

Virginia: At a regular scheduled meeting of the Essex County Board of Supervisors held on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., at the School Board meeting room, 109 Cross Street, Tappahannock, Virginia and virtually for the public:

Present: Robert Akers, Chairman
Ronnie G. Gill, Vice Chairman
John C. Magruder, Supervisor
Edwin Smith, Jr., Supervisor
Sidney Johnson, Supervisor

Present: Michael Lombardo, County Administrator
Andrew McRoberts, County Attorney
April Rounds, Assistant County Administrator, Deputy Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Akers called the meeting of Tuesday, February 8, 2022 to order at 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Supervisor Magruder led the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The Deputy Clerk called out the roll. All Supervisors were present; a quorum was met.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Chairman Akers stated that Tappahannock Main Street needs to be deleted from New Business and asked the Board if anything else needs to be added or deleted from the agenda. Hearing no one, asked for a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Supervisor Johnson so moved and Supervisor Smith seconded the motion. AYES: 5 NAYES: 0 ABSENT: 0

RECOGNITION

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Akers opened the Public Comments section of the meeting allowing speakers 5 minutes each.

Lou Spencer, Ann Pitts Rd, Caret asked the Board of Supervisors to consider new measures to address the littering garbage on Clarks Store Road.

Hearing no one else, Chairman Akers closed the Public Comment session.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S and AGENCIES' REPORTS

Chairman's Report

Chairman Akers added this report to the regular meetings. He has also added three items to Board Docs: 1) rolling action items 2) meeting questions and comments and 3) Roberts rules of procedure. He has added a third Wednesday weekly meeting with the Town of Tappahannock to the calendar and he may schedule a regular meeting with the Schools. Chairman Akers requested the County Administrator begin soliciting RFP's for the construction of the joint maintenance facility. He said the EDA presented a grant opportunity to study water access and a second grant for public recreation mainly for the Poor House Farm tract. The grant deadline is April 14, 2022. Administrator Lombardo added that there is discretionary funding to pay for a grant writer. Chairman Akers said he will be developing a County dashboard.

County Administrator

Administrator Lombardo reported that the County has \$40k in ARPA funds earmarked to develop tourism. The Town of Tappahannock has funding for that also. He plans to develop a tourism website and hire a contractor to promote tourism. The Economic Summit will be held either March 17th or 24th in the evening. Particulars will be announced soon. The Zoning department has a new format for their report. Administrator Lombardo sent kudos to Chuck Huntley on the new Website draft.

Animal Shelter

Supervisor Magruder gave a shout out to the Animal Shelter team on their six year no euthanasia record. Administrator Lombardo mentioned that the Shelter received a generous donation of dog food and will give it away to anyone who needs help feeding their animals.

SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT'S AND CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS' REPORTS

Treasurer's Report

The records of this office show the following balances at the close of business on January 31, 2022:

CASH IN OFFICE \$1,294.26

CASH IN BANKS

United Bank @ 0.10% \$3,348,478.04
Cafeteria Account @ 0.10% \$32,835.03

MONEY MARKET

Primis Bank @ 0.10% \$11,407.26

INVESTMENTS

LGIP @ 0.10% \$1,355,330.37

The above balances are secured according to Chapter 350 of the Tax Code of Virginia and I certify that they are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

VDOT Report

Chairman Akers requested the County Administrator follow up with VDOT on the traffic study for Lewis Level Road. Vice Chairman Gill requested the County Administrator to follow up with VDOT on cutting back leaning trees on Route 360 near the headwaters of the Piscataway Creek.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES MINUTES

Minutes were provided by the Airport Authority, Board of Zoning Appeals, Essex County Planning Commission, and Social Services Board. Chairman Akers asked the Supervisors to review the Planning Commission minutes as they are being tasked to complete the Ordinance review by the middle of February 2022.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Board agreed to take all three Consent Agenda items together for an approval vote. Supervisor Johnson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda and Vice Chairman Gill seconded the motion. AYES: 5 NAYES: 0 ABSENT: 0.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

CLOSED SESSION

Vice Chairman Gill read: In accordance with Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Code of Virginia, I move that the Board of Supervisors convene in Closed Meeting to discuss the appointment of individual(s) to various Boards and/or Committees, and under the same section to discuss the performance, assignment(s), disciplinary action, salary, resignation, promotion, and/or termination of specific County employees. Further, in accordance with Section 2.2-3711(A)(7), to receive legal advice regarding probable litigation. Supervisor Smith seconded the motion. AYES: 5 NAYES: 0 ABSENT: 0.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Supervisor Smith made a motion for the Board of Supervisors to reconvene in open session and Vice Chairman Gill seconded the motion.

The Deputy Clerk called out the roll: Chairman Akers – present, Vice-Chairman Gill – present, Supervisor Magruder – present, Supervisor Smith – present, Supervisor Johnson – present.

Vice Chairman Gill read the certification of the Board:

A RESOLUTION TO CERTIFY COMPLIANCE WITH THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REGARDING MEETING IN CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the ESSEX County Board of Supervisors has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 D. of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the ESSEX County Board of Supervisors that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the ESSEX County Board of Supervisors this the 8th day of February, 2022 hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge,

1). only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and 2). only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the ESSEX County Board of Supervisors.

The Deputy Clerk called out the Certification of Board members. All were present and all certified.

Supervisor Magruder made a motion to approve the Board/Committee list as discussed in the work session earlier today with the following changes:

- 1) Change the recommendation of Supervisor Johnson with Chairman Akers for the Community Policy & Management Team
- 2) Change the recommendation of Supervisor Johnson with Vice Chairman Gill for the Peninsula Public Access Authority
- 3) Add Supervisor Smith to the Middle Peninsula Planning District Committee
- 4) Remove the recommendation of Supervisor Johnson from Bay Aging. Replacement to be announced.
- 5) Remove the recommendation of Supervisor Johnson from the Middle Peninsula Juvenile Detention Center. Replacement to be announced.

Vice Chairman Gill seconded the motion. AYES: 4 NAYES: 1 – Johnson, ABSENT: 0

BOARD REQUESTS AND DIRECTIVES

- A. March BOS Work Session, March 8, 2022 at 5:00 pm, School Board Meeting Room (Virtual Participation Offered)
- B. March BOS Regular Meeting, March 8, 2022 at 7:00 pm, School Board Meeting Room (Virtual Participation Offered)
- C. Placeholders – scheduled budget meetings
- D. Grant Projects
- E. Meeting with School Superintendent, Dr. Thomas regarding school cleaning
- F. Pass litter concern to Kay Carlton
- G. Meredith Tribble bench funding request.

ADJOURN

Having no further business before the Board, Chairman Akers called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Johnson so moved, Supervisor Smith seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Chairman

Clerk of the Board

