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The Carroll County Board of Supervisors held an Adjourned Meeting on Thursday, May 26, 2005 in the Board Meeting Room of the Carroll County Governmental Center.

Present were: Brian E. Spencer, Chairman
Glenna Myers, Vice-Chairman
L. J. Jones
Sharon F. Nichols
Joseph H. Early, III
W. Jeff Evans
Ronald L. Newman, Assistant Administrator
Bradley Dalton, County Attorney

Mr. Spencer thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and presented this statement:

“When Susan and I moved to Carroll County seven years ago, we knew we had found the perfect place to raise our daughter because of the welcome we received from the community. We have never been more certain of the choice we made in living here as we have in the past few weeks, due to the outpouring of support and kindness we have received not only from our friends, but from people we hardly know or have not even met, and I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their good wishes and prayers.

This board has faced many challenges in its first year and a half, and I have often considered controversy to be the seventh member of the board. The one message that I have read between the lines in the local papers this past week is that we need a sense of direction.

When we as board members put our personal agendas ahead of the citizens we represent, we have gone too far. I have sat and listened as board members personally attack each other on several occasions. The people did not elect us to bicker amongst ourselves but to move the County forward. This board has made decisions that we must all accept whether we agree with them or not, but we must not use this time to argue with one another, for in doing so, we betray the trust and confidence of the voters and are no longer fit to serve in our elected position.

We owe it to our constituents to take aggressive action to fill the vacancy in the county administrator’s position. This is not the time to be indecisive or argumentative. As your chairman for the rest of this

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year, I ask all the members of this board to treat each other with dignity and respect, if not for the individual, but for the office they hold. We can agree to disagree, but in the future, if any board member acts disrespectfully to another, they will be asked to excuse themselves for the duration of the meeting.

I could take this opportunity to criticize the recent actions of this board, but in doing so, would be guilty of the same offenses I am hoping to avoid in the future. I believe Craig Teller to be an honest man who has worked hard for this county and I will miss his leadership and the promise of what could have been accomplished under his administration.

We must now set the stage for a new administrator, and we, as a board must address our own shortcomings as we begin this new chapter. I consider it an honor to be chairman and supervisor at-large for the Carroll Board.”

CITIZENS TIME:

Mr. Spencer indicated there would be a 3 minute time limit for each speaker:

Mr. Robert Longo thanked the Board for their time and told that it was an outrage and abomination to fire Craig Teller. He told that he was concerned about the temporary distracted the focus of growth. He told that the community is against the motion and asked the Board to bring Craig Teller back or to hire an equal. He then told that on Tuesday he fished at Laurel Fork Creek and that 15 minutes of relaxing was interrupted by motor cross sounds that came down the valley. He stated that the noise was unbelievably disturbing and asked the Board to consider a noise ordinance. He suggested that the Board allow people from other counties and states to speak and tell what type of zoning the County should have.

Mr. Tom Hawks thanked the Board and told that he was a member of the Carroll County Planning Commission. He expressed his concern for the action of the Board at the last meeting and told that he did not think it was in the best interest of the County. He told that he supported the statements of Chairman Spencer and Mr. Longo in opposition of the action taken.

Ms. Connie Beamer thanked the Board and told that most of the comments are coming from people that have not been at the meetings or been involved in County government. She encouraged people to become involved. She told that she felt that there is a lack of professionalism at the

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meetings and that citizens have a right to get answers. She asked why the same opportunity had not been given to others as was given to AmerLink.

Mr. Danny Beamer told that Mr. Early had stated that the same deal was offered to other companies. He told that it was no wonder citizens did not show up more often with the way they are treated. He then referenced an October 25, 2004 Gazette Article that announced that the County had received a grant from the Tobacco Commission to be used toward the expansion of the Farmer's Market and the tourist information center.

Mr. Spencer stated that it was unfortunate that time is limited but there are agenda items that must be addressed and told that the Administrator's office is open 5 days a week and open to the public. He stated that the Board welcomes citizens and viewpoints and would rather have a voice than there being empty chairs at the meetings.

Ms. Janet Tate stated that she respected Ms. Beamer's opinion but saw things differently. She told that she had handed out a list of Board members' numbers for people to call office and leave messages. She told that she thinks the Board made a mistake in firing Craig Teller. She stated that her husband is a county boy who gave a lot when he came back to this county. She asked the board to correct the mistake of firing Craig Teller.

Dr. Ben Allen stated that he was appalled at a government operation that does not have personnel policy for all employees. He told that the action of the Board toward Craig Teller was a grave mistake. He asked the Board to improve the situation and ask for accountability of the Board to the citizens.

CANNERY

Mr. Tom Webb told that he came to make himself available for any questions or concerns about leasing the cannery.

Mr. Evans expressed his concerns about the ones that had used the cannery in the past.

Mr. Webb told that he had a list of more than 300 citizens who have used the cannery in the past. He stated that Rex Horton will continue to schedule appointments. There is a plan to use a calendar schedule on the Internet using blocks of time the cannery will be available and told that he would also work to assist with getting supplies. Mr. Webb stated that he and Mr. Fred Jones plan to help develop brands with labeling, getting equipment to help with the filling of cans and to help extend labels and names to help with label recognition.

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Mr. Spencer expressed concerns about food borne illnesses and asked how it would be made sure that the equipment was cleaned between groups to avoid cross-contamination. He asked also about the insurance.

Mr. Webb responded that Mr. Jones has the food processing experience so there was not a real concerned about the sanitation. He told that Mr. Jones also plans to attend certification classes. He told that the company will have insurance and stated that it would be wise for the County to have their own insurance also. He told that the County plans to provide the supervisor of the Cannery at this time.

Mr. Early asked what the lessee name was going to be since it was left blank on the lease.

Mr. Webb stated that this will be a new company and the name at this time will be Kettle Kraft if the name is available. He told that he will notify the County of the official name once the documents are processed and the official name is established.

Mr. Early asked if this would the same owners as J & B Foods.

Mr. Webb told that they may be involved as stockholders but told this is a separate entity.

(Order)

APPROVE CANNERY LEASE

Upon motion by Mrs. Myers, seconded by Mrs. Nichols, and passed, the Board approved leasing the Cannery to the new company formed by Mr. Tom Webb and Mr. Fred Jones.

Note: Mr. Early Abstained on the above motion.

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JOINT FUEL PUMP WITH SCHOOL SYSTEM

Mr. Newman told that bids had been received for the new fuel pumps that would be used by the County and by the School System and told that Four Star Petroleum Services, Inc., had provided the best price and value at \$21,193.99.

Mr. Early asked about the control of the keys due to concern that people could put fuel in their own vehicle

Dr. Strader Blankenship explained that the card system meets the Department of Defense requirements, which has authorization codes plus keys and can track several different items of information.

(Order)

APPROVE FUEL PUMP PURCHASE

Upon motion by Mr. Evans, seconded by Ms. Myers, and passed unanimously, the Board approved the purchase of two fuel pumps from Four Star Petroleum Services, Inc. at a total cost of \$21,193.99.

(Order)

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Upon motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Evans, and passed unanimously, the Board approved the Carroll County General Claims as presented this day and as evidenced by check numbers 74272 – 74295.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Tim Brown, Twin County Airport Manager, told that Carroll County had appropriated \$42,000 for the current year and an additional \$6450 as seed money for site preparation for the new hangar. He told that the Commission had asked for \$40,000 next year. He told that the Commission had determined to address the new terminal as a separate issue. He told that Carroll County has appropriated \$20,000 for that project. He stated that a shortfall of \$15000 would have a substantial effect on forward progress of the Airport. He told this will cause foregoing the runway improvement program (funded 98% by state and federal) or not being able to do maintenance on the existing hangars and commented that one of the three doors is inoperable. He told that if the door cannot be fixed this will cause a loss of \$4200 in hangar revenue. Mr. Brown asked

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the Board to reconsider their position. He told that there was a question of how the other localities will view Carroll County. He stated that if Carroll County reduces support these localities will take notice. He told that the combined effect may be significant to the program in that the project is getting a huge amount of grant money. He told that there must be local support and that this was an investment in the future.

Ms. Judy Brannock, Galax-Carroll-Grayson Chamber of Commerce, told that the Chamber has put into Carroll County triple what the County has given in 2004. She stated that \$2001.37 was spent on postage with more than 1/3 going to Carroll County with relocation packages, businesses, and people who wanted to get in touch with realtors. She told that \$1075 went to the VFW for the Christmas Bazaar. She told that during the Fiddlers Convention and Labor Day, the regional board tried to place people in local motel rooms. She told that the Galax-Carroll-Grayson Chamber is low on the totem pole for the Tobacco Commission money but the last couple of years the region has got close to \$1 million. She told that this takes effort and that the Chamber is making an active effort to go after grants for the region. She stated that the regional board has different executive boards than the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce. She told that two years ago the Chamber booked 2 tour buses that took people through the region and the region have these people coming back. She told that the Regional Chamber Board has done what needs to be done and have earned being in the budget.

CANA RESCUE SQUAD AMBULANCE GRANT

Mr. Jones asked that money be put in the budget to help match the grant received by Cana Rescue Squad for a new ambulance.

Mr. Newman told that he had talked with Cana Rescue Squad and had been told they needed between \$20,000 and \$40,000 and asked what amount needed to be put in the budget.

Mr. Early asked when the grant was applied for.

Mr. Newman told that he was not sure exactly when it had been applied for but that it had been some time ago.

Mr. Early asked for a copy of the grant application.

Mr. Spencer asked if this could be put in the budget to see how it would affect the budget.

Mr. Early commented that he wants people to know that just because a grant is applied for does not mean it is needed.

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Mr. Evans stated this done while in transition and that the County would need to take care of those things.

SALARY AND BENEFITS

Mr. Evans pointed out that there were a couple of employees who did not get anything as a raise and that this should be adjusted. He told that there was one in the Building Official's office and one in the Maintenance area.

Mr. Spencer indicated the employees that did not receive anything were performance based and they were already at levels comparable to school board employees. He requested to see the evaluations.

Mr. Early said that Mr. Teller did evaluations and these did not warrant an increase.

After review of the evaluations, Mr. Newman was instructed to include a 3% raise in the budget for the Building Official secretary and the Maintenance employee.

AIRPORT FUNDING

Mr. Early stated that he would like to add \$15,000 back to the Airport. He told that the big hangar was ready to fall down and stated that the Airport could not operate on the money put in budget.

Mr. Jones asked why a person had to be there to fill the tanks.

Mr. Early told that it was a full time job dealing with the FAA and the paperwork.

Mr. Spencer commented that a \$1.4 million grant had been received.

Mr. Early stated that the Airport had been turned around since Mr. Brown was hired and told that he works more than 40 hours.

Mr. Evans told that everybody was having to raise rates and stated that rates on hangers should be raised. He stated that everybody was having to trim. He told that he did not understand why the Airport could not have a part time person and commented that maintenance should be done on hangers as go along.

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Mr. Early told that the Airport is the future of the County and stated that the County would be missing a great opportunity to get more businesses and jobs.

(Order)

CARROLL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD ADDITIONAL BUDGET FUNDS

Upon motion by Ms. Myers, seconded by Mr. Early, and passed, the Board authorized the addition of \$389,905 to the Carroll County School Board fiscal year 2005-2006 Operational Budget.

Note: Mr. Evans and Mr. Jones voted No on the above motion.

Mr. Evans commented that the paper sounded as if this had already been enacted. He stated that the school system went right to raises. He stated that the County was holding people over \$40,000 to no raise while the School system was giving raises across the board.

Mr. Reggie Gardner responded the School Board's goal was to raise everyone 3%. He stated that the \$389,000 would bring some things back that would have been cut.

Mr. Evans stated that one School Board member had asked for salaries \$50,000 and above to be held.

Mr. Gardner told that this would have saved \$12,000 and stated that the vote was 4-1 for a 3% across the board increase.

Mr. Jones stated that the County has cut salaries.

Mr. Gardner told that he had heard there were raises of 3 & 4%.

Mr. Evans commented that those at 4% were at the \$13,000 range and stated that people can't live off that. He told that those with higher salaries did not get raises. He then told that he appreciates what everybody does.

Ms. Nichols asked how many buses were in the budget.

Mr. Gardner replied none.

Ms. Nichols stated that there were 1989 buses and questioned not getting any.

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Mr. Gardner told that there were increasing costs and salary and were getting level funding.

Mr. Jones told that they were getting extra state money.

Mr. Gardner told that this money was earmarked for specific items.

Mrs. Myers asked what would be cut if did not get the \$389,000?

Mr. Gardner replied AmeriCorp, Resource Officer, Activity buses, and 50 positions including AmeriCorp. He told that even with the \$389,000 they were cutting some positions.

Mr. Jones stated that \$12,000 would go a long way on activity buses.

Mr. Evans stated that if government did not try and get rid of things not needed taxes go up and people can't afford this. He told that some people could afford this but stated this is a low income area and most can't afford. He stated that this was \$12,000 that people making \$50,000 and above would not get. He told that this is lot of money to people out of work. He stated that he was not against the schools getting what they needed rather than what they want.

Mr. Gardner told that the budget was down to bare bones.

Mrs. Myers stated that she had poled the Board and had received 5 yes votes with Mr. Jones voting no.

Mr. Evans told that the attitude was that if additional money is found it should be spent rather than save it. He told that nobody chooses to just make \$13, \$15, \$20,000 but that is the backbone of this country. He told that he did not feel money should be spent just because the Board has it. He then told that he was not crazy about phone poles.

Mrs. Nichols told that teachers were important but she wished the School Board would look at what the Board had to do with holding County employees back.

Mr. Early asked if the vacant Assistant Superintendent position would be filled.

Mr. Gardner told that the School Board will terminate that position and that the migrant worker position would be reclassified.

Mr. Jones asked that stipends be put in the budget.

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Mr. Spencer told that the big issue was treating them as employees.

Mr. Evans commented that these should be put back in and make an adjustment to how many is on committees.

Mr. Dalton told that at the recent Awards ceremony at CCHS, 140 students were honored for academic excellence. He told that there were areas CCHS placed 1st, 2nd, 3rd State competitions and that there were some who had perfect scores on the SOL's.

Mr. Spencer stated that Mrs. Myers had recommended honoring students and instructed Mr. Newman to work with Dr. McBride for nominations.

Mr. Greg Yonce told that he was a member of the Twin County Airport Commission but was not a pilot and had not been in a plane. He told that the Airport has made great strides over the last few years and stated that he was concerned it would take a step backward if did not get the funding. He told that there were bids on the runway project and that the terminal was in the planning stages. He encouraged and asked the Board to give funding this fiscal year and told that he was afraid it would have a domino effect with other localities if the funding is cut. He told that the Airport is a good economic tool.

(Order)

CLOSED SESSION – PURSUANT TO VIRGINIA CODE SECTION 2.2-3711 (A1, A3, A5, A7)

Upon motion by Ms. Myers, seconded by Mr. Jones, and passed unanimously, the Board convened a Closed Session at 10:55 a.m. until 12:23 p.m. for the discussion of personnel issues as authorized by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A1), for the discussion of the acquisition of real estate as authorized by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A3), for the discussion of a prospective business as authorized by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A5), and for the discussion of legal matters concerning threatened litigation as authorized by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A7).

(Order)

CERTIFICATE OF CLOSED SESSION

Upon motion by Mrs. Nichols, seconded by Mrs. Myers, and passed unanimously, the Board adopted the following Resolution:

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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 public 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.

CARROLL COUNTY/TOWN OF HILLSVILLE JOINT UTILITY AGREEMENT

Mr. Brad Dalton told that the water and sewer agreement adopted in February was submitted to Rural Development. He told that the Rural Development Area Director on April 1 sent a letter listing 10 key concerns with the agreement and likely will not recommend approval of agreement. He told that a key concern was the rate of \$5.26/1000 and told that Rural Development was looking for a rate around \$3.50/1000. He told that the Town has made it clear they will not adjust the rate. He told that it was Mr. Chris Ashby's contention that Rural Development can't refuse the Agreement based on rate alone. Mr. Dalton stated that he thought they could refuse on this basis. He told that Mr. Ashby had made it clear the Town would not negotiate the rate. He stated that a revised Agreement had been e-mailed to him but that it did not address the concerns of Ms. Hamer. He told that this revised Agreement might have actually fixed a couple of concerns.

Mr. Dalton then told that the question was where to go from here. He then presented three options as follows:

1. Could pass Town's revised draft. He told that there was nothing in the revision that materially hindered the County and that a couple of things

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are better but deal did not get any sweeter. He told that he did not believe this would be breaching any implied understandings with the Town.

2. Stick with Agreement that the Board, PSA and Town have passed, send this to Rural Development and let them decide. He told that the two documents are not substantially different.

3. Could do draft revision from the County and send to the Town. He told that he felt this was a waste of time because the Town will not negotiate the rate.

Mr. Ray Hill told that there had been several meetings with Ms. Hamer and she does not feel like it is a good Agreement and is not going to recommend approval.

Mr. Dalton stated that the Agreement was heavily negotiated through fall and winter and a best faith effort was made but Rural Development is not satisfied.

Mr. Spencer stated the Agreement was signed subject to Rural Development approval and Rural Development should be asked to give an up or down.

Mr. Dalton stated that the question is which version to sent to Rural Development and told that he was not convinced either one will influence Rural Development's decision.

Mr. Jones commented that the Town is saying they want to work with the County but nobody is here to discuss this.

Mr. Dalton stated that Mr. Yonce was here but had to step out. He told that he had mentioned the meeting with them and they saw no reason to meet.

Mr. Evans asked how much time it would take to know Rural Developments answer.

Mr. Dalton told that Ms. Hamer will give an answer quickly.

Mr. Spencer told that he spoke with Richmond and they want a response by the 1st of June. He stated that he was told a response would be quick.

Mr. Early told to send the one most favorable to the County with the 5% surcharge deleted.

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Mr. Dalton reviewed Section 9.1 and told that if the Board ratified the Agreement it should do so with changing all 5% being deleted.

Mr. Spencer stated that if this revised agreement is a little better it should be sent.

Mr. Dalton told that a possibility was to adopt a revised version with changes of Section 9.1.1 changing 65% to 60%, and changes to Section 9.1.2 changing 65% to 60%.

SUPERVISORS TIME

Mr. Early told that it had been a hectic time for Ronald Newman but that the Board needed the agenda a little earlier. He stated that he had someone tell him that the meeting was on the Chillsnet schedule but then was taken off. He then told that Bill Worrell was on the NRSWC and is resigning. He then told that there was IRS guidance on people taking vehicles home that needed to be check on.

Mrs. Nichols asked about the ambulance billing service.

Mr. Newman told that this was addressed at the EMS meeting.

Mrs. Myers told that the statement needed to state it was not a bill.

Mrs. Nichols told that the Board doesn't always agree but that it needed to do the best it could for the people who put them in office. She told that the Board cared about the people and needed to keep the citizens at heart.

Mr. Spencer told that the Board had not discussed airport funding.

Mr. Early told that the Board did put \$40,000 in to get \$35,000 for an ambulance and this \$15,000 would be to get \$1m. He told that this is a critical year, and that he felt for the future years the funding will be less.

MOTION TO PUT BACK \$15,000 IN BUDET FOR AIRPORT

A motion was made by Mrs. Myers, with a second by Mr. Early, for \$15,000 to be put back in the budget for the airport.

Note: Mrs. Myers, Mr. Early, and Mr. Spencer voted Yes on the above motion.

Mr. Evans, Mrs. Nichols, and Mr. Jones voted No on the above motion.

No action was taken due to the tie vote.

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APPROVAL STIPEND IN BUDGET

Upon a motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Evans, and passed, the Board authorized putting stipends in the budget.

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

Mr. Spencer recommended thinking about the Airport.

Mr. Dalton told that Larry South, Town Manager, had indicated the 65% listed in Sections 9.1.1 & 9.1.2 of the water and sewer Agreement was an error. He advised that the Board and PSA may adopt with the changes but stated he was not sure if Town Council can consider these as typographical errors or if they will have to meet to ratify the Agreement.

(Order)

APPROVAL TO RATIFY REVISED AGREEMENT WITH TOWN

Upon motion by Mr. Early, seconded by Mrs. Myers, and passed unanimously, the Board ratified the revised water and sewer Agreement between Carroll County and the Town of Hillsville with the exception of typographical errors being corrected to 60%.

(Order)

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mrs. Myers, and passed unanimously, the Board adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Brian E. Spencer, Chairman

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Ronald L. Newman, Clerk