

April 15, 2008

At a reconvened meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County, held at the Court House, thereof, on Tuesday the 15th day of April, 2008; at 5:00 p.m., there were present:

William G. Fore, Jr.

Sally W. Gilfillan

Robert M. Jones

Charles W. McKay

James C. Moore

Howard F. Simpson

Lacy B. Ward

Mattie P. Wiley

Also present: Wade Bartlett, County Administrator.

Chairman Fore called the meeting to order, stating that its purpose was a budget work session for the 2008-09 fiscal year.

In Re: Donation List

Chairman Fore said County Administrator Wade Bartlett had been working on a draft balanced budget, and reminded the Board that in review, if changes were to be recommended on the expenditures side, they would have to make changes on the revenues side. He said that what is done with salaries and donation requests will affect the resource column.

Mr. Bartlett gave a review of the draft balanced budget. He said if the Board would fund the volunteer fire department donations as requested, it would be at a cost of \$140,000, and the Firefighters Association asked for an additional \$3,000. He said he recommended level funding. Discussion followed.

Chairman Fore asked if the level funding recommendation also included the Prince Edward County Firefighters Association. Mr. Bartlett stated it did. Mr. Jones reminded the Board they had previously approved \$59,900 for the air truck from the current year's budget.

Mrs. Wiley asked if the Rice First Responders have received certification; Mr. Bartlett said they had not, to his knowledge. They had received conditional certification which lapsed August 27th, 2007. Mr. Jones said once they get recertification, and are reinstated, they could reapply for funding. He added Pamplin received money from the current year's budget for their First Responders' start-up. Discussion followed regarding the service provided by the Burkeville Volunteer Fire Department, Chesterfield County Med-Flight, and the Old Dominion EMS Alliance.

The consensus of the Board was to level fund the volunteer fire departments and rescue squads, with the exception of the Rice First Responder and the Appomattox County Rescue Squad, which would receive no funding. Pamplin Rescue Squad would now assume the responsibilities in Prince Edward County. The budget recommendations were as follows:

<u>Agency/Department</u>	<u>Recommended FY 08-09</u>
Farmville Volunteer Fire Department	\$53,000 Operations \$15,000 Equipment
Rice Volunteer Fire Department	\$53,000 Operations \$15,000 Equipment
Prospect Volunteer Fire Department	\$53,000 Operations \$15,000 Equipment
Hampden-Sydney Volunteer Fire Department	\$53,000 Operations \$15,000 Equipment
Darlington Heights Volunteer Fire Department	\$53,000 Operations \$15,000 Equipment
Meherrin Volunteer Fire Department	\$53,000 Operations \$15,000 Equipment
Pamplin Volunteer Fire Department	\$53,000 Operations \$15,000 Equipment
Prince Edward Area Firefighters Association	\$6,000
Prince Edward Rescue Squad	\$60,000
Meherrin Rescue Squad	\$10,000
Pamplin Volunteer EMS	\$10,000
Rice 1 st Responder	\$0
Hampden-Sydney 1 st Responder	\$5,000
Appomattox County Rescue Squad	\$0
Burkeville Volunteer Fire Department	\$1,200
Chesterfield County Med-Flight	\$500
Old Dominion EMS Alliance	\$2,000

Mr. Moore asked about the Prince Edward Community Center and the YMCA. Mr. Bartlett said the YMCA submitted a proposal to provide a summer youth program for Prince Edward County at a cost of \$20,000, which would be used to provide grants and scholarships for children to go to the summer program. He said the grants would be needs-based; The summer program would be 10 weeks long, and they are also looking into providing meals for the youth as well. Mr. Bartlett said there would be structured recreational activities, and the YMCA has signed an agreement with Longwood University to have interns teach classes during the program.

Chairman Fore asked for the criteria for the summer program, and said it should include meals and transportation. He said the county would be using the YMCA to enhance the program, and at the same time, saving money for the county. Chairman Fore said the program may be at the expense of the Recreation Association. Mr. Bartlett said full accounting would be provided.

Mrs. Wiley said the program at the Prince Edward Community Center had never turned children away, and she expressed her concern that the YMCA may turn away children due to their financial status. Mr. Bartlett said children would not be turned away; Mr. Simpson added that some of the \$20,000 would be used for scholarships. Mrs. Wiley then said another concern was for the youth that worked at the Community Center through the CPAC program, and if the summer jobs would still be available. Further discussion followed. There was a consensus to leave the decision on funding for the Community Center until information could be obtained. Chairman Fore stated he wants no children turned away for any reason; all children interested in attending should be able to do so.

Mr. Bartlett said the local funding for the YMCA was not recommended as their initial request of \$1,000 was for their annual campaign a few years ago which had now grown to \$3,000. Mr. Bartlett said there is also \$163,000 in debt service for the YMCA annually. To fund the \$1.5 million, the County had provided for the YMCA's new building.

Mr. Bartlett said the Piedmont Area Transit requested an additional \$2,500 for purchase of a new bus as the current bus has over 100,000 miles. Mr. Jones said the local funding of \$10,000 should be sufficient. Further discussion followed; the Board agreed to take no action until more information could be presented.

The following recommendations were made:

Virginia Legal Aid	\$1,900
STEPS	\$27,232
Crossroads Community Services	\$62,643
Longwood Visual Arts	\$2,494
PE-FA Youth Association	\$24,000
Habitat for Humanity	\$4,750
Madeline's House	\$4,750
Farmville Chamber of Commerce	\$4,750
Longwood Small Business	\$7,047
HOPE	\$9,500
Central Virginia Library	\$152,059
Heart of Virginia Festival	\$2,850
R. R. Moton Museum	\$28,500
Piedmont Soil & Water District	\$6,840 Operations \$2,850 Dam Work
Old Dominion RC&D	\$1,775
Special Olympics	\$200
Prince Edward Community Center	\$23,750*
SCOPE/Meals on Wheels	\$9,500
Central Virginia Health Planning Agency	\$0
FACES	\$4,275
YMCA	\$0 Local \$25,000 Co Program
Piedmont Area Transit	\$10,000 Local \$0 Bus*
Pamplin Community Center	\$475
Prince Edward County After-Prom	\$950
Fuqua After-Prom	\$475
Tri-County Life Learners	\$3,325
Piedmont Senior Resources	\$1,616
Jolly Glee Senior Citizens	\$1,900
Piedmont Disability Services Board	\$500
Commonwealth Regional Council	\$15,700 Local \$8,500 Legislative
SVCC	\$5,518
Southside Area Red Cross	\$0
Holiday Lake 4-H Education Center	\$10,000 (1x)
Heart of Virginia Fireworks	\$2,500

*Further discussion and information was required; no action was taken.

The Board took a brief dinner break.

Discussion followed on the cost of salary additions. Mr. Bartlett said the proposed balanced budget includes a 3% increase in salaries effective 1 December 2008. He gave examples of the various levels of salary increases and their cost to the county.

Mrs. Gilfillan said the county and school employees are deserving of an increase, but given the current state of the economy and its uncertainty, she believed the balanced budget to be a priority. Mr. Jones said the county has increased funding for the schools over the past few years, and Prince Edward County Schools are just a few dollars under being the highest paid school system, per pupil. Mr. Bartlett added the figures did not include the \$1 million increase for Fiscal Year 2008.

Further review of revenues and expenditures followed. Mr. Bartlett said the only variable is the unknown, and that the proposed draft budget is attainable. He said the figures are conservative but realistic. He said the largest variables would be from the requested salary increases. He added the real estate assessment wouldn't change much, but the collection rates could. He said if the people cannot or will not pay, the county would not get the revenue. Mr. Bartlett said the state funding shouldn't fluctuate much.

In Re: Landfill Bids

Mr. Bartlett said that the county received bids for the construction of "Cell D" at the Prince Edward County Sanitary Landfill on Friday, April 11, 2008, as follows:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Bid</u>
R. M. Soderquist, Inc.	\$1,085,526
Shearin Construction	\$1,999,972
Dwight Snead Contracting	\$1,499,454
Branch Highways	\$1,459,420

Mr. Bartlett said Jonathan Pickett, Planning Director, recommended awarding the contract to R. M. Soderquist, Inc. due to their excellent work on construction of Cells A, B, and C.

Mr. Moore made a motion to award the contract for construction of "Cell D" at the Prince Edward County Sanitary Landfill to R. M. Soderquist, Inc. The motion carried:

Aye:	William G. Fore, Jr. Sally W. Gilfillan Robert M. Jones Charles W. McKay James C. Moore Howard F. Simpson Lacy B. Ward Mattie P. Wiley	Nay: None
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Mr. Bartlett said the work was expected to begin almost immediately, and should take approximately three months to complete.

On motion of Mrs. Wiley and adopted by the following vote:

Aye:	William G. Fore, Jr. Sally W. Gilfillan Robert M. Jones Charles W. McKay James C. Moore Howard F. Simpson Lacy B. Ward Mattie P. Wiley	Nay: None
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the meeting was recessed at 7:40 p.m., and will reconvene at 5:00 p.m., Thursday, April 17, 2008.