

At a special call meeting of the Board of Supervisors, Alleghany County, Virginia held on Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Alleghany County Governmental Complex, Covington, Virginia, thereof:

PRESENT: G. Matt Garten, Chairman
James M. Griffith, Vice-Chairman
Stephen A. Bennett
Gregory A. Dodd
Cletus W. Nicely
M. Joan Vannorsdall

and Jonathan A. Lanford, County Administrator
Jim Guynn, County Attorney
Melissa A. Munsey, Deputy Clerk to the Board

ABSENT: Shannon P. Cox

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chairman called the special call meeting to order. He stated that the agenda schedule is being changed to move new business to the beginning of the agenda.

DISCUSS THE POTENTIAL HIRING OF A CONSULTANT FOR THE PURPOSE OF FULFILLING INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR POSITION AND PERMANENT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR POSITION:

Mr. Drew Williams, CEO of The Berkley Group, stated that they are a consulting firm with an office in Harrisonburg and they provide Executive Transition Assistance Program services. He commented that they have a team of 25-30 Executive Managers that are retired from across the State to fill a need during the Interim period and/or with executive recruitment. He mentioned that they get to know the community and the Board and look at issues/challenges to find out what you are looking for and what you are not looking for. He stated that applicants may be qualified on paper, but they try to find the best fit for all involved. He commented on services they provide (i.e., meet with the Board on what you want in an administrator, create a profile, advertise for 30 days, review applications, short list, identify candidates, hold phone interviews, set up interviews with the Board with top candidates, contract negotiation, etc.). He stated that the process takes 3-5 months from start to finish. He mentioned that they also do organizational assessments. He recommended holding a retreat with the administrator when hired to go through expectations and priorities.

Ms. Vannorsdall asked if they would be finding an interim then proceeding with a permanent hire. Mr. Williams replied that they normally do have retirees that perform the services of an interim; however, with COVID-19 and those individuals recently getting vaccinated most are taking time to travel with their families. He commented that they do have one individual that could help out on a remote basis, but not on a daily basis.

Mr. Nicely asked if the County has used this firm before. Mr. Williams replied that the County has not, but they have worked in Virginia over the last 11 years.

Mr. Garten commented that further discussion will be held in the Closed Meeting.

APPROVE WAIVER OF BUILDING PERMIT FEE FOR THE TOWN OF IRON GATE:

Mr. Lanford stated that a request was received from the Town of Iron Gate asking that the Board waive the building permit fees for the restroom improvements that are being made at their Public Works building. He mentioned that he forgot to bring this up under his report at the last meeting.

On motion of Mr. Bennett, seconded by Ms. Vannorsdall, that the following resolution be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors approve waiving the building permit fees for the Town of Iron Gate (CT Wolfe Contracting) in relation to the installation of a bathroom at the public works building for employees.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Absent
Gregory A. Dodd	Yes
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
M. Joan Vannorsdall	Yes
James M. Griffith	Yes
G. Matt Garten	Yes

CLOSED MEETING:

On motion of Mr. Nicely, seconded by Mr. Griffith, that the Board go into a Closed Meeting under Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) for the purpose of: (1) discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body; and evaluation of performance of departments or schools of public institutions of higher education where such evaluation will necessarily involve discussion of the performance of specific individuals. Unanimously adopted.

On motion of Mr. Griffith, seconded by Mr. Bennett, that the Board come out of the Closed Meeting with the following certification:

CERTIFICATION
SECTION 2.2-3712

To the best of our knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under this chapter, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the Closed Meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the session.

/s/Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
/s/M. Joan Vannorsdall	Yes
/s/G. Matt Garten	Yes
/s/Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
/s/Gregory A. Dodd	Yes
/s/James M. Griffith	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Absent

After the Closed Meeting, the following action was taken:

APPROVE HIRING OF A CONSULTANT (THE BERKLEY GROUP) FOR THE PURPOSE OF FILLING THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR POSITION AND PERMANENT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR POSITION:

On motion of Mr. Griffith, seconded by Mr. Dodd, that the following resolution be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors authorize Mr. Jonathan A. Lanford, County Administrator, to engage The Berkley Group for the purpose of filling the Interim County Administrator position and permanent County Administrator position upon procurement certification by County Attorney.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Absent
Gregory A. Dodd	Yes
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
M. Joan Vannorsdall	Yes
James M. Griffith	Yes
G. Matt Garten	Yes

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion of Ms. Vannorsdall, seconded by Mr. Bennett, that the meeting be adjourned at 6:50 p.m. Motion carried.

G. Matt Garten
Chairman