

At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors, Alleghany County, Virginia held on Wednesday, January 2, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Alleghany County Governmental Complex, Covington, Virginia, thereof:

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

and Jonathan A. Lanford, County Administrator
Suzanne T. Adcock, Director of Finance
Jim Guynn, County Attorney (arrived at 7:20 p.m.)
Melissa A. Munsey, Deputy Clerk to the Board

ABSENT: Shannon P. Cox

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chairman called the regular meeting to order. Rev. Edith Snedegar gave the invocation and the audience remained standing for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chairman then turned the meeting over to Mr. Lanford for election of Chairman.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN:

Mr. Lanford, acting as Chairman *Pro Tem*, called for nominations for Chairman of the Board.

Ms. Vannorsdall nominated Mr. Stephen A. Bennett for Chairman.

On motion of Ms. Vannorsdall, seconded by Mr. Nicely, that nominations for Chairman of the Board be closed.

Adopted by the following roll call vote:

Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Absent
G. Matt Garten	Yes
James M. Griffith	No
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
Richard Lee Shull	Yes
M. Joan Vannorsdall	Yes

On motion of Ms. Vannorsdall, seconded by Mr. Garten, that Mr. Stephen A. Bennett be elected Chairman of the Board.

Adopted by the following roll call vote:

Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Absent
G. Matt Garten	Yes
James M. Griffith	No
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
Richard Lee Shull	Yes
M. Joan Vannorsdall	Yes

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN:

Mr. Bennett, the elected Chairman, took over the meeting. He asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman of the Board.

Mr. Garten nominated Mr. Cletus W. Nicely for Vice-Chairman.

On motion of Ms. Vannorsdall, seconded by Mr. Garten, that nominations for Vice-Chairman of the Board be closed.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Shannon P. Cox	Absent
G. Matt Garten	Yes
James M. Griffith	Yes
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes

Richard Lee Shull	Yes
M. Joan Vannorsdall	Yes
Stephen A. Bennett	Yes

On motion of Mr. Garten, seconded by Mr. Shull, that Mr. Cletus W. Nicely be elected Vice-Chairman of the Board.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

ADOPTION OF CODE OF ETHICS:

Mr. Bennett commented that the Board has a draft resolution of the Code of Ethics in the agenda packet which is the same as last year.

Ms. Vannorsdall asked what “inject the prestige of the office into every day dealings with public employees and associates” means. Mr. Bennett replied that he feels it means acting on behalf of the Board as a representative in all dealings in the County. Mr. Shull added that the same applies to the Sheriff’s Office.

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 the Board and County officials will be guided by the following Code of Ethics:

The ethical elected and non-elected County official should:

- * Properly administer the affairs of the County.
- * Promote decisions which only benefit the public interest.
- * Actively promote public confidence in County government.
- * Keep safe all funds and other properties of the County.
- * Conduct and perform the duties of the office diligently and promptly dispose of the business of the County.
- * Maintain a positive image to pass constant public scrutiny.
- * Evaluate all decisions so that the best service or product is obtained at a minimal cost without sacrificing quality and fiscal responsibility.
- * Inject the prestige of the office into every day dealings with public employees and associates.
- * Maintain a respectful attitude toward employees, other public officials, colleagues, and associates.
- * Effectively and efficiently work with governmental agencies, political subdivisions, and other organizations in order to further the interest of the County.
- * Faithfully comply with all laws and regulations applicable to the County and impartially apply them to everyone.

The ethical elected and non-elected County official should not:

- * Engage in interests that are not compatible with the impartial and objective performance of his or her duties.
- * Improperly influence or attempt to influence other officials to act in his or her own benefit.
- * Accept anything of value from any source which is offered to influence his or her action as a public official.

The ethical elected and non-elected County official accepts the responsibility that his or her mission is that of servant and steward to the public.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

ADOPTION OF BOARD BY-LAWS:

Mr. Bennett stated that the Board has a draft resolution in the agenda packet to adopt the Board’s By-Laws which are the same as last year. He suggested that on page 2, Item #3 that the agenda deadline be changed from Wednesday at noon

to Tuesday at noon. He mentioned that there is trouble with mail delivery around holidays and inclement weather.

Mr. Nicely commented that he spoke with Mrs. Munsey and she is fine with the change as long as the Board continues with one regular meeting a month as having two could be an issue with timing. He mentioned that if that occurs then the Board can change the deadline.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the By-Laws of the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors be amended in Section (1) Regular Meetings, subsection (A)(3) to change the day the agenda is finalized to noon on the Tuesday prior to any Board meeting.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

The adopted Board By-Laws and Public Comment Guidelines are as follows:

BY-LAWS ALLEGHANY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

These by-laws are for the purpose of promoting properly conducted meaningful and orderly meetings of the County Board of Supervisors in the transaction of County business, and to maintain decorum at all times. The by-laws are designed to allow the Board and its Chairman to conduct the meetings efficiently, allowing all necessary and appropriate opportunities for any person to address the Board on matters under consideration.

SECTION (1) REGULAR MEETINGS:

(A) *The Alleghany County Board of Supervisors shall meet in one (1) Regular Meeting a month on the first Tuesday at 7:00 P.M. in the Board Room of the County Governmental Complex for the purpose of conducting the business of Alleghany County. Any Regular Meeting that falls on Election Day in November shall be held on the following day (Wednesday).*

(1) *The Agenda for the Regular Meeting shall be prepared by noon on the Thursday prior to the first Tuesday in each month. The Agenda shall be placed on the County web site on the Friday prior to the first Tuesday of each month. The agenda shall be as follows:*

- Call to Order*
- Invocation*
- Pledge of Allegiance*
- Minutes*
- Public Hearing*
- Public Comment*
- Unfinished Business*
- New Business*
- County Administrator's Report*
- Board Member Comments (Inquiries/Reports)*
- Closed Meeting (as needed)*
- Adjournment*

(2) *The following is an explanation of various agenda headings:*

Public Hearings are conducted in accordance with the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, for the purpose of receiving public input on the topic of the public hearing. The Board has a policy to not act on a public hearing on the same night, but may waive this policy and take action with unanimous approval of members present.

Public Comment gives the public an opportunity to address the Board on matters appropriate to the responsibilities of the Board. There shall be a maximum time limit of five (5) minutes for comments from each speaker with a maximum time limit of 30 minutes allocated to Public Comment in any one meeting. A sign-up sheet will be provided at a table near the meeting room for Public Comment. Adopted Public Comment Guidelines for speakers will also be provided on the table. If the number of individuals on the sign-up sheet would exceed the allotted 30-minute time-frame, the Chairman has the latitude to place a shorter limit on individuals. After the Board has heard comments from those who signed up, others in the audience who have not had an opportunity to speak and desire to do so will be invited to speak, time permitting. If speakers have copies of comments available, they should be provided to the Deputy Clerk to the Board for inclusion in the minutes. If this section is amended at any time, then the adopted Public Comment Guidelines will automatically be amended.

Unfinished Business consists of items that have been presented and discussed at a previous meeting, but more discussion was necessary for clarification prior to a vote or the item was tabled. Items under Unfinished Business can be voted on at any time.

New Business consists of items that have not been presented or discussed or is something new in relation to an item that has previously been presented or discussed. Items under New Business can be voted on at any time.

- (3) *The agenda shall be finalized by noon on the Tuesday prior to any Board meeting. The agenda shall not thereafter be changed except by Board action taken at the meeting.*

Persons wanting a topic placed on the agenda shall make the request to the County Administrator or Deputy Clerk to the Board. The County Administrator will then report to the Chairman on the request.

- (4) *Matters not on the agenda for the Regular Meeting may be considered by the Board when requested by the Administrator, or his/her representative, the County Attorney, or a member of the Board. The item will be added to the New Business or Unfinished Business section of the agenda.*
- (5) *All meetings of the Board of Supervisors shall be governed by the Code of Virginia, Roberts Rules of Order, as revised, and these by-laws.*
- (6) *The County Attorney or his Assistant shall be the parliamentarian and the legal advisor to the Board of Supervisors at all meetings.*
- (7) *A roll call vote shall be held for all motions except to go into a Closed Meeting, come out of a Closed Meeting, and to adjourn.*

SECTION (2) SPECIAL MEETINGS/PUBLIC HEARINGS/WORK SESSIONS/ADJOURNED MEETINGS:

- (A) *Special meetings, public hearings, work sessions, and adjourned meetings shall be held when necessary in accordance with provisions in the Code of Virginia pertaining thereto.*

SECTION (3) ADHERENCE TO POLICY:

- (A) *Policy matters of the Board shall be followed and adhered to and no action should be taken by the Board of Supervisors if such action would actually be in conflict or at cross purposes with the intent of an established policy. The Board may, where circumstances warrant, waive a given policy for a particular situation and action as the Board deems desirable, with unanimous approval of members present.*

SECTION (4) PRECEDENCE OF LAWS:

- (A) *These by-laws shall govern in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the federal, state, or local law.*
- (B) *Any provision of any part of these by-laws which are found to be in conflict with the Code of Virginia or the Constitution shall be null and void and the remaining provisions shall continue to apply.*

SECTION (5) CHANGES OR AMENDMENTS:

- (A) *These by-laws may be changed or amended by action of the Board of Supervisors at any regular meeting, provided that each Board member is given proper notice of any proposed change or amendment.*

Deputy Clerk to the Board

PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES

- *A sign-in sheet will be placed near the Board Room door for citizens who wish to speak during the Public Comment. Citizens should list their name, address, and topic to be addressed. After all speakers who signed up have spoken, anyone else interested in speaking will be given the opportunity.*
- *Speakers are limited to five minutes. There is a maximum time limit of 30 minutes allocated to Public Comment in any one meeting. If the number of individuals on the sign-up sheet would exceed the allotted 30-minute time-frame, the Chairman has the latitude to place a shorter limit on individuals.*
- *Speakers are to provide a copy of remarks to the Deputy Clerk, if in writing.*
- *The Board of Supervisors encourages and values citizen input on all topics or issues of relevance to the Board's responsibilities.*
- *Speakers shall direct all comments to the Board (not individual members or employees of the Board).*
- *Profane or vulgar language, partisan political statements, or comments related to the conduct or performance of Board members or staff are not appropriate in this setting.*
- *Board members are not expected to respond to questions or comments unless the Chairman deems such response appropriate. Board members may seek clarification or additional information from speakers through the Chair.*

MINUTES:

Hearing no corrections or deletions, the Chairman declared the following minutes approved as submitted: (1) a regular meeting held on December 4, 2018.

PUBLIC COMMENT (5 MINUTE TIME LIMIT):

Mr. Bennett reminded the public that public comment has a five minute time limit per person and he will give this reminder at each meeting.

Ms. Deloris Quarles, 701 Wrightstown Avenue, stated that we are reaching the conclusion of the Planning Grant process for the Wrightsville Community Revitalization Project and information on the CDBG application will be presented to the Board next month. She commented that there are homes that need repairs and drainage work is also needed. She mentioned that the process began in June of 2017. She stated that she is a "spark plug" on the Project Management Team required by DHCD and the community has been involved. She commented that the neighborhood is represented by two Board members (Mr. Griffith and Mr. Bennett) and mentioned that she sent out an email inviting both to a community meeting to be held on January 15, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Wrightsville Baptist Church.

Mr. Jacob Wright, 3730 Llama Drive, read the following prepared statement:

Greetings and Happy New Year Chairman Bennett and members of the board of supervisors.

I come to you today because we want to form a stronger bond in our community. As you already know I am coming to you today to talk about the forming of a committee to look at some potential ideas for creating a joint school system. My school board and the representatives that you all appointed, unanimously agreed that this is something that we need to look at with our peers in Covington. Although school mergers are completely the decision of the merging systems we felt it would only be proper to offer an opportunity to the two governing bodies to be a part of this discussion as well.

We are all in this together and we are much stronger in the eyes of our community and the state if we act together as one and work together for the best interest of our students, employees, and taxpayers.

I presented this proposal to the Covington School Board last month and they said they would like a chance to discuss it with their whole board (the whole board was unfortunately not in attendance) and they are holding a special called meeting tomorrow as that was the first chance their whole board would be able to meet. Chairman Clemmons feels there is a very positive vibe on his board about the idea of forming a committee and is excited to get started looking at the possibilities.

I also met with the Covington City Council last month and they were very upbeat and positive about the idea and unanimously approved the idea and placed Councilman Tucker and Mayor Sibold on the committee.

Originally I brought the idea of sending the Covington City Schools a letter up to my board and they thought we should try to include the two governing bodies as well. So I went to work calling the chair and vice chair of your board and the mayor and vice mayor of Covington as well as Chairman Clemmons. We had some great discussion and after speaking with all of the different stakeholders we concluded that the letter needed to ask for each board to select two members to serve on a committee to look at the possibilities.

Let me read the letter to you first and let you know where we have gone from there.

Dear Members of the Covington City School Board, Covington City Council, and the Allegheny County Board of Supervisors,

Greetings from the Allegheny County School Board. As members of the Allegheny County School Board we are not only committed to the students of today, but also to the future of our educational system in the Allegheny Highlands as a whole. The Allegheny County and Covington school systems have seen a significant decline in enrollment over the past several decades due to jobs moving overseas, a changing world economy, and in some cases, just downright bad luck.

As you will remember several years ago the County school board closed Boiling Spring and Falling Spring Elementary Schools. It was a tough time for our community and for our board. In the two years following the closure of our two elementary schools, two of our Board members (Randy Tucker and Jacob Wright) were appointed and soon after were involved in talks with Covington regarding a joint school system. It was probably too soon after the schools closed. There were too many wheels in motion. Too much emotion. Talks were called off and each system chose to work on progressing their own separate programs. Since that point, our two school boards have done a great job making sure every public school in the Allegheny Highlands is accredited! Since the last meeting to discuss a joint school system between the two boards, 9 of the combined 12 members are new.

Over the past several years our systems have made great strides in working together and it seems we are always finding new ways to use our allegiance for the betterment of the youth in the Allegheny Highlands. We are very excited that it appears over the past month we have worked out a joint calendar to begin the 2019 school year with both systems on the same page.

The youth are our future and whether they go to your schools or our schools, they are a part of this community. We are all on the same team. We work together, we pray together, and we play together. Our successes are your successes and your successes are our successes. We are very lucky to have a supportive city council and board of supervisors that fund us at a higher percentage above the state requirements than almost every other community in the Commonwealth. The combining of our school systems would not be a huge savings to taxpayers from the onset, but rather a more efficient use of their money. We feel that we could combine our resources and offer more opportunities, a better use of taxpayer money, and solidify the educational future for our next generation. The plan for a merged system must be diplomatic, well thought out, and be centered around what is best for the future of our

community, the students. *A unified Alleghany Highlands will solidify our future, increase the quality of life and most importantly, offer the future generations the best opportunities as they pursue additional educational opportunities or chose to enter the workforce with skills they have gained through our programs. We look forward to continuing our current allegiance and working towards unifying our wonderful community.*

We are asking that the two school boards, city council, and the board of supervisors each appoint two members to be a part of a group that will discuss a plan that would be both diplomatic and beneficial to the future generations of the Alleghany Highlands. We thank you for your time and dedication to our community and hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

The Alleghany County School Board

/s/ Randall S. Tucker, Chairman

/s/ Gerald E. Franson

/s/ R. Craig Lane

/s/ Jacob L. Wright

/s/ Jennifer S. Seckner, Vice Chairwoman

/s/ Donnie T. Kern

/s/ Danielle I. Morgan

Mr. Wright continued with his statement:

So after speaking with the different stakeholders we all agreed that we would need help from Richmond. I contacted Terry Austin and we met at the state capitol a few days later with Susan Hogge who is a legislative financial analyst, and member of the house appropriations committee staff. She was a breath of fresh air. We met for several hours and brainstormed with Delegate Austin about all of the different opportunities and potential hang ups. I left Richmond feeling really good about the possibilities.

Just this Fall there has been an appropriations committee that has been set up that is looking into the idea of how to incentivize local communities to create joint systems. She was very excited to hear that we had interest and buy in from all of the different stakeholders. She thinks we could be the model program for the state and that they would work with us to make sure we had every available opportunity to create a joint system the right way (and that's right with an R and not a W). We definitely determined that time is of the essence.

In 2004 you will all remember that Clifton Forge reverted from a city to a town and became part of Alleghany County. At that time the Local Composite Index for Clifton Forge was .2423. Alleghany County has been able to retain that same Local Composite Index for 15 years due to stipulations of the merger plan.

For those who are not familiar with the local composite index it is the number that the state uses to fund schools based on real estate value, taxable income, and sales tax for a particular school district. This is the final year for the frozen and lower Clifton Forge Local Composite Index and next fiscal year it will be going from .2423 to .2899 which will create a difference in state funding for our school system of about \$700,000 less in state money next year.

Covington's LCI is almost a point higher than ours at .2981 which means they get even less per pupil in state funding than we do. Why is this important you might ask...

For several reasons:

Almost all of state funding is based on the Local Composite Index. After this year the .2423 LCI will disappear. Our two composite indexes will be .2899 and .2981 unless we can create a budget amendment that the state will accept to continue our LCI because of special circumstances.

We all realize it is going to take money to create a joint system. I read in the newspaper a few weeks ago that Mr. Nicely was concerned about expenses and this is a legitimate concern.

The county doesn't have the money in the budget for it and neither do we.

There will be legal fees, possible studies for particular aspects, etc.

We don't have the money for it in this year's budget but, if we were able to retain our "sunsetting" (as they call it) local composite index there would be money for those things. Close to \$700,000 that we do not have included in our budget this year.

Ms. Hogge truly thinks that if we show the state that we are trying to work together to create a joint system and we all form this committee to at least look at the possibility than we will be able to retain the lower composite index through a budget amendment sponsored by Delegate Austin. The state wants to see that we are serious, that we want to make this work, and if it doesn't they want to know our back up plan.

Ms. Hogge, Delegate Austin, and myself all feel like if we don't merge districts instead of giving back the remainder of the money it should go to a joint venture and I am suggesting that it go into the capital improvement plan for shared career and technical ed programs between the City and County. The state is interested in joint school systems and career and the need for a skilled workforce and I believe our budget amendment can speak to both of these.

There is another reason that this Local Composite Index is so important to hold onto. The state doesn't appear to just make funding numbers up out of their heads. If we lose the .2423 it will never be relevant again.

In a long term plan for a joint school system I would like to see us retain this Lower Composite Index to help us equalize salary and benefits between the districts. We want to have a plan that is diplomatic for all and truly benefits the children and their educational opportunities in the Highlands.

Friday is the deadline for budget amendments. We need to have a chance to get the proper paperwork over to Richmond, which I have been working on, and ideally the sooner the better.

From talking to Mr. Clemmons today it appears he is getting a positive response from his board and they would like to start looking at a plan as well. I will be attending their special called meeting tomorrow and I would love to tell them that I got the same positive response from you all as I got from the Alleghany County School Board and the Covington City Council.

Thank you for your time and your interest in the future of the Alleghany Highlands.

There was discussion regarding the composite index (this is the final year of the lower composite index from the Clifton Forge reversion); the deadline for budget amendments is this Friday to try and retain the lower composite index; the appointment of two Board members to discuss the possibility of a joint system would show the State that the area is interested in discussions; agreeing with the appointments would get money as a "stop gap" for next year or pay extra \$700,000 with the loss of the lower composite index; the process to add the item to the agenda to take action (can be requested by any Board member, County Administrator, or County Attorney per the By-Laws); etc.

Mr. Garten asked that an item be added to New Business to discuss appointment of two Board members to participate in joint school discussions. Mr. Bennett stated that this item will be added to the agenda.

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

- Responded to significant winter weather event. Snowfalls in County ranged from 18"-24".
- Cleaned pipes and ditches County-wide due to heavy rains.
- Cleaned debris and downed trees County-wide due to ground saturation and high winds.

Mr. Garten commented regarding rocks and hanging trees on Rt. 220 near Honda Nissan potentially falling. He asked if a study could be done on how to fix the situation. Ms. Hammond replied that this was investigated several years back and there is a problem with fence containment at the bottom and there not being good material to anchor at the top. She commented that hard walls are also hard to get behind to clean debris. She commented that she can have someone come back out to look at the situation.

Mr. Nicely stated that at Glen Haven Drive on Rt. 60 there is only one driveway on the left and there is a drainage problem into the road.

APPROVE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE ASSET FORFEITURE FUNDS DUE TO THE RECEIPT OF FUNDS:

Ms. Adcock stated that the Commonwealth Attorney office had an advertising expenditure in relation to a drug asset forfeiture sale that was not budgeted and funds were received to cover the cost from the sale. She commented that a supplemental appropriation is needed.

On motion of Mr. Garten, 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 in FY19 for the Commonwealth Attorney Asset Forfeiture Fund due to the receipt of proceeds from asset sale.

<u>Revenue Account</u>	
Fund 249 - Drug Asset Forfeits (249-4189919)	\$680
<u>Expenditure Account</u>	
Fund 249 - Advertising (3119-53007)	\$680

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Shannon P. Cox	Absent
G. Matt Garten	Yes
James M. Griffith	Yes
Richard Lee Shull	Yes
M. Joan Vannorsdall	Yes

Cletus W. Nicely Yes
Stephen A. Bennett Yes

APPOINTMENT OF BOARD MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE IN JOINT SCHOOL DISCUSSIONS:

Mr. Lanford stated that Mr. Wright is requesting (per comments made during Public Comment) that the Board appoint two members to participate in joint school discussions with representatives from Covington City Council, Covington School Board, and the Alleghany County School Board.

Mr. Garten, Ms. Vannorsdall, and Mr. Griffith volunteered.

Mr. Guynn commented that since three are interested in the appointment that one individual could serve as an alternate when one of the other two could not attend. He stated that the Chairman can make the appointment or the Board could vote.

Mr. Bennett suggested the Board make nominations for the appointments.

Mr. Garten nominated himself.

Ms. Vannorsdall nominated herself.

Mr. Nicely nominated Mr. Griffith.

On motion of Mr. Nicely, seconded by Mr. Shull, that nominations be closed. Unanimously adopted.

On motion of Mr. Nicely, seconded by Mr. Shull, that the Board hold a roll call vote as to which two members should participate in discussions with the third individual serving as an alternate. Unanimously approved.

Mrs. Munsey called roll for each Board member to state two names of those nominated to participate in discussions.

<u>Roll Call:</u>	<u>Name #1</u>	<u>Name #2</u>
Shannon P. Cox	Absent	Absent
G. Matt Garten	Mr. Garten	Ms. Vannorsdall
James M. Griffith	Mr. Griffith	Mr. Garten
Richard Lee Shull	Mr. Griffith	Mr. Garten
M. Joan Vannorsdall	Mr. Garten	Ms. Vannorsdall
Cletus W. Nicely	Mr. Griffith	Mr. Garten
Stephen A. Bennett	Mr. Garten	Ms. Vannorsdall

As Mr. Garten had six votes, he was one of the two members chosen. As Mr. Griffith and Ms. Vannorsdall had three votes each, there was a second roll call vote to choose the second member (between Mr. Griffith and Ms. Vannorsdall) with the third being an alternate.

<u>Roll Call:</u>	<u>Name</u>
Shannon P. Cox	Absent
G. Matt Garten	Abstained
James M. Griffith	Mr. Griffith
Richard Lee Shull	Mr. Griffith
M. Joan Vannorsdall	Ms. Vannorsdall
Cletus W. Nicely	Mr. Griffith
Stephen A. Bennett	Ms. Vannorsdall

As Mr. Griffith had three votes and Ms. Vannorsdall had two votes, Mr. Griffith was chosen to participate with Mr. Garten in joint school discussions. Ms. Vannorsdall will be the alternate.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Lanford reviewed a handout placed at each seat which is a part of the records of this meeting. The report is as follows:

Wrightsville Public Hearing

A public hearing will be held at the February 5, 2019 meeting. He added that cost estimates and findings will be given by Hurt & Proffitt.

Rosedale Sewer

As mentioned in December, bids were received and opened on 15 November. Low bid from Mendon of \$1,190,777 exceeded available funding of \$1,016,974 for construction and our engineering estimate of \$891,529. Staff negotiated with Mendon to reduce price for work to \$993,000 by eliminating pipe runs of 386.75' inclusive of associated construction activities. With the reduction of pipe runs construction costs equate to \$449 per linear foot. It is our opinion, the pipe runs eliminated carry a higher value than the deduct proposed due to the complexity of construction for those runs. Staff is planning to reject all bids, modify and potentially phase construction, and re-advertise. Even though funding is available it is our opinion the cost is not justified for the reduced project scope.

Additionally, you may have noticed, if traveling west of Covington through Rosedale, the County experienced a gravity sewer failure. We are currently in emergency pump around operation. We will begin replacement using force account labor. New alignment was finalized by staff this morning.

Boiling Spring Elementary Re-Use

An RFP has been issued and bids are due by March 5, 2019.

Love's Grand Opening

Grand opening scheduled for January 3, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (INQUIRIES/REPORTS):

Miscellaneous

Mr. Griffith thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Mr. Shull asked Mr. Jacob Wright if the meetings to discuss school consolidation would be like last time where the public could attend but make no comment. Mr. Wright responded that discussions would be held between the eight members and not be an official meeting, but members would report back to their full Board.

Mr. Garten thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and commented that he is looking forward to an eventful 2019.

Ms. Vannorsdall stated that it is nice to have two members from Clifton Forge Council present (Mr. Jeff Irvine and Ms. Pam Marshall). She thanked Mr. Wright for the efforts he has put in.

Mr. Nicely wished everyone a Happy New Year and stated that he appreciates all efforts.

Mr. Bennett recognized Ms. Pam Marshall, new Clifton Forge Town Council member.

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion of Mr. Garten, seconded by Mr. Nicely, that the meeting be adjourned at 8:25 p.m. Motion carried.

Stephen A. Bennett
Chairman