

At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors, Alleghany County, Virginia held on Tuesday, December 6, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Alleghany County Governmental Complex, Covington, Virginia, thereof:

PRESENT: Stephen A. Bennett, Chairman
G. Matt Garten, Vice-Chairman
Suzanne T. Adcock
Shannon P. Cox
Cletus W. Nicely

and Jonathan A. Lanford, County Administrator
Ryan D. Muterspaugh, Director of Public Safety
Jim Guynn, County Attorney
Melissa A. Munsey, Deputy Clerk to the Board

ABSENT: James M. Griffith
Richard Lee Shull

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chairman called the regular meeting to order. Mr. Nicely gave the invocation and the audience remained standing for the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES:

Hearing no corrections or deletions, the Chairman declared the following minutes approved as submitted: (1) an adjourned meeting held on October 27, 2016; (2) a regular meeting held on November 1, 2016; (3) an adjourned meeting held on November 3, 2016; (4) an adjourned meeting held on November 8, 2016; and (5) an adjourned meeting held on November 10, 2016.

RECOGNITION OF RETIREES FOR 2016 AND APPROVE RESOLUTIONS OF APPRECIATION:

Mr. Bennett stated that the following individuals retired from the County in 2016:

- Carol Davis, Circuit Court Clerk's Office - 9 years, 6 months
- Amelia Armentrout, Social Services - 27 years, 6 months
- Kay Wrenn, Social Services - 33 years, 6 months

He thanked the retirees for their service and mentioned that there are draft resolutions of appreciation in the agenda packet which he asked the Board to approve.

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

WHEREAS, Ms. Carol Davis retired from the Circuit Court Clerk Office on May 31, 2016 after providing 9 years, 6 months of service to the citizens of Alleghany County; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Davis has faithfully served the County in the capacity of Deputy Clerk;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors recognizes Ms. Carol Davis for her invaluable contribution to the citizens of Alleghany County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board extends its appreciation to Ms. Davis for her service to the County, congratulations upon her retirement, and best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Suzanne T. Adcock	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Yes
James M. Griffith	Absent
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
Richard Lee Shull	Absent
G. Matt Garten	Yes
Stephen A. Bennett	Yes

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

WHEREAS, Ms. Amelia Armentrout retired from Social Services on August 1, 2016 after providing 27 years, 6 months

of service to the citizens of Alleghany County; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Armentrout has faithfully served the County in the capacity of Fiscal Assistant;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors recognizes Ms. Amelia Armentrout for her invaluable contribution to the citizens of Alleghany County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board extends its appreciation to Ms. Armentrout for her service to the County, congratulations upon her retirement, and best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Suzanne T. Adcock	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Yes
James M. Griffith	Absent
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
Richard Lee Shull	Absent
G. Matt Garten	Yes
Stephen A. Bennett	Yes

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

WHEREAS, Ms. Kay Wrenn retired from Social Services on May 31, 2016 after providing 33 years, 6 months of service to the citizens of Alleghany County; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Wrenn has faithfully served the County in the capacity of Family Services Supervisor;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors recognizes Ms. Kay Wrenn for her invaluable contribution to the citizens of Alleghany County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board extends its appreciation to Ms. Wrenn for her service to the County, congratulations upon her retirement, and best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Suzanne T. Adcock	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Yes
James M. Griffith	Absent
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
Richard Lee Shull	Absent
G. Matt Garten	Yes
Stephen A. Bennett	Yes

PUBLIC HEARING AND APPROVAL - CONVEY TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT TO LOVE'S TRAVEL STOPS & COUNTRY STORES, INC:

Public Hearing was held to consider the conveyance by Alleghany County of an approximate 0.13 acre temporary construction easement on Alleghany County Governmental Complex property (Tax Map #04200-00-000-0010) to Love's Travel Stops & Country Stores, Inc.

The Chairman announced that this public hearing was advertised in the Virginian Review on Wednesday, November 23, 2016 in accordance with the Code of Virginia. He then called the public hearing to order.

Mr. Lanford stated that this is a temporary construction easement needed by Love's Travel Stops for the construction of sanitary sewer to their site. He commented that the County has accepted a permanent easement from them for their lines.

There being no one else who wished to speak, the Chairman declared the public hearing closed.

On motion of Mr. Nicely, seconded by Mr. Garten, that the Board waive its policy of not acting on a public hearing on

the same night.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Suzanne T. Adcock	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Yes
James M. Griffith	Absent
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
Richard Lee Shull	Absent
G. Matt Garten	Yes
Stephen A. Bennett	Yes

On motion of Mr. Nicely, seconded by Mr. Garten, that the following resolution be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors authorize Mr. Jonathan A. Lanford, County Administrator, to sign the Deed of Easement between Alleghany County and Love's Travel Stops & Country Stores, Inc. The Deed of Easement would convey an approximate 0.13 acre temporary construction easement on Alleghany County Governmental Complex property (Tax Map #04200-00-000-0010) to Love's Travel Stops & Country Stores, Inc. for the purpose of construction of a public sanitary sewer line as shown on the plat by B&B Consultants, Inc. dated September 6, 2016.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Suzanne T. Adcock	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Yes
James M. Griffith	Absent
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
Richard Lee Shull	Absent
G. Matt Garten	Yes
Stephen A. Bennett	Yes

PUBLIC COMMENT (5 MINUTE TIME LIMIT):

Mr. Eston Burge, Interim Director of Social Services, spoke regarding being assigned the duty of Interim Director and thanked Ms. Adcock for the wonderful job she has done. He handed out a letter to resign from the Social Services Board effective November 30, 2016 which is a part of the records of this meeting. He spoke regarding the current composition of the board (3 from Covington and 2 from the County) and stated that if the Board wishes to wait on filling his vacancy on that board that he would like to be appointed to the remaining term when a new Director is hired.

There was some discussion regarding the position being posted tomorrow and that the attorney is not aware of any requirements to fill the Social Services Board vacancy in a certain time frame.

Mr. Bennett recommended leaving the position vacant, but if being one member short becomes a problem or the hiring process drags for Mr. Burge to let the Board know and they will fill the seat. The Board agreed.

MS. SUSAN HAMMOND, VDOT RESIDENT ENGINEER - VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION UPDATE:

Ms. Susan Hammond, VDOT Resident Engineer, gave a report on the following VDOT activities:

Maintenance

- Completed fall grading of stabilized roads.
- Performing skin patching and asphalt patching County-wide.
- Installed cross pipe on Route 607 and an entrance pipe on Route 627.
- Performed shoulder and drainage repairs.
- Interstate median mowing is beginning.
- Bridge work on Route 18 with brief lane closures and on Route 60 (underneath).
- Finishing rigging on contractor vehicles for snow removal.

Construction

- Route 696/Exit 21 project has been advertised with anticipated bid receipt on December 22nd.

Other

- Public hearing for Route 220 Safety Improvement Project in Botetourt County is scheduled for Thursday, December 8th from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the Eagle Rock Elementary School.

Mrs. Cox commented that the tunnel heading toward West Virginia flooded out half way during the rain last Sunday.

Ms. Hammond stated that she will check on this.

Mr. Garten commented regarding rocks and hanging trees on Rt. 220 near Honda Nissan potentially falling due to the weather. He asked if there are any long term plans to divert water on the interstate on both sides from Island Ford bridge to Covington. Ms. Hammond replied that settlement has occurred and this was looked at last week. She commented that they plan to pave in the next couple years and make grade changes to the road.

APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO CH. 6 - AMUSEMENTS AND ENTERTAINMENT OF THE COUNTY CODE (OUTDOOR MUSICAL OR ENTERTAINMENT FESTIVALS):

Mr. Lanford stated that changes were made to the draft ordinance pertaining to Outdoor Musical or Entertainment Festivals from discussions at the last meeting to have the Board approve applications and clarification on the number of attendees (under 200 would go to the County Administrator for approval).

On motion of Mr. Nicely, seconded by Ms. Adcock, that the following amendments proposed at the Public Hearing held on Tuesday, November 1, 2016 to The Code of the County of Alleghany, Virginia in Chapter 6 entitled "Amusements and Entertainment" be adopted as follows:

**CH. 6
AMUSEMENTS AND ENTERTAINMENT**

ARTICLE II. Outdoor Musical or Entertainment Festivals

Sec. 6-30. Admission of minors.

CURRENT:

(a) No person under the age of 13 years shall be admitted to any festival, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian, and the parent or guardian shall remain with the minor at all times.

CHANGE TO:

(a) No person under the age of 18 years shall be admitted to any festival, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian, and the parent or guardian shall remain with the minor at all times.

Section 6-32. Application for permit.

CURRENT:

Application for a permit required by this article shall be in writing, on forms provided for the purpose, and filed in duplicate with the county administrator at least 22 days before the date of the proposed festival. Such application shall have attached thereto and made a part thereof the plans, statements, approvals and other documents required by this article. A copy of such application shall be sent, by certified mail, by the county administrator to each member of the Board of Supervisors on the day the application is filed.

CHANGE TO:

Application for a permit required by this article shall be in writing, on forms provided for the purpose, and filed in duplicate with the county administrator at least 30 days before the date of the proposed festival. Such application shall have attached thereto and made a part thereof the plans, statements, approvals and other documents required by this article.

Section 6-33. Conditions for issuance of permit.

CURRENT:

A permit required by this article shall not be issued, unless the following conditions are met and the following documents, plans, statements and approvals are submitted with the application:

- (1) A copy of the ticket or badge of admission to the festival, containing the dates and times of the festival, together with a statement by the applicant of the total number of tickets to be offered for sale and the best reasonable estimate by the applicant of the number of persons expected to be in attendance.
- (2) A statement of the names and addresses of the promoters of the festival, the financial backing of the festival and the names of all persons or groups who will perform at such festival.
- (3) A statement of the location of the festival, the name and address of the owner of the property on which the festival is to be held and the nature and interest of the applicant therein.
- (4) A plan for adequate sanitation facilities and garbage, trash and sewage disposal for persons at the festival. This plan shall meet the requirements of all state and local statutes, ordinances and regulations and will not be accepted unless approved by the health officer.
- (5) A plan for providing food, water and lodging for the persons at the festival. This plan shall meet the requirements of all state and local statutes, ordinances and regulations and will not be accepted unless approved by the health officer.
- (6) A plan for adequate medical facilities for persons at the festival, approved by the health officer.

- (7) A plan for adequate parking facilities and traffic control in and around the festival area, approved by the sheriff's department.
- (8) A plan for adequate fire protection. This plan shall meet the requirements of all state and local statutes, ordinances and regulations and will not be accepted unless approved by the area forester.
- (9) A statement specifying whether any outdoor lights or lighting is to be utilized and, if so, a plan showing the location of such lights and shielding devices or other equipment to prevent unreasonable glow beyond the property on which the festival is located; such plan to be approved by the county administrator.
- (10) A statement that no music shall be played, either by mechanical device or live performance, in such manner that the sound emanating therefrom shall be unreasonably audible beyond the boundary lines of the property on which the festival is located.

CHANGE TO:

No festival shall be held unless a permit is issued pursuant to this article. Prior to holding any festival, the following information must be submitted to the county administrator:

- (1) A copy of the ticket or badge of admission to the festival, containing the dates and times of the festival.
- (2) A statement by the applicant of the total number of tickets to be offered for sale and the best reasonable estimate by the applicant of the number of persons expected to be in attendance.
- (3) A statement of the names and addresses of the promoters of the festival, the financial backing of the festival and the names of all persons or groups who will perform at such festival.
- (4) A statement of the location of the festival, the name and address of the owner of the property on which the festival is to be held, and the nature and interest of the applicant therein.
- (5) A plan for adequate sanitation facilities and garbage, trash and sewage disposal for persons at the festival. This plan shall meet the requirements of all state and local statutes, ordinances and regulations and will not be accepted unless approved by the health officer.
- (6) A plan for providing food, water and lodging for the persons at the festival. This plan shall meet the requirements of all state and local statutes, ordinances and regulations and will not be accepted unless approved by the health officer.
- (7) A plan for adequate medical facilities for persons at the festival, approved by the health officer.
- (8) A plan for adequate parking facilities and traffic control in and around the festival area, approved by the sheriff's department.
- (9) A plan for adequate fire protection. This plan shall meet the requirements of all state and local statutes, ordinances and regulations and will not be accepted unless approved by the director of public safety.
- (10) A statement specifying whether any outdoor lights or lighting is to be utilized and, if so, a plan showing the location of such lights and shielding devices or other equipment to prevent unreasonable glow beyond the property on which the festival is located; such plan to be approved by the county administrator.
- (11) A statement that no music shall be played, either by mechanical device or live performance, in such manner that the sound emanating therefrom shall not exceed 60 decibels at the boundary lines of the property on which the festival is located unless a different level is specified in the permit.

ADD:

Sec. 6-37. Annual permit.

(a) The Board of Supervisors may issue an annual permit under this article at a site which is otherwise eligible for issuance of a one-time permit under this article.

(b) Application for an annual permit shall be in writing and filed in duplicate with the county administrator at least 45 days before the date of the first festival to be held under the permit. The Board of Supervisors may, at its discretion and upon an applicant's showing of good cause, consider an application submitted less than 45 days before the date of the festival. Such application shall include all information required by subsections (2), (3), (4), and (11) of section 6-33, and conceptual plans which, if finalized, would meet the requirements of subsections (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), and (10) of section 6-33. The requirements of these provisions and subsection (1) of section 6-33 may be finally met up to five days before the festival.

(c) The duration of the permit shall be as set forth therein, and may be revoked in the same manner as any other permit under this article.

Sec. 6-38. Conditional permit.

(a) The Board of Supervisors may issue a conditional permit so that the applicant may obtain preliminary approval of a tentative plan up to 12 months in advance of a festival. At least 14 days prior to the festival, the applicant shall provide all information and obtain all approvals required by section 6-33. If all such information is not submitted to and approved as required herein, then a conditional permit is void and of no force and effect and shall be treated as a denial as set forth in section 6-35.

(b) An application for a conditional permit shall include all information required by subsections (2), (3), (4), and (11) of section 6-33. Such application shall also contain conceptual plans which, if finalized, would meet the requirements of subsections (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), and (10) of section 6-33. The requirement of subsection (1) of section 6-33 may be met up to five days before the festival.

(c) The Board of Supervisors may impose reasonable conditions on a conditional permit to ensure that the requirements of subsection (b) of this section are fully met.

(d) A conditional permit confers no vested rights and does not guarantee final approval of any permit.

Adopted: December 6, 2016

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m., December 7, 2016

Adopted by the following roll call vote:

Ms. Adcock	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Mrs. Cox	Yes
Mr. Garten	Yes
Mr. Griffith	Absent
Mr. Nicely	Yes
Mr. Shull	Absent

ALLEGHANY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Deputy Clerk to the Board

MR. RYAN MUTERSPAUGH, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY - UPDATE ON RADIO COMMUNICATION PROJECT:

Mr. Muterspaugh gave the following update on the radio communication project:

- *The MOU with the City of Covington for the sharing of radio frequencies and Smith-Dew tower has been completed.*
- *The full RFP is scheduled to be released Wednesday, December 14. This is a PPEA (Public-Private Education Facilities Act) project so there are strict guidelines we are required to follow as part of that process. The City of Covington will be adopting the PPEA Guidelines as well since this is a joint procurement. We are requesting a turn-key solution and a design-build approach.*
- *There will be a mandatory pre-proposal conference by mid-January 2017 for all interested vendors. They will meet with AECOM, County, and City representatives to pose any questions related to the RFP and perform site visits to the Dispatch Centers and current tower sites.*
- *RFP responses will be due in by mid-February. Initial evaluations of those proposals will be conducted.*
- *A recommendation for a short list of vendors is scheduled to be presented to the Board at the March 2017 meeting. In addition, there will be a public hearing on those recommendations at that same meeting as required by PPEA. The Board will authorize proceeding to the next step.*
- *The short-listed vendors will provide oral presentations and interviews to AECOM, County, and City representatives and representatives from fire, rescue, and law enforcement. Final evaluations will be completed by mid-April.*
- *Anticipated that the "Intent to Award" will be presented at the May Board meeting with negotiations to follow and final contract approval at the June Board meeting.*
- *During this process, we will be evaluating funding and financing options for the Board's consideration.*

Mr. Lanford commented that the radio communication project is a large dollar amount (engineering estimates of \$6-\$9 million) that will require careful consideration going forward. He stated that some small grants are potentially available, but the rest of the cost would have to be financed. He mentioned that debt service could be \$600,000 to \$900,000 a year and \$0.01 on the real estate tax rate generates \$100,000 so an increase in the tax rate may be required. He commented that other financing options (VRA, VML, VACo, vendor financing, private bank options, etc.) will need to be looked at and recommended that the County engage a financial advisor to evaluate points, terms, interest rates, etc. He stated that an RFP will be issued in the spring to engage firms on financing options.

There was some discussion regarding not knowing final costs until responses to the RFP are received; all costs have been paid to this point; and that there are a lot of other items that have been on the back burner to be considered too (Commerce Center, interchange, radio system, school nurse program, jail, etc.).

APPROVE RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE BAN ON BURNING:

Mr. Lanford stated that a County-wide ban on burning went into effect on Friday, November 18th. He mentioned that after the agenda went out, the ban on burning was lifted effective at noon on Monday, December 8th. He commented that there is a revised resolution at each Board seat to consider as when a local emergency is declared, the Board is required to confirm the emergency within 45 days. The revised resolution is a part of the records of this meeting. He mentioned that the County consulted with the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Forestry, National Weather Service, and surrounding localities before lifting the ban.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors confirm the implementation of the County-wide ban on burning, which was implemented on Friday, November 18, 2016 and lifted at noon on Monday, December 5, 2016.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Suzanne T. Adcock	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Yes
James M. Griffith	Absent
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
Richard Lee Shull	Absent
G. Matt Garten	Yes
Stephen A. Bennett	Yes

APPROVE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE DRUG ASSET FORFEIT FUND:

Mr. Lanford stated that a supplemental appropriation is needed in the Drug Asset Forfeit fund in order to transfer those funds to cover the purchase of the vehicle from Iron Gate. The money has been accumulated in the fund. He mentioned that \$14,300 needs to be appropriated as \$200 is currently budgeted and the entire \$14,500 would then be an interfund transfer to cover the cost.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors budget and approve the following supplemental appropriation for the Drug Asset Forfeit Fund (Fund 247) in FY 17:

<u>Fund Balance</u>	
Fund 247 - Fund Equity (247 -33001)	(\$14,300.00)
<u>Expenditure Accounts</u>	
Fund 247- Other Operating Supplies (3109-55413)	\$14,300.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board approve an interfund transfer in the amount of \$14,500.00 from Fund 247 to Fund 110 and then to Purchase of Vehicles (310211-5.7005) to cover the cost of the purchase of a vehicle from the Town of Iron Gate.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Suzanne T. Adcock	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Yes
James M. Griffith	Absent
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
Richard Lee Shull	Absent
G. Matt Garten	Yes
Stephen A. Bennett	Yes

REAPPOINT MRS. ANNE DEAN AND MR. NOLAN NICELY, JR. TO THE ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD:

Mr. Bennett stated that the terms of Mrs. Anne Dean (Covington District) and Mr. Nolan Nicely, Jr. (Sharon District) on the Alleghany Highlands Community Services Board expire December 31, 2016. Terms are for 3 years and both are eligible for reappointment. He mentioned that the letters in the agenda packet state that both wish to be reappointed.

On motion of Mr. Garten, seconded by Mr. Nicely, that the following resolution be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors that Mrs. Anne Dean (Covington District), 110 Maple Lane, Covington, VA 24426 be reappointed to the Alleghany Highlands Community Services Board (AHCSB) for a term of three years beginning January 1, 2017 and ending December 31, 2019.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board that Mr. Nolan Nicely, Jr. (Sharon District), 3502 Douthat Road, Clifton Forge, VA 24422 be reappointed to the AHCSB for a term of three years beginning January 1, 2017 and ending December 31, 2019.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Suzanne T. Adcock	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Yes
James M. Griffith	Absent
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
Richard Lee Shull	Absent
G. Matt Garten	Yes
Stephen A. Bennett	Yes

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Lanford gave a report on the following items:

Route 220 VDOT Public Hearing

Mr. Lanford commented that he plans to attend the VDOT public hearing regarding Route 220 on Tuesday.

Natural Gas in Low Moor

Mr. Lanford stated that another capital need of the County beyond radio communications includes identifying a solution for natural gas to Low Moor as the cost estimate from Columbia Gas is not a reality. He mentioned that there are industries in the northern part of the United States that haul tankers to certain locations and distribute to the locality. He stated that Columbia Gas was engaged in the discussion of this type of endeavor to be the provider, but they were not interested. He commented that Carroll County had a similar issue and they put together a Natural Gas Authority to construct and operate a pipeline. He mentioned, that if pursued, the customer base would probably not be sufficient to generate enough revenue and the operation would probably have to be subsidized. He stated that the need for natural gas in the area goes hand in hand with building pads in the Commerce Center as they could be put in, but the lack of natural gas is a hindrance. He commented that he is not requesting an answer tonight from the Board, but would like feedback over the next several months.

Update on RADAR Funding

Mr. Lanford stated that \$8,000 in private donations have been made to RADAR (\$5,000 from the ARH Auxiliary and \$3,000 from WestRock). He commented that the County matched the \$8,000 and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation is covering the remaining \$3,800. He mentioned that next year a decision will need to be made on the level of service and funding for RADAR and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation will be providing technical support for a ridership survey, evaluation and recommendations of routes, recommendation to increase ridership, etc.

Covington Economic Development and Revenue Sharing Update

Mr. Lanford stated that the Commission on Local Government will be holding a meeting on January 10th in Richmond to hear our presentation on the joint revenue sharing agreement with Covington.

Cigarette Tax

Mr. Lanford commented that there is information at each seat from Wythe County requesting support for legislation to allow all counties to have a cigarette tax. This information is a part of the records of this meeting. He stated that this is much like when the Board recently supported York County on the meals tax. He mentioned that an email was also sent out to the Board regarding a lobby group. He asked the Board to think about if they would like to support a cigarette tax which could be used as an additional tool for revenue. He mentioned that this tax is generally a benefit to interstate communities.

Finance/Human Resources Software

Mr. Lanford stated that another capital need is a new finance/human resources system. He commented that the current system was purchased in the 90's. He mentioned that the County will need to do something as it will no longer be supported and it is antiquated. He stated that vendors are being brought in to show their systems to staff. He anticipates funding would be needed in the FY18 budget.

Community Planning Academy

Mr. Lanford stated that the five sessions of the Community Planning Academy have been completed and there was an average of 15 to 20 participants per class. He commented that the first two sessions dealt more with legalese and the next three were more on planning with the last session being a group discussion in teams. He mentioned that there was a lot of good discussion and consensus to be used in the Comprehensive Plan update.

Dissolution of the AHEDA

Mr. Lanford stated that in 2013 the Alleghany Highlands Economic Development Authority (AHEDA) Board passed a resolution to transfer its property and assets to the County and to dissolve. He commented that the County Attorney office has helped to tie down the loose pieces of property owned by the AHEDA to transfer them to the County and the Board will need to pass a resolution at the next meeting stating that all assets and property have been transferred and to authorize me to take necessary steps to request the dissolution of the AHEDA.

Editorials on Communities Succeeding

Mr. Lanford stated that there is a two-part editorial from the Roanoke Times at each seat that he encouraged the Board to read. He commented that the articles identify what makes a community successful. He mentioned that we have most of those things and we need to capitalize on them.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (INQUIRIES/REPORTS):

Miscellaneous

The Board wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mr. Nicely offered condolences to the family of Mr. Danny Keene.

Mrs. Cox thanked Mr. Muterspaugh for his update on the radio communications project. She commented this is a big passion of hers and that it might be a big dollar amount, but you can not put a dollar amount on safety. She thanked Mr. Burge for being the Interim Director of Social Services and commented that the Social Services Board is blessed to have someone in that position that they can be confident in.

Ms. Adcock stated that she attended the VACo Conference and attended great sessions (budget, workforce, Health and Human Services, etc.). She mentioned that Mr. Griffith was recognized for completing the County Supervisor's Certification.

Mr. Garten thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He commented that the County has a lot of challenges to consider in the new year.

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion of Mr. Nicely, seconded by Mr. Garten, that the meeting be adjourned at 7:50 p.m. Motion carried.

Stephen A. Bennett
Chairman