

April 22, 2008

At a reconvened meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County, held at the Court House, thereof, on Tuesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2008; at 5:00 p.m., there were present:

William G. Fore, Jr.

Robert M. Jones

Charles W. McKay

James C. Moore

Howard F. Simpson

Lacy B. Ward

Mattie P. Wiley

Absent: Sally W. Gilfillan

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

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

In Re: YMCA Summer Program

Danielle Chonko, Membership Director for the Southside Family YMCA, reviewed the financial scholarships available for those interested in attending the summer camp. She said the financial scholarships are based upon the household income and the number of people in the household. She said the family membership currently costs \$45 a year for two adults and the dependents in the household.

Ms. Chonko said the cost would also be based on whether or not the applicants are members of the YMCA. The cost of the summer camp is \$75 per week for a member of the YMCA, which would also fall under the financial assistance scale. She added she was unsure of any plans for transportation from their homes to the YMCA.

Mr. Bartlett said transportation is provided to and from the schools, but not from homes to the summer program at the YMCA.

Jennifer Pillow, Health & Wellness Director for the Southside Family YMCA, said the YMCA also offers before- and after-care, from 6:30 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. She added to this point, summer campers are asked to bring lunch from home.

Mr. Bartlett said the schools currently run the USDA food program, and Dr. Patricia Watkins has offered to work with the YMCA to take food to the campers.

Mrs. Mattie Wiley expressed her concern for the children that normally attended the program at the school, and asked how the fee for the YMCA camp affects those that could not afford even the reduced rate. Ms. Chonko stated the YMCA Executive Director has the authority to review special situations and provide financial assistance beyond the normal scholarship program in such cases.

Vice-Chairman Simpson said that Mr. Dan Albert, Executive Director of the Southside Family YMCA, told him 80% of the funding from the county would be used for scholarships.

Mr. Bartlett added the county is seeking what is the best use of county funding to provide the summer camp program. He said the Board is not attempting to put the Community Center out of business.

Mrs. Wiley said she does not wish any children to be financially unable to attend. She asked if it may be feasible for the Farmville Area Bus to make a run to the YMCA, as a number of children walked to the program at the Center. She said transportation may be necessary.

Mr. Bartlett said the Farmville Area Bus will have a new stop at the YMCA.

Sally Gilfillan entered the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Mr. Ward said the program at the YMCA is good, but the Board has not heard from a representative of the Recreation Center to hear about their program. Mr. McKay said the Board should hear from the Center prior to making a decision.

After a brief discussion, Ms. Chonko assured the income information would remain confidential. Ms. Pillow said the camp will begin May 27 and run through August 8, for a total of 11 weeks. She added the staff for the summer camp are teachers or Longwood University education majors, and are paid for their time. She said there is a certified personal trainer for the sports and the aquatics instructor is certified in water safety, CPR, and is a lifeguard. Ms. Chonko said criminal and sex offender background checks are

performed on all staff at the YMCA. The teacher to student ratio is approximately one teacher to 10-15 children; an assistant would be available if necessary.

In Re: Piedmont Area Transit

Mr. Bartlett said both buses currently in operation by the Piedmont Area Transit have high mileage and run approximately 300-400 miles per day. He said Cumberland and Buckingham Counties have added the additional \$2,500 in their budgets; Amelia has not yet presented its budget to its Board. He said a number of people are concerned that the disabled will not be able to get to STEPS, and said the bus system is also used to transport people to Farmville for shopping.

Mrs. Gilfillan asked if the Town of Farmville funds the Piedmont Area Transit. Mr. Bartlett said the Town does not. He added the \$2,500 request was on the high side, as the state is expected to fund at least 85% of the cost of the new bus.

A brief discussion followed.

In Re: ODEMSA Request

Chairman Fore said the Old Dominion Emergency Medical Services Alliance (ODEMSA) is requesting immediate financial contribution of 10% of the “\$4-for-life Return to Localities Funds,” and requested the same in the FY 09 budget. The amount would be approximately \$1,400.

Assistant County Administrator Sarah Puckett said the County already supports ODEMSA with the \$2,000 annual lease of the communications tower on Leigh Mountain, which is more than any other locality in the area. She said this request is most likely a product of the state budget cuts with more funding be required of the localities. She said Mr. Jonathan Pickett, Director of Planning and Community Development, felt that Prince Edward County already contributes more than its fair share with the lease of the tower.

Mr. Bartlett said ODEMSA had asked for more, but no localities contributed more.

In Re: Rice EMS Agency Certification

Discussion followed on the Rice Volunteer Fire Department and its certification of their EMS Agency license. Mr. Bartlett said the Office of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) inspected the department to renew their EMS license in May 2007; several deficiencies were noted, and the license was renewed only through August 2007. The department has not contacted the Office of EMS for reinspection, and the license remains expired. Mrs. Puckett said the process would have to begin again as though they had never held certification since their certification has lapsed for such a long period of time.

Mr. McKay asked if the Rice Volunteer Fire Department intends to apply for certification or just remain a fire department. Mrs. Puckett said the representative from the Office of EMS indicated he had not heard from the Rice Volunteer Fire Department in quite some time.

In Re: Departmental Requests

Discussion followed regarding clarification of line items in the proposed budget.

Chairman Fore asked for clarification of Professional Services in the Refuse Disposal department. Mr. Bartlett said the proposed budget has a decrease of \$70,000 from the current year, due to the contract with Service Master. He said he proposed eliminating the contract as it stands and change current personnel structure to cover the cleaning. He said he kept \$23,000 to allow the County to bid for quarterly services such as stripping and waxing. He said he recommended the transfer of one maintenance staff member to help the two current employees with the cleaning. Mr. Bartlett said not renewing the contract with Service Master would save approximately \$35,000.

Mrs. Gilfillan asked if Prince Edward County pays part of the salary for the Biosolids department. Mr. Bartlett said the state pays 80%, and the remaining cost is shared between three counties, which is approximately \$3,000 per county. Mr. Jones said it is dependent upon how much is applied in county, but that Prince Edward County handles all the money.

Mrs. Gilfillan noted that much of the salary in the Refuse Disposal department is for part-time employees, and asked if it would be more cost-effective to hire full-time employees. Mr. Bartlett said it would not because of the cost of benefits. He said most of the employees are for the convenience centers. Mr. Fore said there are seven centers, each with six employees; all are part-time.

Mr. McKay asked if the Board has contacted Appomattox County regarding sharing the cost at the Pamplin site as it would benefit both counties. Mr. Ward said any sites on borders should be asked to share the costs.

Mrs. Gilfillan said it may be better to hire a full-time employee for the Information Technology department based on the \$78,619 for the department. Mr. Bartlett said the cost includes the contract for professional services per month and per trip.. Mrs. Gilfillan said the web site is up and now attention must be turned to the other technology problems, and action must be taken.

Mr. Bartlett said the process to study all of the technology aspects will take a while, which would include telephone services. He said he plans to look with various providers and advertise an RFP to possibly bundle the telephone service, cell phone service, and internet access.

Mrs. Gilfillan asked about the hour keeping in the Sheriff's department. Mr. Bartlett said there will be a lot of changes due to accreditation, but he was unsure as to what changes will be made. He said the accreditation involves training and record keeping of training, such as how evidence is handled, and other administrative paperwork. Mr. McKay said only a few counties are remaining accredited.

Mrs. Wiley asked for clarification regarding the 1% increase for the Sheriff's department. Mr. Bartlett said the state offers a 2% salary increase, and the increase from the County would bring the Sheriff's department in line with the rest of the County and Constitutional offices. He said the benefits are paid by the County, as are all of the expenses incurred by the department, such as the vehicles, fuel, and the like. He added there are three full-time county funded positions in the department also. Mrs. Puckett said the Memorandum of Agreement between the County and the Constitutional Officers states the employees in the Constitutional Offices would be treated the same as the County employees. The Compensation & Classification Plan says that the salary for every employee in the Courthouse, in any department, is set by the Board of Supervisors annually. She added any funds received by the state would be used to offset the cost to the County. Mrs. Puckett said that if an employee of the Comp Board or a Comp Board funded position would be funded above the salary set by the County, the employee would receive the higher of the two. She said that was the decision of each of the constitutional officers and the Department of Social Services because they had acknowledged that their employees were better off to be treated as County employees, under the County's plan, than to be treated as Comp Board employees and be under the General

Assembly. She said the 2% that is received by the County from the state for all of the Comp Board funded positions will be used to fund salary increases, but it helps offset the cost to the county taxpayers. Further discussion followed.

Mr. Simpson asked about the move of the Jury Commissioner's funding from the Circuit Court budget to the Clerk of the Court budget. Mr. Bartlett said that is handled by the Clerk of the Court and should be included in her budget.

Mr. Bartlett said there was one adjustment needed to the Sheriff's budget; he needed to include Workman's Compensation in the amount of \$5,106. He said he was also waiting on quotes from VACo and VML for insurance.

The Board took a brief dinner break.

[The Board of Supervisors moved to the Board of Supervisors Room.]