

August 16, 2005

The Carroll County Board of Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 16, 2005 in the Board Meeting Room of the Carroll County Government Center.

Present were: Glenna Myers, Chairman
W. Jeff Evans, Vice-Chairman
Sharon F. Nichols
Joseph H. Early, II
L. J. Jones
Emmett Jones
Ronald L. Newman, Acting Administrator
Bradley Dalton, County Attorney

Mrs. Myers called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked Mr. Evans to lead in the prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

(Order)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Mr. L.J. Jones, seconded by Mr. Evans, and passed unanimously, the Board approved the minutes of their regular meeting held on July 19, 2005 as previously distributed to the members of the Board by its Clerk and as recorded in Minute Book No. 24 in the County Administrator's Office.

(Order)

APPROVE OF PAYROLL

Upon motion by Mr. L. J. Jones, seconded by Mr. Evans, and passed unanimously, the Board approved the payroll for July 31, 2005 and August 15, 2005 and did authorize the Chairman and Clerk, along with Bonita M. Williams, Treasurer, to sign on the 31st day of August and the 15th day of September checks for the payment of salaries and wages for all County officials and employees as previously budgeted by the State Compensation Board and this Board of Supervisors.

(Order)

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Upon motion by Mr. L. J. Jones, seconded by Mr. Evans, and passed unanimously, the Board approved the County General claims as presented this day and as evidenced by check numbers 77536-77555, and 77557-77705, and did approve the Carroll County Industrial Development Authority claims as presented this day and as evidenced by check number 1611.

Note: Check number 77556 was voided.

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(Order)

APPOINTMENT OF IDA REPRESENTATIVE

Upon motion Mr. L. J. Jones, seconded by Mrs. Nichols, and passed, the Board appointed Mr. Danny Beamer to the Carroll County Industrial Development Authority for a term beginning August 12, 2005 and ending August 12, 2009.

Note: Mr. Early voted No on the above motion.

(Order)

APPOINTMENT OF PSA BOARD MEMBER

Upon a motion Mrs. Nichols, seconded by Mr. L. J. Jones, and passed, the Board appointed Mr. Emmett Jones to the Carroll County PSA Board for a term beginning August 16, 2005 and ending November 10, 2005.

Note: Mr. Emmett Jones abstained on the above motion.

(Order)

APPROVAL OF CHILDREN AT PLAY SIGNS

Upon motion by Mr. L. J. Jones, seconded by Mr. Early, and passed unanimously, the Board approved the placement of Children At Play signs on Cedar Lane, Route 932, and Woodfield Lane.

(Order)

APPOINT PINE CREEK SOCIAL SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE

Upon motion by Mrs. Myers, seconded by Mrs. Nichols, and passed unanimously, the Board appointed Mr. Donnie Morgan as the Pine Creek District Representative on the Carroll County Social Services Board.

Note: Mrs. Myers stepped down as Chairman to make the above motion.

(Order)

APPROVE PETTY CASH SIGNATURES

Upon motion Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. L. J. Jones, and passed unanimously, the Board removed the names of Mr. Craig Teller and Ms. Stephanie Cloud from the Carroll County Petty Cash account signature

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authorization and added Ms. Rhonda Bowman and Ms. Libby Lineberry to the Carroll County Petty Cash account signature authorization.

(Order)

APPROVE VICTIM WITNESS ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Upon motion Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. L. J. Jones, and passed unanimously, the Board approved appropriating additional funds awarded by the Department of Criminal Justice Services to the Carroll County Victim Witness fiscal year 2005-2006 budget as follows:

022020-2002	VRS	\$1000.00
022020-2006	VRS INSURANCE	433.00
022020-2011	WORKER'S COMP.	500.00

(Order)

APPROVAL OF SURPLUS AUCTION ITEMS

Upon motion by Mrs. Nichols, seconded by Mr. Early, and passed unanimously, the Board declared the below list as surplus items and did authorize the sale of these items at the surplus auction to be held on Saturday, September 17, 2005:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
Computer Monitors	13
Computer Keyboards	6
Hard Drives	5
Fax Machine	2
Telephones	2
Printers	1
VCR	1
Copier	1
Baseboard Heater	1
Typewriter	1
Adding Machines	3
Wooden Desk	1
Office Chairs	3
Recliner Chair	1
Computer Speakers	4
Stainless Steel sink	1
School Bus Seats	18
Van Seats	3

Vehicles

1997 Ford Crown Victoria

ID# 2FALP71W5VX185861

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PROCLAMATION DECLARING AUGUST “HISTORIC DISTRICT MONTH”

Mr. Early read a proclamation to declare August as “Historic District Month” that read as follows:

WHEREAS, Carroll County and the Town of Hillsville are blessed with a unique set of historic structures, including the Historic Courthouse, Hale-Wilkinson-Carter Home, and Hillsville Diner, comprising a cohesive district of great historic significance to the people of the County, the Town, and the Commonwealth of Virginia;

WHEREAS, the Historic District embraces the character, charm, and cultural significance that makes Carroll County and the Town of Hillsville special places, distinctly different from other localities and appealing to citizens and visitors alike;

WHEREAS, the Historic District represents and conveys our rich history and heritage that are central to our identity as a Town and County, which we are duty bound to preserve for the benefit of generations to come;

WHEREAS, the Historic District and the structures comprising it are invaluable assets in revitalizing our “Main Street” and providing a vital source of economic growth;

AND WHEREAS, our work today to save and revitalize our Historic District is perhaps the greatest gift that we can give to future generations and a legacy that the citizens of this County and Town can be proud of;

NOW THEREFORE, let the word go forth from this forward that the month of August is and shall be “Historic District Month,” which shall be a time for our government and citizens to celebrate the historic treasures left to us by our ancestors and their value and significance to our culture and economy and to reaffirm our resolve to preserve them for future generations. Moreover, let August be a month of awareness and education highlighting our responsibility as citizens to build a future for our children grounded in the history and cultural attributes that afford our common bond and instill a sense of pride in this community.

This Proclamation, made this 16th day of August, 2005.

Mr. Early made a motion to approve the above Proclamation.

Mrs. Nichols stated that the Proclamation needed to include other Historic Sites of the County.

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(Order)

APPROVE PROCLAMATION DECLARING AUGUST AS HISTORIC DISTRICT MONTH

Upon motion by Mr. Early, seconded by Mrs. Nichols, and passed unanimously, the Board approved the above Proclamation with the addition of other Historic Sites of the County with the stipulation that a committee would be appointed to determine the other historic sites.

CARTER HOME UPDATE—MRS. EVELYN BOTSCHEN

Ms. Botschen gave the Carter Home update as follows:

STATEMENT OF EVELYN BOTSCHEN, PRESIDENT
HALE-WILKINGSON-CARTER HOME FOUNDATION, INC.

On behalf of our Foundation and the other organizations and many citizen of the County who support efforts to revitalize the Carter Home, I appreciate this opportunity to appear before you. This is a critical point in the 160-year history of this landmark. It will take your help and support today to ensure that this unique part of our history is preserved for future generations and remains a part of our cultural identity. Moreover, your actions today will have a major impact on the future of our Historic District and the survival of our Main Street economy.

Today, we ask you to approve a plan that will stabilize the building, allowing for the community to continue to restore and revitalize the home over the next decade. Moreover, the plan will complete the necessary improvements that will allow us to utilize the home for revenue generating, community events and activities, such as luncheons, dinners, performances, and receptions. With this new revenue, supplemented by grants, toward our goal of returning the Carter Home to a vital and productive asset to our community and economy. I am sure that you will appreciate the fact that our stabilization plan, to be implemented this fiscal year, requires no appropriation from this Board. All we need is your approval, support, and the ability to use the County labor force for some of the essential repairs to the building.

Without your support today, no matter how you couch it, we may well have written the final chapter on this great landmark – and it will be a very sad one. Unless we do the necessary stabilization work this year, such as the new roof, we fear that we will lose the building to deterioration that cannot be economically repaired. Moreover, without completion of the kitchen, we will not have the ability to generate revenue that is essential to our revitalization work. And, most importantly, we fear that our failure to revitalize this landmark will doom efforts to revitalize our Main Street economy.

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The stakes are too high for our failure to be an option, and we ask your support today.

We are aware of the discussion to simply turn over the Carter Home to the Foundation. Respectfully speaking, we do not believe this plan is at all viable at this time, and therefore would not be acceptable to the Foundation Board at the time. Hopefully, with your support today, we will be on a path to reaching the point where the home can be self-sustaining---that is certainly our goal, and we are steadfastly committed to assisting the County in reaching that point as soon as possible. And here is how we think we can get to that point.

First, we need to stabilize the building this year, or we as a community may well have lost the battle. Working with your Grants Coordinator, we propose that you adopt today a plan that will do approximately \$100,000 in work to stabilize the home and allow for its immediate use for a broad range of community activities. The \$100,000 package will not require any appropriation from you. The work will be funded with \$90,000 in grant funds, \$25,000 coming from the Town, \$15,000 from DHCD, and \$50,000 from the state. The county labor force, with the assistance of our members, will provide \$10,000 worth of work in kind. To proceed with this plan, you must approve this plan today and authorize your Grants Coordinator to accept the \$50,000 grant from the state.

Our proposed plan provides for a new roof, essential repairs that will make the building safe, a preliminary architectural report that will allow for future work and grants, and completion of the kitchen that we will use to generate revenue. This is a good short-term plan that will get us on the path to full restoration and requires no funds from you.

Upon implementing this plan, the Carter Foundation will move into full gear, hosting regular and frequent activities that will generate funds that can be used to restore the building in an incremental fashion. Over the last year, with the numerous successful activities held in the Carter Home, I think we have demonstrated the need for a facility like this in our community and the great potential for generating revenue. We envision the second floor of the Carter Home becoming a permanent location for public receptions, luncheons, dinners, and civic meetings---that we can be proud to show off to dignitaries and guests.

Moreover, we will work closely with other groups interested in the Historic District, such as the Historical Society and Chamber of Commerce, to conduct a series of events such as the highly acclaimed "Evening in Hillsville" that will bring more and more people into our historic downtown!

With your support in implementing our plan to commence regular use of the Carter Home, we believe that the cloud of uncertainty that has hung over the Carter Home will quickly dissolve, and we can begin fundraising in earnest.

Next, with the short-term plan implemented, we will work closely with the County, Town, interested groups, and citizens, to develop a plan for the long-

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term, self-supporting re-utilization of the Carter Home. Physical improvements to the building will be guided by the architectural report funded by your action today. Our initial vision for the home is to turn it into a multi-use, community facility, with the second floor used as I discussed.

We envision for the first floor, the sale of local historical material, souvenirs, local artwork and crafts, etc. We believe that our new Visitors' Center at Exit 14 will provide a steady stream of customers to our Main Street, and our small shop could be the satellite of the larger Visitors' Center, providing a steady stream of customers to our Main Street. Our goal would be to renovate and utilize the first floor in FY 06-07.

With rather minimal work, we believe that the 3rd floor of the Carter Home can be utilized, hopefully in FY 06-07. This floor could be used for a host of fee generating activities, including classes for musicians and artisans in close coordination with the Chestnut Creek School of the Arts. This kind of activity in the building could jump-start further development of the upper floors for such uses as rental space for local artisan studios, whose works can be sold in the first floor shops.

Again, we have the great advantage of the new Visitors' Center, which can be used to funnel a steady stream of patrons to any arts and crafts venue placed in the Carter Home. We need to begin to think in terms of building a network of places and activities in this Country that visitors will want to come to and spend money on. The Carter Home has the potential to become a vital part of this network and a magnet for tourism dollars. We cannot afford to let this great potential slip through our hands.

So, the choice today is clear. If you approve this plan, which require no local funds, we have hope for a better future grounded in our rich cultural heritage. If you chose no to support our plan, we risk losing a 160-year old landmark, as well as the potential to turn our Historic District into an important economic engine that will help to ensure the prosperity of this County for generations to come. Moreover, you will lose the \$50,000 grant from the State and possibly the \$25,000 grant from the Town and will have to fund the necessary roof repairs in the amount of \$25,000 out of County tax dollars.

A year ago, the Board adopted a vision that made the revitalization of the Carter Home and our Main Street a top priority. WE ask that you stay the course and provide the leadership and support that is needed to achieve a better future for our children and preserve a central part of our history. And, we pledge the unconditional support of the Carter Foundation in making this dream a reality. With the thousands of dollars our Foundation has already expended on the Carter Home and the thousands of volunteer hours devoted, I think we have proven that we can be an effective partner. With your help and support we can succeed!

Thank you.

Ms. Betty Patton, Carter Home Foundation volunteer, gave the following presentation:

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I, too, believe that today is a pivotal point in the history of the Carter Home and Historic District, and your action today will determine the fate of the landmark for all time.

This is a public building that is a part of the county's heritage and it deserves and needs governmental leadership and support. The current condition of the home is a direct result of the county's lack of maintenance and repair over decades. None of us desire the weighty responsibility of restoration and hard work. In reading the newspapers and speaking with citizens of the area, I believe there is a great interest in saving this stately old building. To sell to a private party that could alter or destroy the building at will, would be disastrous. We are very fortunate to have a historic building for our local children to visit, and to learn their local history. On a personal note, when I was a teacher we had to take trips to other localities and see their historic places of interest as part of our heritage. Fuel prices are rising and this may no longer be possible. The students of the area have their own history lesson, a part of the Civil War era and a citizen who brought jobs to a starving generation during the depression. This home brings recognition to Hillsville along with the courthouse, site of the 1912 shootout. Visiting a home of this period and architectural design is a great and lasting experience for young and old.

Hopefully, with your support, we can continue on the path set forth by this board a year ago when the Board adopted a vision that made the revitalization of the Carter building and the town's Main Street a top priority. This building is starting to become a focal point for downtown and the county. Local clubs and organizations are scheduling events. Tourists are expressing interest. A Case in point, my husband and I with the help of the Va. Unit of Airstream travelers hosted a really last week for 125 people who wanted to visit the area during the Galax Fiddlers' Convention. They requested a visit to Hillsville for the courthouse story and to visit the Carter Home. We had 77 adults and five children on the tour and for lunch. Also, the past Saturday one of the candidates for governor used the building for a gathering. Other candidates have expressed an interest in meeting there. These tow fundraising events occurred in a matter of days. Other activities are scheduled by individuals and groups.

Let's face facts, no one will make a serious commitment or contribution toward restoration or use of the home until this Board makes a decision. I ask you today to support the plan as implemented and appoint a member of this board to represent your at the monthly meeting. The historic district of downtown has a treasure here.

Thank you for your kind attention,
Betty Patton
276-236-4919

Mrs. Myers, asked if there was anyone else who would like to speak on the subject of the Carter Home.

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Mr. Albert Upchurch stated he was against continuing to keep the Carter Home up. He told that every time something new was built the taxpayers are expected to keep the old building up. He used the illustration of a business folding and asked if the taxpayers are expected to keep it going. He told that the County was already \$58-\$60 million in debt and stated he did not know how much the County could stand. He asked the Board to vote against it.

Mr. L. J. Jones asked how much time would be required of the County staff.

Mrs. Nichols asked if the labor force would be paid out of grants or by the taxpayers.

Mr. Early stated that the building is owned by the County so the County does have an obligation to maintain the building in some sort of repair. He told that it is pretty obvious with Ms. Botschen's plan that there are two choices, to support the plan which requires no funds from the County this year, and in future years they will work hard to minimize the funds from the County. He told that the other option is to not approve the plan which will cost the County at least \$40,000 to honor the contracts that have already been let for the painting and the roof repairs. He stated that if the County backed out of these contracts there could be some type of legal action so \$40,000 would be a minimum if the plan was not approved. He told that he thought the County has an obligation to provide an infrastructure throughout the County that will bring jobs and money into to the County. He stated that money that is spent in downtown Hillsville turns over several times and that there are people who are employed in other ways through that dollar. He told that it is very important that get people to come to downtown Hillsville and to stop at all the exits throughout the County to visit all the history and beauty that this County has. He told that if the County did not have something to come and see, the people are not going to stop. He asked that the Board support the plan this year to stabilize the building and allow for future decisions. He told that if the Board did not do this and did want to sell the building they would not have a building that would be easy to sell because of the roof leaking terribly and it has been neglected for years and there are no funds or taxes from the County to support this plan. He asked that the Board support the plan.

Mrs. Nichols pointed out there is no funds coming except for the man hours.

Mr. Early said that was true but the building is owned by the County and the County does still have to spend those hours to maintain it anyway.

Mr. L. J. Jones stated that the Board had approved the roof and the painting.

Mr. Newman stated payment for the painting had been part of the approved claims, but stated that the money for that cannot be used toward a match to the grant.

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Mrs. Myers said that she would like to talk with Ricky Dowdy about the labor hours.

Mr. Evans restated that the money for the painting could not be used because it was done early on. He told that he had seen some figures on a report in Mr. Newman's office that were not the same. He stated that there were several changes and is probably what the Board is looking at this morning. He told that the report did not include the paint and a lot of things and the amounts were different. He told that the County did owe for the roof and the painting and did have the obligation to maintain the building but as far as renovating the building to be used, he was not against it being used but did not think the taxpayers should be putting their tax money in this project. He asked what if the owners of the Allen home come wants to renovate or someone else comes and wants to renovate a building. He stated that the County does not have money to this. He told that he believed in the free enterprise system and that the people who want this should work to get the money for this.

Mr. Early stated the difference is that the County does not own the Allen home but does own the Carter Home. He told that there is a plan before the Board that requires no funds from this Board that is well thought out plan. He told that the kitchen is ready for completion, all the materials are ready to be installed, and that the house could be generating revenue right now if the Board will go ahead and approve this plan and allow the appliances that are there to be placed and installed. He stated that the only thing that would be done by not approving this plan is really handicapping the Carter foundation in their ability to generate revenue. He told that they must have some way to make money and told that they have plenty of events scheduled. He stated that it would be nice if the kitchen could be completed and stated again it is not going to cost the taxpayers. He told that he would not sit up here and ask people to spend their hard earned money on a 160 year building. There is a plan in place that does not require that.

Mrs. Myers asked Mr. Dowdy how many labor hours the County would have to put into this.

Mr. Dowdy stated that it depends on how far the Board wanted to go.

Ms. Marrah reviewed the report with the Board.

Mr. Evans asked how much time had already been put in.

Mr. Dowdy stated about 120 hours in the kitchen.

Mr. Evans stated that the taxpayers pay the salary for this work.

Mrs. Nichols commented the report states that it would take another 139 days.

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Mr. Dowdy said that there is time available in the winter.

Mr. Early stated that too much time is spent sometimes on the short term effect but that the long-term cost should be reviewed as the Board does not want to see down town dry up. He stated the need to concentrate on the long term effect.

Mr. Evans said that there is no way for Mr. Dowdy to determine the costs in this situation because of the nature of the work. He told that the building is in rough shape and ill repair, and comment this is the fault of the County. He told that when the Board starts putting money in this building it is not going to stop. He commented that it is going to continue on and then so much will be put in that there will be no choice but to use more tax dollars. He told that he thought the Board as officials should be conscious of how they spend the money of Carroll County.

Mrs. Nichols stated the need to get volunteers to do the labor.

Mrs. Myers suggested that two Board members need to work with the Foundation.

Ms. Marrah said in the long run the need is to pay to have the elevator in place. She said that her best guess would be that 50 percent of the cost of the elevator could be funded and that if federal funds were used the building must be ADA compliant. She told that it had been indicated that the grant funds could be transferable to a 5013C. Ms. Marrah said that she needs to check on some grants that are transferable and that they need to have the plan done so that they can see how things can work.

Mr. Evans said that the Foundation should just take the building.

Mrs. Myers asked if the grant money could be accepted and do an inkind match.

Mr. Evans stated that the Board needed to be rid of the headache.

Mr. Early said that the County government is eligible for more grants than the Foundation is. He told that if the Foundation was allowed to complete the kitchen they would be able to hold fund raisers. He told that the Board needed to support the plan to stabilize the building.

Mrs. Nichols suggested a need to try to get skilled labor free from any volunteers.

Ms. Marrah said that they need \$15,000 for an in kind match.

Mrs. Botschen asked for the county support until they are able to take the home. She used the analogy of a child learning to walk and the Foundation is trying to stand and needs help to make those first steps to be self-sustaining.

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Mrs. Nancy Beasley asked where the people who have skills are. She suggested they get young people from the high school vocational programs. She said that this situation was caused by the band-aid effect, simply covering wounds instead of fixing things.

Mr. Newman suggested that the labor may be done through work forces from Crossroads and that perhaps the building trades classes can do as they did with the Cannery and the shelter at Carter Pines.

Mr. Jay Botschen said that the Board is acting like they have to go out and hire someone but stated this is not the case because Mr. Dowdy has staff assigned to do this type of work from day to day.

Mr. Emmett Jones told that he would like to see the Board save taxpayers as much as possible. He said that he would like to see the Carter Building preserved but he would hate to see the elderly pay more taxes when they live on a fixed income. He added that he would like to see volunteers come to help. He told that he realizes that the County being the owner of the building has obligations as long as it is owned by the County. He told that this should be left to the Foundation to operate. He said that he really wants something to work but not at the expense of the taxpayer. He stated that he disagrees with the statement that the building is available to be used by the citizens of the County. He said that he felt it was available to a small group, which is represented here in this Board room today.

Mrs. Nichols stated that if there was a possibility of getting volunteers to do this work she thinks the grant is great.

Mrs. Myers agreed and stated that the Board needs to approve a plan and get the grant and two members of Board need to work with the Foundation on this.

Mr. Matt Hoover suggested finding a middle ground and keep it in the appropriate hands so that they will have a chance to make it. He stated that if the County does not take action to get the grant somebody will have to find the funds to spend there to maintain the building. He commented that maybe the County would want to limit the number of hours that they would allow County employees to work on the project and try to get skilled volunteers to assist in completing the necessary work for the building. He told that if something was done now, the County would have to pay for the roofing.

Ms. Botschen told that the Foundation had not been asked for information by the grant writer. She told that she does keep records of people visiting the building and will be glad to supply any records.

Mrs. Nichols asked if the building is generating any revenue.

Ms. Botschen indicated that they get contributions, have had donors but have to hire people to do food preparation or depend on the women in the foundation to prepare food at home and bring it in for the events.

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Mr. Evans expressed that he wants to see the Board take the cheapest way for the taxpayers. He told that the building needs to be turned over with the understanding it must continue without taxpayer dollars. He stated that he is against the tax dollars going into the building. He expressed his concern about the amount of time that would be needed for the building.

Mr. Dowdy said that they can start the roof September 1st and it can be done in three weeks, the kitchen would probably just take a week, and the porch would probably take a week and a half.

A motion was made by Mr. Evans to accept the grant with the understanding that at the beginning of 2006 there would be a Public Hearing to transfer the property to the Foundation.

Mr. Early stated that 4 months was not long enough when 1 month would be used for construction and suggested that the Board look at the budget at this time next year.

(Order)

APPROVE CARTER BUILDING GRANT

Upon motion by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Early, and passed, the Board approved acceptance of the \$50,000 grant through the Department of Historic Resources to be used toward the Carter Building renovation project and did determine that the Board would discuss the future of the building in January.

Note: Mr. L. J. Jones voted No on the above motion.

Mr. Evans made a motion for the County to stop paying for the utilities and fuel bill for the Carter Building as of the first of the year.

Mrs. Botschen asked that the County please continue to pay these bills as it is very difficult for them to pay such a high bill with such sparse funds.

Mr. Early said that the Board should leave everything as is until they assess the next budget.

Mrs. Nichols stated that since the Board was going to work with the Foundation until January this should be discussed at that time.

Note: Mr. Evans' motion died due to the lack of a second.

PUBLIC HEARING - CARROLL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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Mrs. Myers declared the Public Hearing Open at 11:05 a.m.

Mr. Newman told that the purpose of this Public Hearing was to hear public comment pertaining to the request from the Carroll Scholarship Fund for tax exempt status concerning a tract of land donated to the Fund. He then opened the floor for comments.

Mr. Bob Kell gave the Board a brief report on the activities of the Carroll Scholarship Fund and stated that the organization wants to support any citizen who is pursuing educational growth. He added that the scholarship would cover any academic expense and that with the tax exemption, they would be able to give away an additional two scholarships. Mr. Kaal stated that just this past year they gave over 50 scholarships totaling over \$10,000. He told that the fund is made available to students who may not have been able to extend an education to the college level and that each applicant is interviewed and they look for students who express a desire in going out and getting an education and then coming back to the County to live and build their business. He stated that this would increase employment here.

Mr. Byron Stanberry talked about the scholarship and presented two recent recipients of the scholarship: Jason, who is attending Radford to study psychology and Amy who is attending Cedarsville University to study medicine. They both explained how important this money is to them. Mr. Stanberry explained that Carroll Scholarships reach lots of students in different areas of special education and that it targets different fields, taking care of many special needs.

With no one else to speak, the Public Hearing was declared Closed at 11:18 a.m.

Mr. Brad Dalton discussed the ordinance the Board would need to approve to allow for this tax exemption and stated that he hoped to have it ready for adoption at the next regular Board meeting.

CITIZEN'S TIME

Mr. Andy Jackson, Commander of the Judal Early Camp of the Sons of the Confederate Soldiers, announced that they have hopefully done something for tourism. He told that on July 22 in Nashville, Tennessee, the Camp had been honored as being the top Camp in the world. He told that this was given because of the retention of members and this was because of the work of the officers and the support of the localities. He said that the reason he was here today was to present a token of his appreciation to the Board members and presented Mr. L. J. Jones, Mrs. Nichols, and Mr. Emmett Jones with shirts, presented a plaque to Mr. Evans, presented a wooden artwork to Mr. Early, and stated that Mrs. Myers had already been given her item.

Mr. Todd McDonald stated that the Board owed Brenda Marrah a debt of gratitude for the hard work she has done on the Carter Home and other projects. He told the Board about his connection to the Carter Home through

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his great grandfather who worked for George L. Carter and encouraged everyone to attend and support the 160th Birthday Celebration coming up at the Home. Mr. McDonald presented the Board with two copies of e-mails that had been generated by former administrator Craig Teller. He ask to Board to explain to him the comments that were made in the e-mail about AmerLink and the comments made about the cannery involving the prospect of Cracker Barrell possibly locating here. He told that the e-mailed referred to key Board members and asked when the Board split so that some knew things and some did not.

Sitting in the audience Mr. Craig Teller responded to Mr. McDonald.

Mrs. Myers called the meeting to order and told Mr. Teller not to interrupt.

Mr. Early responded to Mr. McDonald that there were not any names on the e-mails as far as Board members and that he was wrong in his letter to the editor in implying that Mr. Spencer and Mr. Early were the two key Supervisors.

Mr. Dalton pointed out that Mr. McDonald went past the normal three-minute time limit allotted to citizens to speak.

Mr. Evans pointed out that most people are not interrupted during their time. He also stated that he did not know what Mr. Teller had in mind.

Mr. McDonald brought up the second document that was a letter to Brian Spencer from AmerLink. He told that this letter mentioned the selling of land to Cracker Barrel and asked why someone else would realize a profit from land that is part of County land.

Mr. Early pointed out that the date of the letter, July 17, was after Mr. Teller's firing. He then asked who had asked Mr. Spoor to talk with Cracker Barrell.

Mr. Newman responded that this had been discussed before he became involved with this issue.

Mrs. Myers indicated that it is being handled now by Mr. Tom Elliott.

Mr. Craig Teller stated that he had not come prepared to speak but due to the continuous effort by Jeff Evans and other Board members to defend his firing had required him to respond to Todd McDonald's comments. He stated that Todd McDonald had no reason to be here other than he has talked with Jeff Evans. He stated that he was happy that all that has been found was the statement that he was concerned about the cannery and the interest of the citizens of the county. He told that it is a shame that there are people trying to tear down what has been done to make things better in this County. He told that the Board needs to get their act together and forget Craig Teller. He commented that most of the Board does not know the difference between an

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expense and an investment. He told the Board they needed to get a vision and move forward.

Mr. Evans responded to Mr. Teller that the problem has not been him. He stated that he had come to Mr. Teller in April and talked to him as a gentleman. He commented that he had not been the one in the paper along with Brian Spencer and Jody Early. He denied talking with Mr. McDonald about what he is supposed to do. Mr. Evans told Mr. Teller that if he wanted Craig Teller out of the paper then he needed to stay out of the paper.

Mrs. Myers called the meeting to order.

Ms. Ellen Goldwasser thanked the Board, Mr. Craig Teller, the administration office, Mrs. Surratt, Mr. Newman and Mr. Rotenizer for the opportunity to work in the administration office as an intern this summer. She told that she hopes that the County would continue with the internship in the future. She stated that she had some reservation about coming because of the interesting state of the office but could not ask for a nicer group to work with. She told that she had learned more in two months about the County than she had in her lifetime of living here. She commented that Carroll County is really, really a special place and she hoped the community and the representatives can come together and work together to make this County a better place.

Ms. Janet Tate told that she had worked on a petition for the resignation of Mr. Evans and told that there were 641 signatures collected in the County with 132 in the Pipers Gap District. She told that she had not paid very much attention over the last year of what was going on in the County until the firing of Craig Teller. She stated that she realized that being a Supervisor is a hard job. She told that she had people thanking her for the petition effort because they feel that they were being given the support by Mr. Evans. She thank Mr. L. J. Jones for supporting land use, Ms. Nichols for having the deciding vote on the school money, Mr. Early for doing good work for the Laurel Fork District, and Mrs. Myers for supporting the airport. She stated that she had noticed that Mr. Evans was doing more listening today.

CARROLL COUNTY ELECTORAL BOARD

Mr. Denny Shockley addressed the Board about a situation on payment to an election officer. He stated that the Electoral Board has a difficult time getting officers of elections. He presented the situation that an election officer had called about. He told that this election officer had received payment of \$26.50 for picking up the equipment and should have been paid for his training and the day to work in the amount of \$175. The election officer came in and talked to Freida White about it and Freida went to check to see why he had not received his check. After checking this check had been sent to the animal control system in California for \$175.00. Mrs. White asked if this company was owed the money and she was assured that they were owed the money. He told that the officer was issued another check which was suppose to be for \$175.00 but for some unknown reason it was issued for \$148.50 and sent later another check for \$26.50 that got him up to the \$175. He told that the animal

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control in California was not owed the money and sent the check back marked void and stated he had a copy of the check. He told that after that mistake, Mrs. White had checked on other pay to officers and found another officer was supposed to be issued a check for \$29.75 which was sent to a person in Galax. He told that the question was asked did we owe this person in Galax and was assured the County owed them the money. The check should have been \$29.75 to this officer. In the meantime the person in Galax did not return the check and he showed a copy of the cancelled check. Later in the month Mrs. White went down to the administrators' office and asked if the officer of election pay had been taken care of. He told that the response that came, not as a direct quote from the administrator, was as long as Freida doesn't know it don't matter. He told that Mrs. White did need to know, it does matter, and it is her responsibility to know and she does a good job of it. He told that Mr. Newman checked on the records and told the Board to guess what he found when he checked the records. Mr. Newman had reported that he found a check that had been written to the woman in Galax again and the woman had been cashed again. He stated that this was \$59.50 she got for doing nothing. He told that the electoral budget has been cut and this sounds like a small amount of money compared to what has been talked about this morning but the money could have been used for paper or something. He commented that if an auditor comes in and asked what these checks were for there is going to be a problem. He asked about other issues that may be larger that would be large problem? Mr. Shockley suggested that each department head receive a pay out to review so they can see what is spent and what the budget is for the department. He told that a letter has been issued to the Galax person to return the funds for the 2 checks. He told that the funds need to be put back into the department budget either by return of funds from the person in Galax or a transfer of funds from the Board reserves.

LAMBSBURG SCHOOL PROPERTY

Mr. Albert Upchurch spoke about the Lambsburg School property. He told that Mack Bobbitt's family had sold part of the Lambsburg School Property to the School Board. He stated that others had been able to get their land back but that Mr. Bobbitt did not know he could until the land had been given to the Lambsburg Community Complex. Mr. Upchurch told that the Community Center does not use the one-half acre of the property but that all land is owned by the Community Center. He told that he would like to see Mr. Bobbitt get this land back.

Mr. L. J. Jones told that Mr. Darryl Hawks had got his land back before it went to the Community Center and that now the land is owned by the Community Center.

Mr. Dalton stated that the Community Center owns the property and stated that Mr. Bobbitt should go back to the Community Center Complex, Inc. to discuss this issue with them.

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ROBERT BEASLEY - VDOT

Mr. Bob Beasley, Virginia Department of Transportation, told that it was time to discuss the Six Year Secondary Construction and Budget and told that a Public Hearing would need to be held.

It was Board consensus to hold the Public Hearing on Tuesday October 4 at 6:30 p.m. at the Carroll County High School.

Mr. Beasley then informed the Board that Mr. Ken Smith, Programming Manager, would be at the County Administrative Offices in Floyd County on September 14 at 7:00 p.m. to speak about the subdivision ordinance and the rural addition issue with the Board and the Planning Commission. He told that there would also be a meeting in Pulaski at 2 pm that same day in the Planning Commission Office. He invited any Board member that would like to attend either of these meetings.

LAUREL FORK RESCUE SQUAD REQUEST

Mr. Kim Shropshire, Laurel Fork Rescue Squad Captain, told that the Squad had been trying to get a grant for a 1st Responder unit, but stated that this would be a 50/50 grant in the amount of \$40,000. He told that the Squad had found a 2001 Excursion 4x4 that was in good condition for \$14,000. He told that it would take \$16,000 to add the lights and striping. He asked that the County pay \$8000 of this. He told that he knew this was supposed to go before the Emergency Service Committee but that this just came up on Tuesday and there was not time to call a meeting. He told that stocking the unit would be done by the Squad.

Mr. Early stated that this seemed ideally suited for their needs.

Mr. Newman told that bids would need to be received for this vehicle.

(Order)

AUTHORIZE REQUEST FOR BIDS – 1ST RESPONDER UNIT

Upon motion by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Early, and passed unanimously, the Board authorized accepting bids for a 1st responder unit for Laurel Fork Rescue Squad.

(Order)

CLOSED SESSION – PURSUANT TO VIRGINIA CODE SECTION 2.2-3711(A1)

Upon motion by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Emmett Jones, and passed unanimously, the Board convened a Closed Session at 1:47 p.m. until 2:30

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p.m. for the discussion of personnel matters relating to the performance of specific personnel, the discussion of the disposition of real estate where public discussion would be detrimental to the County's position, the discussion of a prospective business where no public announcement has been made of the business or industry's desire to locate or expand in the County, and for the discussion of legal matters involving threatened litigation as authorized by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A1,A3,A5,A7).

(Order)

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

Upon motion by Ms. Nichols, seconded by Mr. L. J. Jones, and passed unanimously, the Board adopted the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Carroll County Board of Supervisors convened in a Closed Session on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote on the motion to close the meeting in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act;

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711(D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board of Supervisors that such Closed Session was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Carroll County Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (I) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were heard, discussed or considered in the Closed Session to which this certification applies, and (II) only such business matters as were identified in the motion by which the Closed Session was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting to which this certification applies.

(Order)

AUTHORIZE PROMOTING MR. JOE ROMA TO FULL-TIME EMERGENCY SERVICES COORDINATOR

Upon motion by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Emmett Jones, and passed unanimously, the Board authorized promoting Mr. Joe Roma to full-time Emergency Services Coordinator with the full salary and benefits associated with this position.

JOE ROMA – EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT

Mr. Roma told the Board that Pipers Gap Rescue Squad had asked to apply for a grant to refurbish a 1996 4x4 unit. He told that the Squad would pay the match without asking for assistance from the Board. He told that Laurel

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Rescue Squad had asked to apply for a grant to purchase two jet motors for the two boats used in their water rescue. He told that the Squad would pay any match without asking for assistance from the Board.

Mr. Roma then told that the County had 71 emergency vehicles for fire and rescue including 20 Ambulances, 4 Crash Trucks, and 3 1st responder units. He told that equipment was needed but that the crash trucks needed to be with the fire departments because a fire truck had to be present to use the crash trucks. He told that there were two serious problems: the Hillsville Fire Department has no tanker for water and Cana has the oldest equipment in the County and probably covered some of the most expensive houses in the County. He told that the rescue squads were in good shape. He told that Cana Fire Department needed two engines.

Mr. Early clarified that Cana Fire Department needed engines but that the rescue squads did not need any vehicles.

Mr. Roma stated that it would be 2 to 2.5 years before Rescue 3 needed to be replaced.

Mr. Early stated that the Board had put \$40,000 in the budget to match a \$35,000 grant to get an ambulance. He asked if this could be used toward a fire truck.

Mr. Roma stated that this could be used toward the truck.

Mr. L. J. Jones asked if he was saying that Cana Rescue did not need a 4x4.

Mr. Roma replied that they have a 1989 and that volunteers want everything whether it is needed or not. He stated that they deserved the best the County could afford.

Mrs. Nichols asked what would happen if the County did not accept the grant.

Mr. Roma stated that it would make future grants harder to get.

Mr. Evans asked if grants could be obtained for the County if it was not for a specific location.

Ms. Marrah stated that the Office of EMS has grants that are done in the name of the Squad or the two Fire Departments that are BLS certified. She told that grants were being pursued for training.

Mr. Early stated that he was willing to equip units where they were needed in the County.

Mr. Roma told that another grant had been found that Cana Rescue had applied for without the County's knowledge. He told that he was just trying to get things under control.

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Ms. Marrah stated that more than a year ago the Board had directed that grants go through the Administrator's office and that still is not happening. She told that the Office of EMS had asked that grants come through the County and that the fire departments and rescue squads should follow the policies the Board has set forth.

Mr. Evans commented that it was during the transition period when Cana had applied for the grant. He stated that he was surprised when Laurel Fork came forward today but understands when a good deal comes along. He stated that these must be budgeted for.

Mr. Early asked if there are vehicles that he could dispose of.

Mr. Roma stated that he would need to meet with the Captains to determine the needs.

Mrs. Myers asked that a report be given to the Board after this meeting.

UPDATE COUNTY FAIR (EXPO)

Mr. David Rotenizer, co-chair of the County Expo Committee, spoke on showcasing the County through the County fair. He told that there is a broad base of support for seeing the County fair to come back after several years. He told that County fairs tend to bring communities together and promote the wonderful assets the region has. He stated that the committee meets weekly and that the VFW has been of tremendous support to the committee and the County to make this event a reality. He presented the Board members with the County fair booklet that has been designed to place in County locations to inform the citizens of the fair and the scheduled events. He told that advertising is being done throughout the region and that volunteers were going to be needed to make this a full success.

PROJECT UPDATES

Mr. Newman told that things are progressing with Nancy's Fried Pies. He told that the timing has not been as first thought for the building but that as soon as Nancy's gets the details worked out they will be in Carroll County. He told that the Company was keeping him updated as things developed.

Mr. Newman then told that VDOT had the deed ready for .77 acres that the County can purchase. He told that Mr. Carl Mooney had discussed the \$65,000 payment and that he had written a letter to VDOT concerning the timing of the payment. He then told that the Guynn property is located on a discontinued road and discussed the need for a commercial entrance. He told that the entrance to the Farmer's Market and parking lot needs to be discussed with an engineer and told that he and Kevin Semones had spoken with Mr. John Adams on this issue.

Mr. Early commented that the issue of the fence at the Farmer's Market needed to be looked into.

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SUPERVISORS TIME

Mrs. Nichols expressed her concern for the scheduled date of the County Expo and stated that there was a home football game that Friday night.

Mr. Newman responded that the Committee had to work around the Flea Market. He added that they would like to host the Expo annually and that in the future he hoped the County would support them and work around the Expo date.

Mr. Early spoke about the Cannery hours. He told that a person had called and got the answering machine but did not get a call back. He told that the hours available for public usage needed to be put on Chillsnet and that the phone message needed to be updated.

Mr. Evans discussed the type of government the County has and stated the details concerning the filling of the Supervisor At-Large position were in Code Section 15-2402. He then asked what steps the Board could take to do away with the Supervisor At-Large position.

Mr. Dalton said that any basic change cannot be done until January 2008. He said that one in four counties in Virginia has a Board form of government and to make a change it would require asking the General Assembly to amend the Code. He said that he could research the benefits as well as the disadvantages to having the different types of governments such as a Board or a County Manager. He told that the County would have to have a referendum or a public hearing.

Mr. Evans stated that he would like to know legally what would need to be done if it was the Board's desire. He then told that the Building Official should be allowed to take his car home when it will save him time driving to and from work. Mr. Evans then expressed concern that Mr. Early is not living in his district. He told that Mr. Early had been meeting with Mr. Spoor to discuss a fence line and that a discussion came up concerning the Planning Commission meeting and property Mr. Early had sold. He told that there was a strong discussion with Mr. Spoor that houses would not be built there. He stated that Board members are held to a higher accountability. He told that at a meeting at the Carter Building a comment was made to an employee to keep quiet about the meeting. He told that the Building Official has had to run back and forth dealing with complaints. He stated that there is a fine line between being a Supervisor and being a citizen and that Mr. Early was allowing personal interests to get in his way and he feels that perhaps Mr. Early should step down. He told that he thought there was definitely a conflict of interest and the discussion with the employee was inappropriate.

Mr. Dalton stated that the Board did retain their rights as a private citizen but agreed that there is indeed a fine line in the duties that a Supervisor. He stated that if a member of the Board made such comments he would call that unwise and maybe not in the best interest, but stated that under the Code that is

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not a conflict of interest. He stated that he did not know anything about the situation with the employee.

Mr. Evans stated that the employee was at the meeting because they were asked to be there and then was asked to keep the information secret.

Mr. Dalton replied that he did not know what the issue was.

Mr. Evans stated that dealing with money with the Carter Building is the Board's business. He told that this affected his trust in Mr. Early

Mr. Early stated that he feels that Mr. Evans would like a dictatorship. He said that he never threatened Mr. Spoor that his houses would not be built but told that he had simply told Mr. Spoor that the road was a problem. He added that he never swore anyone to secrecy and the event that Mr. Evans is talking about was a public meeting.

Mr. Evans stated that he was not invited to the meeting. He then told that he received a picture of a fire truck watering the motorcross track. He told that Chief Mike Musser had been asked to be at the meeting and did not know why he was not here.

Mr. Early told that he had asked Mr. Newman to remind the Fire Chief that the County had a policy of not filling swimming pools and not doing things other than fighting fires.

Mr. Evans replied that he did not see anything wrong with filling swimming pools with the fire trucks.

Mr. Dalton responded that this was a liability to the County.

Mr. Early stated that Mr. Evans went to Ms. Marion Alderman after the firing of Mr. Teller and told her that next he would have Mr. Early taken off the Board. Mr. Early stated that he had no intention of resigning.

Mr. Evans commented that he got along with everybody else on the Board.

Mr. Early commented that Mr. Spoor brought up the Planning Commission meeting.

Mrs. Myers called the meeting back to order. She then asked that someone be at the next meeting to discuss when the Cannery is open to the public.

Mr. Dalton stated that the Board had received 12 applications for the position of Administrator. He told that the Board had selected 6 individuals to interview and stated that the Board had received the applications with names and e-mail addresses blacked out. He suggested interviews be done the week following Labor Day.

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It was a consensus of the Board to hold interviews September 12, 2005 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Mrs. Myers commented that someone had told her to encourage all Board members to be at the Planning Commission meeting this week.

(Order)

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Mr. L. J. Jones, seconded by Mr. Evans and passed unanimously, the Board adjourned until September 12, 2005 at 9:00 a.m.

Glenna Myers, Chairman

Ronald L. Newman, Clerk