

April 19, 2016

At the special meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County, held at the Court House, thereof, on Tuesday, the 19th day of April, 2016, at 5:30 p.m., there were present:

Pattie Cooper-Jones

Calvin L. Gray

Robert M. Jones

Odessa H. Pride

Howard F. Simpson

C. Robert Timmons, Jr.

Jerry R. Townsend

Jim R. Wilck

Also present: Wade Bartlett, County Administrator; and Sarah Elam Puckett, Assistant County Administrator.

Chairman Simpson called the reconvened meeting to order.

Mrs. Sarah Elam Puckett, Assistant County Administrator, announced there has been a large number of shad, two to six inches in length, which have died in the Sandy River Reservoir. She said DGIF and DEQ have been contacted; it is a natural occurrence with the sudden temperature spikes. Two biologists from DEQ have taken water samples and have found the water chemistry appears to be within the normal range for oxygen and PH; there has been no spill and there is no toxin in the reservoir, and the lake has not yet stratified. The fish may continue to die over the next several days, and it may take several weeks to assimilate all of the dead fish that need to decay. Mrs. Puckett said all questions are to be referred to DEQ, who will continue to monitor the Sandy River Reservoir for the next few weeks.

In Re: Amended Roof Contract

Mr. Bartlett stated the roofing contractors have discovered the two flat roofs over the Social Services portion of the building and over the Clerk of Courts portion of the building, have to be replaced. Both were heavily damaged from leaks in the past. Mr. Bartlett stated approximately 2,900 square feet of

the roof will have to be removed, insulated and replaced at a cost of \$41,970. Mr. Bartlett recommended a transfer from the Pay Raise Reserve fund to Capital Construction Fund. He added there is a 30-year guarantee on the roof and Mr. [Jim] Ennis has seen the contract.

After some discussion, Supervisor Timmons made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Gray, to authorize the County Administrator to sign all necessary documents for the repair of the roof and to transfer and appropriate the funds necessary; the motion carried:

Aye:	Pattie Cooper-Jones	Nay: None
	Calvin L. Gray	
	Robert M. Jones	
	Odessa H. Pride	
	Howard F. Simpson	
	C. Robert Timmons, Jr.	
	Jerry R. Townsend	
	Jim R. Wilck	

In Re: Discussion of FY 17 County Budget

Mr. Bartlett reviewed the Required Local Effort (RLE) for Standards of Quality, which shows the amount the State requires to be spent. He said the region average was about 24%, while Prince Edward County, in Fiscal Year 2015, spent 78% above the RLE. By that measure, Prince Edward County is funding our schools better than neighboring counties. The Per pupil expenditures for Fiscal Year 2014 was \$3,789; the amount in the proposed budget is a little over \$4,000. Prince Edward County spends more per pupil than any surrounding locality. Since 2004 to 2014, the ADM has fallen by approximately 460.

Supervisor Wilck stated Prince Edward County Schools rank 21st out of 95 as far as spending per pupil, with \$10,987 per student.

Supervisor Cooper-Jones stated she is concerned about the recent amendment to the delay in insurance coverage for 60 days for all County employees. She stated that for the Sheriff's department, they should be allowed their current stipulations as they are more at risk.

Mr. Bartlett said that while they are on the job, they are covered under Workers Compensation from the first day of employment. The Health Insurance covers them when they are not on the job. Discussion followed.

Chairman Simpson made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Cooper-Jones, to return to the existing plan; the motion carried:

Aye:	Pattie Cooper-Jones	Nay:	Robert M. Jones
	Calvin L. Gray		C. Robert Timmons, Jr.
	Odessa H. Pride		
	Howard F. Simpson		
	Jerry R. Townsend		
	Jim R. Wilck		

Mr. Bartlett stated he will contact the State to make sure the County can change back as their previous action had been reported.

Mr. Bartlett stated the dual enrollment tuition that is paid for the individuals is returned to the school system if SVCC does not have to provide teachers. He stated Prince Edward County has one of the smallest enrollments compared to the other counties; including them would help the ratio. Mr. Bartlett stated the donation is used for graduation ceremonies, the honors program, and many other items, and doesn't impact the academic environment.

Supervisor Gray recommended not funding SVCC.

Supervisor Timmons recommended zero funding for Crossroads; he said they can go tax exempt and there is no requirement to fund them. Supervisors Gray and Townsend agreed. Mr. Bartlett stated he will make sure there is no mandate for funding. Discussion followed.

Supervisor Townsend revisited the donation to SVCC and recommended zero funding. Discussion followed.

Supervisor Timmons said the regular membership in the Farmville Chamber of Commerce is \$250, and agreed with Supervisor Wilck's recommendation to retain membership at that level.

Discussion followed on funding for the Library (level funding, \$204,663), the Longwood Small Business Development Center (\$6,750), and Southside Virginia Community College. The Board discussed funding STEPS, Inc. at \$14,488 as a required match for the Community Action Program and the regular donation was reduced by 20%. Mr. Bartlett stated Prince Edward County provides 2.9% of the local

funding to Legal Aid, cases closed is at 5.4%, the people helped are about 8%; the Board discussed funding set at \$1,200.

Supervisor Timmons questioned funding Habitat for Humanity with taxpayer funds; Mr. Bartlett stated they help lower income people become homeowners and therefore, taxpayers.

Discussion followed on funding for Madeline's House. Supervisor Jones stated they provide a service to the County residents; there is no other organization doing these services, and should be provided a donation.

Supervisor Timmons then asked if taxpayer funding should go to Downtown Farmville. Supervisor Gray said that as had been discussed at a previous meeting, discussion on establishing criteria for funding charitable organizations after this budget process is complete.

Supervisor Wilck stated that since the County saw nothing for their investment last year and will not again this year, he recommended not funding the VGA. Mr. Bartlett stated the VGA brought three businesses to Prince Edward County and one is still actively looking at the area with Prince Edward County strong on their list.

Supervisor Wilck suggested looking into the Cannery situation; he said if eliminated, it would provide a savings of \$60,000-\$70,000 annually. Supervisor Wilck stated that if the County sells equipment that Tobacco Commission funding was used to purchase, there may be an obligation to the Tobacco Commission to repay a portion of that back to the Tobacco Commission; discussion followed. Mr. Bartlett added the Tobacco Commission is supportive of the Cannery, which provides a unique asset, and it would not be well received if the Board moved to shut it down. Further discussion followed.

Chairman Simpson stated he wished to put \$1,000 towards the Carl Eggleston Foundation for the children for Christmas. Supervisor Timmons stated the taxpayers should not pay for what the Foundation wishes to provide; Supervisor Wilck agreed.

Supervisor Wilck stated the food pantry and Meals On Wheels will have to "take a hit, too" since other organizations are losing some funding. After some discussion, it was agreed that FACES will receive \$4,275. Supervisor Cooper-Jones stated FACES/Meals on Wheels provides a service that benefits so many citizens.

Mr. Bartlett stated the spreadsheet provided by the School Board shows the revised School Budget; he presented assumptions regarding two categories involving the hiring of personnel. He said the difference is due to the QZAB; when the County provides funding, it included the Qualified Zoning Academic Bonds. He said he did not include that because the auditors take that out of the School funding and place it under "Other Finance" because it is going to a savings account. One matures in 2020, the other matures in 2022 and that is when the expense will all come out to pay off the bonds. However, we are actually funding \$110,153 every year. This is originally budgeted in the School's budget. He stated that means they spent approximately \$8.1 million in FY 15.

Supervisor Timmons requested a line item budget from the Schools. Supervisor Wilck stated the administration decides where to spend the funding; if they request teacher's aides, the Board cannot ensure or see if they are actually using it for hiring personnel. Supervisor Wilck then suggested making sure all classrooms are used 80-95% and close down a wing. Discussion followed.

On motion of Supervisor Gray, seconded by Supervisor Townsend, and adopted by the following vote:

Aye:	Pattie Cooper-Jones	Nay: None
	Calvin L. Gray	
	Robert M. Jones	
	Odessa H. Pride	
	Howard F. Simpson	
	C. Robert Timmons, Jr.	
	Jerry R. Townsend	
	Jim R. Wilck	

the meeting was recessed at 6:57 p.m. until Tuesday, April 19, 2016 in the Board of Supervisors Room for the Public Hearing on the School and County Budgets and Tax Rates.