

April 10, 2012

At a special meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County, held at the Court House, thereof, on Tuesday, the 10th day of April, 2012; at 4:00 p.m., there were present:

William G. Fore, Jr.

Don C. Gantt, Jr.

Robert M. Jones

Charles W. McKay

Howard F. Simpson

Jim R. Wilck

Absent: Howard M. Campbell, Pattie Cooper-Jones

Also present: Wade Bartlett, County Administrator; Sarah Elam Puckett, Assistant County Administrator; Kevin Wright, VDOT; and Randy Hamilton, VDOT.

Chairman Fore called the meeting to order, stating this is a reconvened meeting from April 3, 2012 for the purpose of a Highway Work Session.

In Re: Highway Work Session – County Six Year Plan

Mr. Kevin Wright, VDOT, reported on the amounts available to Prince Edward County for the 2013-2018 Program of \$316,635. This has gone down and is expected to continue to decline. He then reviewed county-wide services and stated there is \$70,000 of previous funding that may be permitted to be transferred to a project. Additionally, there is \$30,000 under the Rural Addition that may be able to be transferred to a project.

Supervisor Campbell entered the meeting at this time.

Mr. Wright stated the \$30,000 may be able to be put to a Rural Rustic project. Discussion followed on the various projects: Back-Hampden-Sydney Road is slated to begin construction in the spring of 2015; Mr. Randy Hamilton stated the public hearing for that project is projected for September 2012.

Mr. Wright said the Lockett Road (Route 619) project is expected to begin December 2015, and the Aspen Hill (Route 601) project should begin next spring; temporary right-of-way easements have been staked, and the “willingness” will be posted in mid-May [2012].

Supervisor Cooper-Jones entered the meeting at this time.

Mr. Wright stated there are currently no open projects; the next is expected in six to eight years.

Discussion followed on the qualifications for Rural Rustic projects and the following potential sites: Route 740, Copper Hill Road, which is approximately one mile in length; Route 628, Spring Creek Road, which is more than a mile in length; and Route 751.

Mr. Wright stated the funds for the Rural Rustic projects only amount to about \$6,000.

Supervisor Campbell asked about paving the other end of Route 751; there is a section of about two-tenths of a mile that could use paving. He said from the Rails to Trails and pave back toward what was already done.

Supervisor McKay stated a citizen inquired about Watson Road which was on the Six Year Plan to be paved; he asked about the status of that project.

Supervisor Simpson suggested Green Town Road in Worsham.

Mr. Wright asked the Board to submit potential candidates; he stated the roads will be checked and options will be presented on the candidates which fit into the project work under “Rural Rustic.” He added there is funding for five potential projects.

Mr. Hamilton stated the Lockett Road Bridge Replacement project is from a different source of funding, which is controlled by the Bridge section. He reviewed the following projects:

Route 619 Bridge – to begin in December 2015

Route 623 Bridge – the ad will be posted in 2014

Route 622 Bridge – the ad will be posted in May 2016

Route 633 Bridge – the ad will be posted in December 2013

Further discussion on the projects followed.

Supervisor McKay made a motion to authorize advertisement of a public hearing on the Prince Edward County Six Year Plan to be held Tuesday, May 8, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.; the motion carried:

Aye:	Howard M. Campbell Pattie Cooper-Jones William G. Fore, Jr. Don C. Gantt, Jr. Robert M. Jones Charles W. McKay Howard F. Simpson Jim R. Wilck	Nay: None
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In Re: Highway Matters

Mr. Wright reviewed the current VDOT projects and maintenance activities. He stated the public hearing on the Six Year Improvement Plan will be held on April 24, 2012 at 6:00 p.m., at North Side High School in Roanoke, Virginia, and invited the Board members to attend.

Supervisor Campbell reported the guard rail on Route 460 near Route 626 and 655 has been knocked down again. He said it is knocked down every week, and asked if it could be extended. Mr. Wright said it cannot be extended; fill work may be done and the guard rail may be set back a bit with rumble strips added to alert drivers that drift off the roadway.

Mr. Wright stated a previous request for a reduced speed limit on Route 608 does not qualify. He said if the road has less than 400 vehicles per day or fewer than three crashes per year, it won't even qualify for a speed study. He added gravel roads are not [speed] posted; Mr. Hamilton stated Nelson County has a law that all unpaved roads are 35 MPH. Mr. Wright then reviewed the policy for Children At Play signs; he stated a reduced speed is expected in a subdivision or in a rural densely populated area. He said the more signs that are posted, the less effective they are.

Supervisor Gantt stated Dead End Road needs gravel; a road off Peach Orchard Road is in bad shape. He added the two bridges on Routes 622 and 623 have good reflectors but there are pieces that are missing or loose. Mr. Wright stated he will check on the next inspection dates, and replacements are under design and are expected to be done in 2014 and 2016.

Mr. Wright said the “Through-Truck Restriction” in Rice is ready to post for public comment; however, VDOT will not post it until there is a through-truck problem. He stated there is local truck traffic on the roads in question.

Supervisor Gantt made a motion to recess until 5:00 p.m.; the motion carried:

Aye:	Howard M. Campbell Pattie Cooper-Jones William G. Fore, Jr. Don C. Gantt, Jr. Robert M. Jones Charles W. McKay Howard F. Simpson Jim R. Wilck	Nay: None
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Chairman Fore called the meeting back to order at 5:00 p.m.

In Re: YMCA Summer Program

Ms. Jane Schirmer, CEO/Executive Director of the Southside Virginia Family YMCA, discussed the plans and the process of the Summer Program to be held at the Southside Virginia Family YMCA and stated the YMCA cannot do the program without assistance from Prince Edward County.

Mr. Bartlett stated there is currently \$23,000 in the budget to fund the program for this fiscal year; it has not been included in the recommended budget.

Discussion followed on the consolidation of services and programs for the area youth, and how the youth are selected for the program, and the teacher to student ratio. Ms. Schirmer stated there will be several positions advertised for employment and they anticipate 150 children, on a first-come first-served basis. Mr. Bartlett added the Town of Farmville also has a summer program.

Supervisor Gantt made a motion to appropriate \$23,000 to the Southside Virginia Family YMCA for the Summer Program; the motion carried:

Aye:	Howard M. Campbell Pattie Cooper-Jones William G. Fore, Jr. Don C. Gantt, Jr. Robert M. Jones Charles W. McKay Howard F. Simpson Jim R. Wilck	Nay: None
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In Re: Budget Work Session

Mr. Bartlett, County Administrator, stated a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) is proposed for the County employees, at a rate of 3.6% which is the same provided to the Social Security and military retirees. Mr. Bartlett said the retirement component is unknown. He stated the Governor amended the mandate to have the employees pay their VRS contribution to allow it to be phased in over five years. Mr. Bartlett said that to keep the employees at their current rate of pay with the mandate in place, the increase in cost to the County to cover the mandated VRS would be \$23,455. He stated that in order to provide the amount to keep their take-home pay equal, it would take an additional 0.7% which would cost the County \$31,000. The State did not even out the pay for the state employees when they enforced the mandate.

Discussion followed.

[Due to a fire alarm, there was a break in the meeting from 5:40 p.m. until 6:16 p.m.]

Supervisor Gantt made a suggestion to change the insurance program offered to county employees. Mr. Bartlett stated the current insurance program is the Key Advantage Expanded; an increase is anticipated. He stated discussion is ongoing regarding the possibility of self-insurance and he is waiting on results from the findings.

Supervisor Cooper-Jones recommended an increase in the donation to the Special Olympics to bring the total donation by the County to \$1,000. Supervisor Simpson agreed; discussion followed. At the consensus of the Board, the Special Olympics will be granted \$1,000.

Discussion followed regarding the property tax rate, delinquent tax parcels, and enforcement actions that may be taken to collect the delinquent taxes. A Service Charge in Lieu of Taxes was also discussed.

Chairman Fore advised the Board of another work session scheduled on April 17, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. After some discussion, the meeting time was changed to 4:00 p.m. The Public Hearing for the County and School Budgets will be held on April 17, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

On motion of Supervisor Wilck and adopted by the following vote:

Aye:	Howard M. Campbell	Nay: None
	Pattie Cooper-Jones	
	William G. Fore, Jr.	
	Don C. Gantt, Jr.	
	Robert M. Jones	
	Charles W. McKay	
	Howard F. Simpson	
	Jim R. Wilck	

the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.