhausted. He added that all of the roads on the resolution have been returned to the Plan with the exception of Greasy Creek Road.

Mr. Dalton explained that the State of Virginia has announced that they will be \$300 million to \$500 million short in revenue and questioned if the shortfall would affect VDOT's projected revenue.

Mr. Russell confirmed that the shortfall could affect their revenue. He noted that the only money guaranteed for Six-Year Plan projects is the 2014-2015 funding.

Supervisor Horney questioned if the remaining half of St. Peters Road would be completed, and if so what work is planned.

Mr. Russell reported that the St. Peters Road project is still in the engineering phase. He noted that \$3.4 million is needed in additional funding for the remaining portion of the project. Mr. Russell added that the project is expected to be fully funded in 2015-2016.

Chair Reeves inquired if anyone present wished to address the Board concerning the proposed Secondary Road Six-Year Plan.

Barbara Hounshell of 646 New Bethel Road in Wytheville addressed the Board on behalf of the New Bethel Road residents. Ms. Hounshell advised that the residents of New Bethel Road wish to be placed on the Six-Year Plan. She explained that the road was previously on the Plan, but due to economic shortfalls, the road was removed from the Plan. Ms. Hounshell noted that 14 residence, 2 churches, 1 school, 1 business, and several farms are all located on New Bethel Road. She added that several paved roads are slated for reconstruction and requested paving New Bethel Road prior to re-paving other roads.

Supervisor Houseman inquired if New Bethel Road would qualify as a rural rustic road.

Mr. Russell advised that to qualify as a rural rustic road, the road must be state maintained with 50 vehicles per day, and must meet minimum grading requirements.

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He noted that he believes that New Bethel Road may be a candidate for paving as a rural rustic road.

Pat Dix of 131 New Bethel Road in Wytheville addressed the Board. Ms. Dix asked why New Bethel Road had not been paved in the past. She noted that she believes that the dusty conditions of the road are a factor in her breathing problems and other health issues.

Michael Dix of 131 New Bethel Road in Wytheville addressed the Board. Mr. Dix questioned why New Bethel Road was on the Six-Year Plan previously, but was not placed on the new Plan. He inquired why the residents would have to begin the process to be placed on the Plan again, when they were previously on the Plan.

Fran Mabe of 758 Archer Road in Max Meadows addressed the Board. Ms. Mabe reported that Archer Road had been on the Six-Year Plan for 14 years prior to being removed and placed on the Board's resolution of roads. She requested the construction of at least a portion of the road, if the funds are not available to complete the road. Ms. Mabe asked that VDOT consider proceeding with the construction of Archer Road as a rural rustic project.

Gary Harvey addressed the Board on behalf of the residents of Greasy Creek Road. Mr. Harvey reported that Greasy Creek Road was previously on the Six-Year Plan 20-25 years ago. He noted that VDOT placed Greasy Creek Road on the proposed Six-Year Plan again in 2005 with the road later removed from the Plan in 2009. Mr. Harvey explained that he believes that Greasy Creek Road is the next road scheduled to be added back to the Plan. He asked if Greasy Creek Road would be eligible for construction as a rural rustic road.

Chair Reeves noted that Mr. Russell would have to visit the road to determine if construction as a rural rustic road is possible.

Mr. Harvey advised that in 2009, he was told that the road could not be constructed as a rural rustic road. He noted that Greasy Creek Road is approximately four miles long with two-thirds of the road already paved. Mr. Harvey requested that VDOT consider paving Greasy Creek Road.

Wayne Yoder of 778 Cinnamon Run in Wytheville addressed the Board on behalf of the Light of Hope Mennonite Church. Mr. Yoder reported that more than 40 vehicles travel weekly to their church, which is located on New Bethel Road. He added that approximately 30 vehicles travel to and from their school daily. Mr. Yoder requested paving of New Bethel Road. He also requested paving of Cinnamon Run from Berea Road to Greasy Creek Road. Mr. Yoder noted that widening would be needed for construction of Cinnamon Run, which would most likely exclude it from the rural rustic program.

Cloyd Bishop of 2648 Major Graham Road in Max Meadows addressed the Board. Mr. Bishop explained that he appreciates the dust treatment applied to Major Graham Road, and requested continued treatment if the road cannot be added to the Six-Year Plan.

Joyce Bishop addressed the Board on behalf of her father who resides on Major Graham Road. Ms. Bishop requested that VDOT complete a traffic study of Major Graham Road. She asked that VDOT consider paving Major Graham Road in the future if possible.

The Board received the following letter from George S. Dunlop of 1625 Conners Valley Road, Draper, Virginia for inclusion in the Secondary Road Six-Year Plan Public Hearing:

"Re: Conners Valley Road: Support for approval to be included in the Wythe/VDOT 6-Year Plan"

Many thanks for the kind attention you have given to the residents of Conners Valley Road on all matters and particularly in regard to the status of the Road in the Wythe County/VDOT transportation plan.

It is my understanding that the Board will consider a resolution to include Conners Valley Road (CVR) in the VDOT Bristol District/Wytheville Residency Six-Year Plan and to include it on the Wythe County Board of Supervisors list of priority secondary roads in Wythe County.

I regret that I am unavoidably absent on business and will not be able to participate in the Supervisor's VDOT public meeting today.

I would appreciate your making this letter and the comments below a part of the official record and, if appropriate, read the gist of these comments for the consideration and assessment of the other Supervisors and public officials present.

As we have learned from VDOT in the past, unless CVR is included in the Six Year Plan it is not possible for the VDOT road crews to properly correct the chronic drainage problems affecting this "non-hard surface secondary road." This is because the correction of such problems is technically regarded under VDOT policies as a "construction activity," as distinct from a "repair" activity.

As regards CVR, the VDOT residency does a very fine job in its "repair" activities after major storm events -- clearing major ditches and culverts and in restoring washed-away gravel with effective grading, etc.

However, the drainage problems on this road are chronic, in the sense that CVR requires three kinds of "construction" improvements to meet the standards for safety and reliability:

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- 1) Increased elevations (where the roadbed is often below the even small flood stage of Little Pine Run);
- 2) Major restoration of the almost totally collapsed ditch systems, and;
- 3) The addition of culvert pipes at crucial drainage transitions.

It is important for the Supervisors and the officials from the Commonwealth Transportation Board and VDOT to understand that at this time the 30+ households on Connors Valley Road are not requesting inclusion in the Six Year Plan or in the Wythe County Secondary Road Priority List for the purpose of allocating resources for paving the road and converting it into a hard-surface road. Instead, we have three purposes for this "non-hard surfaced secondary," i.e., gravel, road:

- To assure public safety
- To save taxpayer dollars in repeated emergency repairs and replacements after virtually every significant storm event
- To protect the environmental quality of Little Pine Run, which is adversely impacted by large volumes of VDOT, gravel and other debris that smothers this fine perennial waterway.

Inclusion of CVR in the Six Year Plan and in the Wythe Priority List will enable VDOT to receive the policy approval and to be eligible for allocation of relatively small "construction" funds from the Virginia Transportation Plan as well as the necessary programmatic DEQ/EPA permits for improving ditches, culverts and elevations – all of which would serve to actually reduce the repair and operations costs for the Wytheville Residency for CVR. Because this petition is not to seek allocation of scarce resources for paving, approval of the CVR resolutions will not have a competitive impact upon hard-surface projects important to people on other secondary roads in Wythe County that are candidates for paving. This is to say, that approval of these resolutions is necessary to provide authority for VDOT to properly and proactively maintain CVR as a gravel road. The funding, permitting, and other decision factors will simply be enabled for further considered by the Commonwealth Transportation Board and VDOT.

As there are no costs to the County, nor any competition for paving projects on other secondary roads inherent in the approval of these resolutions, please convey to the other Supervisors this request for their most earnest consideration in support of the resolutions to include Connors Valley Road in the prospective Six Year Plan and to be included on the Wythe County List of Priority Secondary Roads."

With no one else to address the Board, Chair Reeves closed the public hearing.

RECESS

The Board recessed at 7:43 p.m. until June 3, 2014, at 7 p.m.

RECONVENE

The Board reconvened on June 3, 2014, at 7:07 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
Bruce Grant, Finance Director

OTHERS PRESENT:

Doug King	Faye Barker
Linda DiYorio	Sis Cassell
John DiYorio	Bobbie Dirks
Ann Manley	Donnie Bales
Paul Hric	Lee Brannon
Nancy Brennecke	Ann Dees
David Saliba	Linda Meyer
John Davis	Sharon King
Jodi Fiorini	David Blair
Shane Terry	Nancy Throckmorton
Sam Crockett	Alethea Neal
Don Alexander	Liza Fields
Andy Kegley	David Blessing
Scott Martin	Donna Bishop
Barbara Goins	Reene Blessing Cline
Michella Chapman	Approximately 60 other citizens

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED WYTHE COUNTY AND WYTHE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 BUDGETS AND PROPOSED TAX LEVY FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2014

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 2014-2015 budgets and the proposed tax levy for calendar year 2014. 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 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, on June 3, 2014, before the Board in the Boardroom of the County Administration Building, 340 South Sixth Street, Wytheville, Virginia.

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Chair Reeves inquired if anyone present wished to address the Board concerning the proposed Wythe County and Wythe County School Board fiscal year (FY) 2014-2015 budgets and tax levy for calendar year (CY) 2014.

County Administrator Dalton addressed the Board. Mr. Dalton reviewed with the Board and those present a synopsis of the proposed FY 15 County budget and CY 14 tax levy. He reported that the FY 15 budget encompasses several budget expenses that the County has no control over including an 8% increase to health care costs, Virginia Retirement System increases, and the escalation of power and fuel costs. Mr. Dalton noted that the proposed budget includes no salary increases, with the exception of those employees under the State mandated pay scale. He explained that over 110% of the Real Estate, Personal Property, and Merchant Capital taxes collected are dedicated to funding the local school system.

Linda DiYorio of 765 Wytheview Drive in Wytheville addressed the Board. Ms. DiYorio explained that the Joint Industrial Development Authority (JIDA) was established 25 years ago as a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia to promote industry and develop trade within Wythe County. She reported that under the management of the JIDA the County has gained nearly 1,000 jobs with an investment of over \$500 million. Ms. DiYorio added that the JIDA has worked successfully for over two decades and asked that the Board reconsider funding the Authority.

John DiYorio of 765 Wytheview Drive in Wytheville addressed the Board. Mr. DiYorio reported that over 40 years ago he was a member of the Wytheville JCs, who addressed the Town of Wytheville concerning their desire, at the time, to withdraw from the County and become a city. He explained that the Town of Wytheville reversed their decision, which resulted in increased cooperation between the Town and County. Mr. DiYorio noted that he believes that the withdrawal of funds to the JIDA would be a step back in the progress of the County.

Ann Manley of 1774 Ivanhoe Road in Max Meadows addressed the Board in support of the JIDA. Ms. Manley explained that she believes that defunding the JIDA is wrong and would be counterproductive to local government cooperation. She noted that the JIDA has the staff in place to market the assets of the County and Towns. Ms. Manley advised that the new director is well educated, forward thinking, and has great vision for the future of the County. She stated that she had been informed by a Board member that the County desired a director who was older and with more experience. Ms. Manley added that she had also been informed that the JIDA did not do what the Board wanted them to do, and the Board therefore, discontinued their funding. She asked that the Board give the JIDA a chance to help make a change for Wythe County's future.

Paul Hric of 155 Westwind Drive in Max Meadows addressed the Board. Mr. Hric reported that he is a small business owner who depends on tourism. He explained that he believes that the County is not interested in tourism, but instead wants to focus on manufacturing. Mr. Hric noted that the Board plans to cut funding to those who focus

on manufacturing and turn their function over to a County economic development committee. He stated that this decision would damage the County's reputation tremendously. Mr. Hric added that he believes that new and progressive leadership is needed for the County.

Nancy Brennecke of 3087 Grayson Turnpike in Wytheville addressed the Board. Ms. Brennecke asked that the Board fund the JIDA. She noted that the County and the citizens deserve the JIDA working for them, as they help promote the County's economic growth. Ms. Brennecke recommended that staff prepare documentation demonstrating why the funds provided to the JIDA were not well spent and where those funds would be expended in the future.

David Saliba of 469 Sharitz Road in Wytheville addressed the Board. Mr. Saliba reported that \$9.743 million is budgeted to Lot 24 in Progress Park. He explained that the JIDA is supposed to assist with the development and economic growth of Progress Park. Mr. Saliba noted that the County has included several new positions and salary increases in the proposed budget. He asked why the County could fund these positions and not the JIDA.

John Davis of 621 Francis Mill Road in Cripple Creek addressed the Board. Mr. Davis reported that he served on the Board of Supervisors 20 years ago. He noted that he realizes that the Board has hard decisions to make and relayed a situation that occurred when he was on the Board. Mr. Davis explained that he believes that the Board needs to promote tourism and work to sell Wythe County.

Jodi Fiorini of 1640 West Fulton Street in Wytheville addressed the Board. Ms. Fiorini reported that the Board plans to add a fire marshal and an attorney to the County staff. She explained that she does not believe that either the fire marshal or attorney are full-time positions and asked what other duties they would have. Ms. Fiorini next voiced her opposition to the trash disposal fee, which would be imposed on all property owners. Ms. Fiorini suggested that the fee only be imposed on those who use the service. She asked what penalty would be enforced on those property owners who do not pay the fee. Ms. Fiorini added that she believes that it would be a mistake to discontinue funding to the JIDA and asked that the Board reconsider their funding.

Shane Terry of 810 East Liberty Street in Wytheville addressed the Board. Mr. Terry reported that he is employed at the Wohlfahrt Haus Dinner Theatre as their director of marketing and group sales, as well as vice president of the United Way of Wythe County, serving on the Chamber of Commerce Board, operating a small wedding planning business, and serving on the steering committee of the Wythe Bland Young Professionals. He noted that he was excited when David Manley was appointed as executive director of the JIDA. Mr. Terry explained that one Board member has stated that Mr. Manley is too young to hold the position of executive director. He advised that this statement sends a negative message to the younger demographic and is discouraging to young professionals in the County. Mr. Terry asked that the Board reconsider funding the JIDA.

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Sam Crockett of 875 North Tenth Street in Wytheville addressed the Board. Mr. Crockett requested that the Board consider a cost of living increase for lower paid employees. He noted that pay increases to cover health insurance and Virginia Retirement System contributions are beneficial, but do not cover everyday cost of living expenses.

Don Alexander of 190 Eagle Drive in Wytheville addressed the Board. Mr. Alexander explained that the JIDA is important, as they meet with and recruit industries and other economic opportunities to the region.

Mr. Alexander voiced his opposition to the proposed trash disposal fee. He questioned how the trash disposal fee would apply to those Town residents who pay the Town a fee and do not use the County convenience centers. Mr. Alexander noted that the double fee would place a hardship on some individuals. He inquired if the fee would apply to all households or if it would only apply to real estate owners. Mr. Alexander next asked if renters would also share in the cost of use of the convenience centers. He then questioned how individuals who pay the fee would be identified at the centers and how those who do not pay would be prevented from using the centers.

Andy Kegley of 840 Rose Hill Road in Wytheville addressed the Board. Mr. Kegley advised that he believes the Board is throwing up barriers to prevent low-income individuals from building equity and accumulating wealth. He explained that the solid waste disposal fee is a highly regressive tax and would equate to an 18% increase in property tax for some low-income homeowners. Mr. Kegley questioned the motivation for needing the \$1.2 million to be collected from the fee. He noted that the County has projected a 17% increase in expenses and asked that the burden of this budgeting issue not be placed on the citizens. Mr. Kegley also requested that the Board continue to fund the JIDA.

Scott Martin of 7801 Peppers Ferry Road in Max Meadows addressed the Board. Mr. Martin reported that he is a local entrepreneur and business owner. He advised that the JIDA brings in customers, increases the County's tax base, and generates revenue for the County. Mr. Martin noted that the JIDA also brings opportunities to the County and increases small business participation in the community. He asked that the Board reverse their decision to fund the JIDA and suggested that they give Mr. Manley a chance, and review his performance in a year.

Sis Cassell of 205 Saint Lukes Road in Wytheville addressed the Board on behalf of the Electoral Board. Ms. Cassell reported that she is concerned that no funding has been allocated for the purchase of replacement voting machines. She noted that the Electoral Board had previously requested a sinking fund for the replacement of the machines, but were not provided funding for this purpose. Ms. Cassell explained that the machines are now 19 years old and the Electoral Board has requested the entire cost of the machine replacement, which totals over \$100,000. She advised that the current machines are difficult to repair as parts are no longer manufactured, programming software has been discontinued, ballot printing availability is limited, and

the machines cannot be certified for recounts by the Commonwealth of Virginia due to their age. Ms. Cassell asked that the Board reconsider funding the Electoral Board's request.

Ms. Cassell next addressed the Board as a citizen. She noted that she supports the JIDA and asked that the Board reconsider their funding. Ms. Cassell added that she does not support the trash disposal fee and requested that the Board revisit this issue.

Bobbie Dirks of 660 West Washington Street in Wytheville addressed the Board. Ms. Dirks reported that the recent reassessment increased County revenue, in addition to the increase to personal property tax in 2013 by \$.19. She explained that the proposed \$100 trash disposal fee would provide over \$1 million to the County, as well as the funds provided by the proposed 39% water increase. Ms. Dirks noted that the budget includes several new positions, which she believes are unnecessary. She asked who on the County's staff would work to develop industries, or if additional personnel would be added to fill this position. Ms. Dirks advised that she does not believe that the County would have their current industries if not for the work of the JIDA and asked that the Board reconsider funding the JIDA.

Donnie Bales of 575 Tazewell Street in Wytheville addressed the Board. Mr. Bales stated that he is a small business owner who relocated to Wytheville. He explained that he believes that there have been many advances in business locally due to the work of the JIDA. He noted that he was excited when Mr. Manley was appointed as executive director of the JIDA, but was disappointed to learn that the County planned to cut their funding. Mr. Bales urged the Board to reconsider funding the JIDA.

Lee Brannon, Wythe County Public Schools Superintendent, addressed the Board. Dr. Brannon reported that State funding has declined since 2009. He advised that the school system has cut approximately 28 positions over the past five years to assist with budget reductions. Dr. Brannon thanked the Board for their support and for working in cooperation with the schools to do what is best for the students in Wythe County public schools.

Ann Dees of 971 Sanders Mines Road in Max Meadows addressed the Board in support of the JIDA. Ms. Dees explained that the new JIDA executive director is talented and knowledgeable. She noted that industry would not locate in Wythe County if they believe that the Board is not open to creativity and innovative approaches. Ms. Dees asked that the Board restore funding to the JIDA.

Linda Meyer of 1118 Dry Road in Speedwell addressed the Board. Ms. Meyer explained that the County is expending over \$23,000 in dues to national and state organizations, in addition to \$30,000 in dues for Progress Park. She noted that increases for uniforms, office supplies, and unclassified supplies are not necessary and asked that the Board work to cut the budget.

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Sharon King of 5033 West Lee Highway in Wytheville addressed the Board. Ms. King voiced her opposition to the proposed trash disposal fee. She noted that she believes that the fee would cause individuals to throw trash along the roads. Ms. King stated that the County is in debt because they cannot pay back the money borrowed for the water extension projects. She asked that the County not place their debt on the citizens and reconsider the trash fee and water projects.

David W. Blair of 350 Lakeview Drive in Wytheville addressed the Board. Mr. Blair expressed his opposition to the County's defunding of the JIDA, which has been instrumental in building the tax base of the County. He noted in response to Mr. Manley being too young to serve as director, that young people should be involved in decision making. Mr. Blair asked that the Board find the funding to continue the JIDA.

Nancy Throckmorton of 420 Century Court in Wytheville addressed the Board in opposition to the proposed trash disposal fee. Ms. Throckmorton noted that she owns three properties, and questioned if she would be required to pay the fee for each property.

Alethea Neal of 1155 West Union Street in Wytheville addressed the Board. Ms. Neal explained that she does not understand the need for the \$100 trash disposal fee, which would be a burden on the citizens. She suggested that the County investigate other options for trash and recycling. Ms. Neal questioned why a public safety director or fire marshal is needed. She next inquired if the hiring of an attorney would increase or decrease the cost of handling legal matters and noted that those funds could be allocated to the purchase of the voting machines. Ms. Neal also requested that the County reconsider the amount of funding provided to employees for health care. She then asked for an explanation of unclassified supplies and the increase to advertising costs. Ms. Neal questioned the need for additional water and wastewater projects. She noted that the JIDA brings progress to the area and requested that the Board reconsider their funding.

Liza Field of 360 West Ridge Street in Wytheville addressed the Board. Ms. Fields advised that she agrees with several of the previous speakers in opposition to the trash disposal fee, but noted that the County must find funding to cover increasing costs. She recommended the implementation of a system that would be fair for everyone, as some citizens dispose of more trash than others. She suggested possibly a fee per bag of trash, with no fee for recycling. Ms. Fields asked that the County work to encourage recycling, which would reduce the trash to be disposed.

David Blessing of 500 Bald Tree Road in Wytheville addressed the Board. Mr. Blessing noted that he does not believe that air conditioning in schools is a necessity. He questioned how much the school resource officers cost the County. Mr. Blessing asked that the Board work to cut the budget without placing additional costs on the citizens.

With no one else to address the Board, Chair Reeves closed the public hearing.

RECESS

The Board recessed for a short break at 8:35 p.m.

RECONVENE

The Board reconvened at 8:53 p.m.

ROADS

Supervisor Hale advised that a previous Board passed Resolution 2009-10 to fund road improvements to roads removed from the Six-Year Plan. He explained that at some point a change was made to the order of the roads, which should not have been done without an amendment to the resolution. Supervisor Hale noted that with the modification of Archer Road to a rural rustic road, additional funds should be available for the construction of other Wythe County roads.

Mr. Dalton reported that the Board adopted a Secondary Road Six-Year Plan in the previous year. He noted that the Secondary Road Six-Year Plan presented by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) on May 29 has not yet been adopted by the Board. Mr. Dalton explained that Archer Road was not listed on the Six-Year Plan as a rural rustic road, but as regular construction.

Supervisor Hale explained that the easement documents are being held up because of VDOT. He questioned if VDOT plans to comply with Resolution 2009-10.

Supervisor Houseman reported that VDOT had agreed to place the roads back on the Secondary Road Six-Year Plan in the order as they are listed in Resolution 2009-10.

Mr. Dalton confirmed that roads were to be returned to the Secondary Road Six-Year Plan in the order listed in Resolution 2009-10.

Supervisor Hale requested a resolution reinforcing Resolution 2009-10. He asked if the Board should authorize construction of half of Archer Road in 2015, with construction to begin in July 2014, as proposed by VDOT.

Mr. Dalton recommended submitting direction to VDOT to place the roads, in accordance with Resolution 2009-10, on the Secondary Road Six-Year Plan and present the revised Plan to the Board for adoption. He suggested that Supervisors Hale, McRoberts, and Chair Reeves meet with Mr. Russell to review the Plan and determine how these issues could be resolved. Mr. Dalton noted that the Plan could then be revised and presented to the Board.

Supervisor Hale, Supervisor McRoberts, and Chair Reeves agreed to meet with VDOT on June 5 or 6.

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RECESS

The Board recessed at 9:07 p.m. until June 4 at 5 p.m.

RECONVENE

The Board reconvened on June 4, 2014, at 5:05 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:

Linda DiYorio	Sis Cassell
John DiYorio	Millie Rothrock
Ann Manley	Two other citizens

BUDGET WORK SESSION

The Board met to review and discuss the FY15 budget, and comments received at the Budget Public Hearing held on June 3, 2014.

Mr. Dalton advised that the main topics of discussion in the budget public hearing were funding to the Joint Industrial Development Authority (JIDA), trash disposal fee, cost of living raises for lower paid employees, voting machines, and water rates.

1. Joint Industrial Development Authority - Supervisor Houseman advised that he has been dissatisfied for the past several years with the marketing of Wythe County. He recommended that the Board ensure that the JIDA has funding available to operate for one year. Supervisor Houseman suggested that the JIDA provide to the Board all information requested including a list of successes and failures in marketing the County and records of contacts. He noted that at the end of the designated time, if the Board deems the information not satisfactory, then they would discontinue funding.

Supervisor McRoberts agreed. He noted that the Board should provide the JIDA a chance.

Supervisor Horney explained that the Board previously had discussed no longer funding the JIDA, but did not vote on the issue. He noted that all new employees are hired with a six-month probationary period.

Supervisor Houseman advised that he did not believe that the Board discontinued funding the JIDA because of the new director. He recommended providing just enough funding to allow the JIDA to operate and demonstrate what they can accomplish in one year.

Supervisor Willis questioned if the funding would be provided with the contingency of required monthly reviews and holding the JIDA accountable.

Supervisor Houseman confirmed that that would be necessary. He noted that the Board and the JIDA have had poor communications in the past. Supervisor Houseman suggested that either the Board or the Economic Development Committee meet with the JIDA on a regular basis in the future.

Supervisor Hall noted that the Board did not fund the JIDA in the previous year. He advised that the Economic Development Committee had requested updates from the JIDA, per Supervisor Houseman's request, but updates were not received. Supervisor Hall explained that the Board also submitted a letter, predating the hiring of the new director, with a suggestion on how to market Progress Park and other County real estate. He added that the next communication received from the JIDA was that a new director had been hired.

Supervisor Houseman explained that the JIDA is an independent board, but as the major funding agency, the County should have received notification prior to the hiring of the director. He noted that they need to focus on communication and working cooperatively with other groups.

Supervisor Hale questioned if the Board has received a budget from the JIDA. He asked if the Board is entitled to a budget from an independent agency.

Mr. Dalton noted that the JIDA presented a budget request to the Board. He explained that in that presentation the JIDA stated that they planned to make changes.

Supervisor Hale explained that the Board does not know how much money the JIDA has or how much is needed for them to operate. He noted that the Town of Wytheville has placed funding of the JIDA in their budget.

Supervisor Houseman noted that either the Board or the Economic Development Committee should determine major goals that they hope for the JIDA to accomplish. He explained that they could then meet with the JIDA to establish objectives and strategies to reach those goals.

Supervisor Willis advised that he would have a hard time sponsoring the JIDA for a year. He explained that the leadership of the JIDA has changed, but the infrastructure has not. Supervisor Willis noted that he may consider funding the JIDA for six months.

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Supervisor Hale noted that since the Board does not know the JIDA's current financial situation, it would be difficult to make that decision.

Mr. Dalton explained that the JIDA fully funded themselves this year. He suggested that the Board request an accounting of funds expended by the JIDA, as allowed by the Code of Virginia. Mr. Dalton recommended that the Board allow the JIDA to continue to self-fund themselves as long as possible and provide the additional amount needed to fund them until the end of the year. He also proposed that the Board set goals for the JIDA of what they hope to have accomplished in the next three, six, nine, and twelve months. Mr. Dalton advised that the Board has added economic development in the corridor to the JIDA's strategic plan. He added that the number of investments and individuals employed are measurable goals that the Board can monitor.

Chair Reeves noted that it had been suggested that the Board reactivate the Wythe Industrial Development Authority (IDA) and allow them to market the corridor. He requested input from the Board members on this suggestion.

Supervisor Houseman advised that he believes that the Wythe IDA should be reactivated so that duties could be divided between the two groups as needed. He noted that with two entities promoting the County, it would improve economic development opportunities.

Supervisor Willis noted that a clear dividing line would be needed between the two industrial development authorities. He explained that he recently met with another county and it was discussed that the multiple agencies often disagree and do not cooperate with each other. Supervisor Willis suggested specific targets for each group.

Supervisor Houseman agreed.

Supervisor Hall recommended that the County whole-heartedly support whichever industrial development authority they fund. He noted that there are opportunities available for state backing for funding of both industrial and non-industrial expansion that should be explored.

Supervisor Hale explained that the County should market Progress Park in its entirety, not just Lot 24. He noted that there are several other graded pad sites ready to build on available in the Park.

Supervisor Houseman agreed. He explained that the addition of other industries, even small industries, would attract others to Progress Park.

Supervisor Horney inquired if two industrial development authorities would compete against each other.

Supervisor Hale advised that competition could be beneficial. He noted that he is in favor of two industrial development authorities.

Supervisor Houseman noted that one could market industrial development and the other economic development.

Supervisor Hall advised that the JIDA involves the Town of Wytheville and Town of Rural Retreat, who may have their own goals for the group.

Chair Reeves reported that he, Mr. Dalton, Trent Crewe, Wayne Sutherland, Tim Litz, and Michael James are scheduled to meet on June 6. He noted that they could discuss the issue at that meeting. Chair Reeves requested that Mr. Dalton compile data outlining the JIDA's current reserves and available funds.

Mr. Dalton recommended that the Board request an updated budget based on actual current salaries and expenses. He questioned if the goals would be set by the full Board or the Economic Development Committee.

Chair Reeves suggested asking the Economic Development Committee to determine the goals and present those to the Board for approval.

Mr. Dalton noted that the Economic Development Committee would meet on June 5 at 8 a.m.

2. Trash Disposal Fee – Mr. Dalton noted that the Board has set a public hearing for discussion of the trash disposal fee on June 17 at 7 p.m.

Chair Reeves advised that he spoke with a representative from Grayson County concerning the issue. He noted that Grayson County has door-to-door pickup of trash and charges \$156 per year for that service.

Supervisor Houseman explained that he believes that the fee is a regressive tax and would have an unequal effect on households. He noted that \$100 is a considerable amount to a family with a combined income of \$20,000.

Chair Reeves noted that Bland County charges for trash disposal. He questioned if other surrounding counties charge a fee for trash disposal.

Mr. Dalton reported that Pulaski County charges a trash disposal fee to all citizens whether the service is used or not, and Carroll County offers door to door service and charges a fee per pickup load of trash.

Supervisor Hall explained that he has received a lot of feedback from his constituents concerning this issue. He noted that property owners would be charged the fee as the proposed ordinance is written. Supervisor Hall advised

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that those owning rental properties would be charged for each rental unit on the property. He proposed a non-mandatory fee for the property owner, allowing the use of the convenience centers if they wish to pay the \$100 fee.

Supervisor Houseman noted that if he chooses not to participate and pay the \$100 fee then he would be responsible for disposing of his own trash. He explained that many citizens would throw their trash out along roads and other places.

Supervisor Hall questioned if it is fair to place the fee on the property owners.

Chair Reeves inquired if the County has a litter ordinance.

Mr. Dalton noted that the State law covers littering violations.

Supervisor Hale explained that he does not believe that anyone would participate in a voluntary tax. He noted that he does agree with not placing the entire burden on the property owner. Supervisor Hale added that currently the service is being paid for out of the general fund.

Supervisor Horney noted that many individuals have informed him that they would prefer a tax increase to the fee.

Supervisor Hale questioned how many individuals in the County own property.

Mr. Dalton reported that according to the recent census there are approximately 14,000 residences in the County, of which 3,000 are rented.

Supervisor Hale advised that 11,000 individuals would be paying the tax for the 3,000 who would not have to pay. He noted that renters produce just as much trash as the property owners.

Chair Reeves asked if they could start with a fee of \$25 and increase the fee each year by \$10 until it covers the cost of trash disposal.

Supervisor McRoberts noted that the fee could be a hardship on some families.

Mr. Dalton noted that the Board had discussed a policy for those within the poverty guidelines to receive a reduced fee.

Supervisor McRoberts advised that he would prefer a fee of \$25 per year.

Supervisor Hall asked what revenue is needed to balance the budget.

Mr. Dalton noted that they had planned to use between \$800,000 and \$1,000,000 of surplus past revenue to balance the budget with the inclusion of

the trash fee. He explained that bond documents require the County to maintain a 40% debt service ratio versus cash on hand. Mr. Dalton added that debt service payments would increase if those requirements were not met.

Chair Reeves inquired if the budget could be balanced with a lower trash fee and floating current debt service as paper hoping interest rates stay low.

Mr. Dalton advised that the budget would be close, but interest rates could increase. He asked if the Board would request that staff recalculate the budget based on those changes.

Supervisor Hale questioned how much they could cut from the budget if capital improvement projects such as the courthouse roof were delayed.

Mr. Dalton noted that there are funds in the capital improvements budget that could be saved. He added that he would e-mail that information to the Board members.

Chair Reeves suggested that they revise the budget to reflect a \$35 trash fee instead.

Supervisor Hall advised that if the County uses \$1 million of their reserves to balance the FY15 budget, then in FY16 the County would already be behind by that amount. He recommended removing most of the "wants" from the budget and including some revenue enhancements.

Supervisor Houseman requested four budgets, one with the delay of permanent financing for Progress Park, one with the \$35 trash fee, one with \$25 fee for trash, and one with \$25 trash fee and a \$.02 increase to real estate tax.

Mr. Dalton explained that if everyone paid their taxes, there would be no discussion. He noted that only 95% of the taxes booked are collected. Mr. Dalton added that a full-time county attorney would assist with the collection of those unpaid taxes.

Supervisor Horney requested a breakdown of the budget "wants."

Mr. Dalton noted that he would provide a list along with the cost associated to each.

3. Water Rates – Supervisor Houseman asked if the water rate increase could be spread out over a couple of years.

Mr. Dalton reported that the minimum water bill was over \$20 in 1995. He explained that the rate was dropped to \$18 in 1998 and then dropped to \$11 several years later. Mr. Dalton noted that the increase would cover the debt

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service. He added that compared to other household costs, water is relatively low.

Supervisor Houseman noted that the increase is necessary to cover the cost of the water, but asked that it be spread out over a two-year period.

Supervisor Horney questioned if a fire protection fee could be implemented instead of mandatory connections.

Mr. Dalton advised that the Code of Virginia does allow a county to provide a frontage and fire protection fee. He reviewed the specifics of the fees with the Board members.

Supervisor Horney explained that the County currently charges all residents along a new waterline \$350 to install a meter and connect to the meter. He noted that it costs the County over \$1,000 to set that meter.

Mr. Dalton noted that the mandatory connection fee would not be imposed on the residents of future water extension projects.

Chair Reeves noted that a public hearing is set to discuss the water rate increase on June 10 at 7:05 p.m.

4. Voting Machines – Mr. Dalton reported that the County has set aside funding for the replacement of voting machines in a reserve account. He noted that the funds were not placed in the Electoral Board budget, but \$25,000 has been placed in the FY15 budget for purchase of the machines.
5. Dues – Mr. Dalton advised that Ms. Meyer had requested that the Board reconsider payment of dues to the National Association of Counties (NACo) and Virginia Association of Counties (VACo). He noted that for every dollar paid in dues to the NACo and VACo, the County citizens receive \$8 in benefits. Mr. Dalton explained that the \$30,000 in dues paid to the Virginia aCorridor would be placed back in the JIDA budget. He added that last year the Virginia aCorridor provided a tour of Wythe County to all of the site consultants that have located an industry in the southeast over the past ten years.
6. Pay Increases – Mr. Dalton reported that Treasurer Sam Crockett had requested a pay increase for lower paid employees. He explained that the Treasurer's Office and Commissioner of Revenue employees are on the State pay band. Mr. Dalton noted that the Board has frozen approximately 900 employees pay throughout the County. He added that he does not believe that the Board could single out a few employees for raises.

Chair Reeves agreed that with the current budget, raises are not an option.

7. Trash – Supervisor McRoberts noted that Alethea Neal had suggested possibly incinerating trash.

Mr. Dalton reported that the City of Galax and others constructed incinerators years ago, but a lot of trash would be needed to make an incinerator economically feasible. Mr. Dalton explained that Wythe County has the highest recycling rate in the southwest, with a rate between 30% and 40%.

Supervisor Hale noted that incinerators are expensive, not cost efficient, and are a major pollutant. He added that without a company to purchase the steam an incinerator is not feasible.

8. Public Safety Director and Fire Marshal – Supervisor McRoberts explained that Ms. Neal also questioned the hiring of a public safety director and a fire marshal.

Mr. Dalton advised that the public safety director and fire marshal were not included in the budget. He noted that an emergency medical services director was included, which could assist the rescue squads with costs. Mr. Dalton added that the emergency medical services director would allow the squads the ability to purchase supplies through the State contract price and increase billing collected for the agencies.

Mr. Dalton noted that he would make the recommended revisions and e-mail those to the Board members. He suggested that the Board meet to discuss the revisions on the same day as an upcoming Board meeting.

The Board agreed to meet on June 17 at 4 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to come before the Board, Chair Reeves adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:51 p.m.

Timothy A. Reeves, Sr., Chair