

At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors, Alleghany County, Virginia held on Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Alleghany County Governmental Complex, Covington, Virginia, thereof:

PRESENT: G. Matt Garten, Chairman
Stephen A. Bennett, Vice-Chairman
Shannon P. Cox
James M. Griffith (electronic)
Cletus W. Nicely
Richard Lee Shull

and Suzanne T. Adcock, Director of Finance
Jim Guynn, County Attorney (electronic)
Melissa A. Munsey, Deputy Clerk to the Board

ABSENT: M. Joan Vannorsdall
Jonathan A. Lanford, County Administrator

CALL TO ORDER:

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

Mr. Garten stated that this meeting is being held pursuant to and in compliance with ordinance O-20-2 which was adopted on April 3, 2020. The following Board members are physically present: Matt Garten, Steve Bennett, Shannon Cox, Cletus Nicely, and Richard Shull. The following Board member is electronically present: James Griffith. He commented that public comment for this meeting was received by Melissa Munsey by 5:00 p.m. today and will be read during that section of the agenda (no comments were received). Notice of the opportunity for the public to access this electronic meeting was provided to the Virginian Review, the Alleghany Journal, local radio stations, and posted on the County's Facebook page. He asked that each Board member participating wait until their name is called before commenting on each agenda topic.

MINUTES:

Hearing no corrections or deletions, the Chairman declared the following minutes approved as submitted: (1) a regular meeting held on March 3, 2020; and (2) cancelled meeting of March 24, 2020.

Mr. Garten stated that Item 9B (amendment to the lease agreement with Crown Castle Tower Company) is being removed from the agenda for further clarification and Item 9F is being added to the agenda to discuss an emergency resolution to waive the late payment penalties and interest for water and sewer customers.

PUBLIC COMMENT (5 MINUTE TIME LIMIT):

No comments were received.

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

Ms. Adcock stated that a report has been received from Ms. Susan Hammond, VDOT Resident Engineer, on the following VDOT activities:

Maintenance

- Completed addition of stone and grading of dirt roads.
- Repaired shoulder on Rt. 220 past Falls Hollow.
- County-wide pipe cleaning and debris removal.
- Brush cutting on Rt. 60 from Exit 10 towards Rt. 600 (Rumsey Rd.).
- Removed trees on Rt. 600 (Gravel Ridge), Rt. 687 (Jackson River Rd.), and Rt. 603 (Cove Creek Rd.).
- Swept curbs, medians, and bridges with street sweeper.
- County-wide patching on primary and secondary routes.
- Headwall repair completed on rock wall at pipe crossing on Rt. 629 (Douthat Rd.).
- Cleaned paved ditch on Rt. 220 through the Gorge.

Construction

- Rt. 696 bridge replacement project - Temporary signal installation started this week. Expect them to be operational in three weeks. The required trees have been removed. Waterline is nearly complete.

Other

- Installation of 0.2 mile markers on I-64 will be completed by the end of June 2020.
- Our staff is practicing social distancing for all work operations. Our offices are closed to public walk-ins, but are still scheduling appointments where appropriate.

Ms. Adcock asked the Board to contact Ms. Hammond with any comments or issues.

APPROVE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR THE REPAIR OF TWO VEHICLES AND ONE VEHICLE REPLACEMENT:

Sheriff Kevin Hall commented that the Sheriff's Office is asking for additional funding due to the need to repair two vehicles and the replacement of another vehicle. He commented that with the reduction of \$110,000 in funding from Covington this year, they do not have funds to replace the vehicles that needed repairs. He gave a breakdown on each vehicle:

- Jail Transport Vehicle - The 2011 vehicle has 154,000 miles and the engine blew up. The cost for the repair is \$7,421.52. If the cost is split with Covington, the County's share (73.16%) would be \$5,429.58 and Covington's share (26.84%) would be \$1,991.94.
- Animal Control Vehicle - The 2014 vehicle has 122,000 miles and the engine blew up. The cost for the repair is \$9,333.29. The County's share would be 100% as this is not a joint service vehicle.
- Vehicle Replacement - The patrol vehicle was totaled and insurance proceeds have been received. The balance after insurance proceeds to replace the vehicle is \$7,112.82. If the cost is split with Covington, the County's share (73.16%) would be \$5,203.74 and Covington's share (26.84%) would be \$1,909.08.

He stated that the total cost of the repairs and replacements is \$23,867.63 and the County's share would be \$19,966.61 and Covington's share would be \$3,901.02.

There was some discussion regarding mileage and usage of the vehicles.

Mr. Bennett commented that Covington wants to have input on expenses like this. He suggested that the County approve its share of \$19,966.61 and let Covington have a say on their share of \$3,901.02.

Sheriff Hall stated that he will get on the agenda for Covington's meeting to request their share.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the Allegheny County Board of Supervisors approve a budget transfer for the Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$19,966.61 from Operating Contingency (9100-54001) to the following account codes:

- | | | |
|---|---|-------------|
| - | Vehicle/Power Supplies (330111-55408)
(Repair to jail transport car in the amount of \$7,421.52. County share of cost (73.16%) is \$5,429.58 and Covington share of cost (26.84%) is \$1,991.94.) | \$ 5,429.58 |
| - | Vehicle/Power Supplies (35013-55408)
(Repair to animal control car in the amount of \$9,333.29. County share is 100% of the cost.) | \$ 9,333.29 |
| - | Purchase of Vehicles (310211-57005)
(Balance of new vehicle cost after receipt of insurance proceeds in the amount of \$7,112.82. County share of cost (73.16%) is \$5,203.74 and Covington share of cost (26.84%) is \$1,909.08.) | \$ 5,203.74 |

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

APPROVE AWARD OF CONTRACT TO THOMAS P. MILLER & ASSOCIATES, LLC FOR DEVELOPMENT OF AN OPPORTUNITY ZONE PROSPECTUS:

Ms. Adcock stated that at the last regular meeting the Board approved a supplemental appropriation of \$15,000 due to the award of funding from DHCD for an Opportunity Zone Prospectus. She commented that Opportunity Zones are a federal economic development and community development tax benefit established as part of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act available to investors with capital gains designed to encourage long-term private investment in low-income urban, suburban

and rural census tracts. She mentioned that the County went through the Request for Proposal process and there is an agreement with Thomas P. Miller & Associates, LLC in the agenda packet.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors approve a contract with Thomas P. Miller and Associates, LLC in the amount of \$15,000 for the development of an Opportunity Zone Prospectus.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board authorize Mr. Jonathan A. Lanford, County Administrator, to sign the abovementioned contract, in form approved by the County Attorney, on behalf of the County.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

APPROVE RESOLUTION OF RESPECT FOR MR. GLENN ZIERLER:

Ms. Adcock read the draft Resolution of Respect for Mr. Glenn Zierler.

The Board commented on its appreciation of Mr. Zierler's service to the County

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

WHEREAS, Mr. Glenn Zierler, Code Compliance Officer and Zoning Administrator/Subdivision Agent, passed away on March 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Zierler gave unselfishly of his time to the County, setting an example of citizenship throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Zierler had worked in the Public Works Department since April 3, 2002; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors, in honor and respect, does hereby recognize the life of Mr. Glenn Zierler for his loyalty, dedication, and service to Alleghany County;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board extend its sincere condolences and sympathy to the family of Mr. Zierler. and extended condolences to the family.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

APPOINTMENT OF MS. MARLA TOOMBS TO THE SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD:

Mr. Garten stated an appointment needs to be made to the Social Services Board to complete the term of Mrs. Carolyn Barnette beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2022. The appointment can be from any district.

Mrs. Cox commented that Ms. Marla Toombs is interested in the appointment. She mentioned that Ms. Toombs has worked at Social Services in the past and has knowledge.

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors that Ms. Marla J. Toombs (Covington District), 2203 Evergreen Road, Covington, VA 24426 be appointed to the Social Services Board to complete the term of Mrs. Carolyn Barnette beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2022.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

APPROVE EMERGENCY RESOLUTION TO WAIVE LATE PAYMENT PENALTIES AND INTEREST FOR WATER AND SEWER CUSTOMERS:

On motion of Mrs. Cox, seconded by Mr. Shull, that the following resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, due to the COVID-19 pandemic these are tough economic times;

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to pass an emergency resolution in order to waive the late payment penalties and interest for water and sewer customers;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors approve this emergency resolution in order to waive the late payment penalties and interest for water and sewer customers for a period of six months beginning immediately and ending September 30, 2020, unless extended or suspended by future action.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

Ms. Adcock gave a report on the following items:

COVID-19

There have been operational changes due to COVID-19 which include:

- Local emergency declared on March 17th.
- Building was closed to the public on March 18th with mechanisms put in place to accommodate daily business (i.e. mailboxes installed).
- Teleworking capabilities were increased and staff is utilizing as much as possible.
- Keeping social distancing while in building or out performing duties.

Budget Update

She and Mr. Lanford will be meeting next week to re-evaluate the County budget calendar and strategize next steps. She has been participating in various discussion groups in an attempt to identify trends for revenues during this situation. Local revenues most affected are BPOL, meals tax, sales use tax, and lodging tax, but it is too early to see exactly how the effects will translate to revenue changes. Also, State revenues are a big question right now. The Board will be kept informed as a plan is formulated. There will possibly be a reduction in revenues in the last quarter of the current fiscal year, but the main concern is for FY21.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (INQUIRIES/REPORTS):

Miscellaneous

Mr. Griffith stated that it has been a trying time and everyone is doing the best they can to get through. He thanked the County for allowing him to participate in the meeting electronically.

Mr. Shull commented that when he first came on the Board he had problems in his district and went to Mr. Zierler who helped him out. He asked for prayers for Mr. Zierler's family, as well as the rest of the County and the world. He stated that everyone needs to stick together, stay in, and stay safe.

Mr. Nicely asked everyone to stay safe. He gave a shout out to the businesses in the area that are providing food for shut-ins at no cost and the M3 militia that is volunteering every day.

Mrs. Cox commented that you can not thank those enough that are on the front lines (i.e., law enforcement, fire and rescue, those in the food industry, etc.). She mentioned that at least once a week she sees something in the news about good things going on in our area (i.e. collections for shut-ins, restaurants sharing food, collecting cards, etc.). She stated that she could not be more proud to live in this area. She prays that all keep safe and do what they are supposed to do.

Mr. Bennett commented that people need to think and be smart. He asked everyone to also remember Mr. Lanford and his family at this time.

Mr. Garten stated that it has been a rough month locally and a lot to get used to. He commented that it is lucky that we live here as everyone is not on top of each other like in other places (i.e. no mass transit, etc.). He mentioned that the Local COVID-19 Task Force is doing a fantastic job in working together (local leaders, staff, VDH, VDEM, law enforcement, etc.). He congratulated Ms. Toombs on her appointment. He commented regarding the County's loss of Mr. Zierler and that it will be hard to fill his shoes. He asked everyone to continue to sanitize and social distance.

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion of Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Nicely, that the meeting be adjourned at 7:40 p.m. Motion carried.

G. Matt Garten
Chairman