

February 14, 2006

The Carroll County Board of Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 14, 2006 in the Board Meeting Room of the Carroll County Governmental Center.

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

Mrs. Nichols called the meeting to Order at 9:05 a.m. and asked Mr. Larrowe to lead in prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mrs. Nichols stated the second paragraph under Board Appointment Reports needed to be correct to state "localities of the New River/Mount Rogers District made up the Area II Workforce Development Area."

(Order)

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon motion by Mrs. Myers, seconded by Mr. Martin, and passed unanimously, the Board approved the minutes from their regular meeting held on January 10, 2006 with the above listed amendment and as recorded in Minute Book No. 24 in the County Administrator's Office.

(Order)

### **APPROVAL OF PAYROLL**

Upon motion by Mrs. Myers, seconded by Mr. Martin, and passed unanimously, the Board approved the payroll for January 2006 and authorized the Chairman and Clerk, along with Bonita M. Williams, Treasurer, to sign on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> days of February 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**

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Upon motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Evans, and passed unanimously, the Board approved the County General Claims as presented this day and as evidenced by check numbers 79972-80170, 80237-80242, 80244-80246, and did approve the Carroll County Industrial Development Authority Claims as presented this day and as evidenced by check numbers 1625-1629.

(Order)

**APPROVE SHERIFF'S OFFICE APPROPRIATIONS**

Upon motion by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Martin, and passed unanimously, the Board approved appropriating the following grants or recovered funds to the Sheriff's Office 2006-2007 budget to the line items listed:

\$1,974.50 to line item Vehicle Supplies 031030-5409 for insurance reimbursement from VACorp

544.64 to line item 031020-5401 Travel Expenses recovered from the Supreme Court for Extraditions

24.00 to line item 031020-5401 Office Supplies for copies of reports to insurance companies

9,000.00 to line item 031020-1039 DUI & DEA for a DMV grant for overtime costs for Highway Safety & DUI/Impaired Driving Enforcement.

(Order)

**APPROVE BUDGET LINE ITEM TRANSFERS**

Upon motion by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Martin, and passed unanimously, the Board approved the following line item transfers:

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\$11,000.00 from Vehicle Purchase line item 011010-9020 to Governmental Center Telephones line item 011010-5203

\$14,000.00 from Vehicle Purchase line item 011010-9020 to Contract Services line item 011010-7005

\$1,000.00 from Travel Mileage line item 011010-5501 to Travel Expenses line item 011010-5504

\$80,000.00 from Board Reserve line item 011010-7006 to Carroll County EMS line item 032030-7007

\$900.00 from Resource Development Office line item 012030-7002 Office Equipment to County Administrator Office Supplies line item 012020-5401 for IT Department office supplies

Note: Mr. Early asked if the \$80,000 to Carroll EMS was to pay for full-time employees.

Mr. Larowe replied that it was and that the process had began to hire 7 of the 13 to run one full shift while looking to see if money could be saved by not running both ambulances 24 hours per day 7 days per week.

Mrs. Nichols asked if grants could be found to help pay for operations of Carroll EMS.

Mr. Larowe stated that it was hard to find grants for operations but this would certainly be looked into.

Mrs. Myers asked if the \$900 was not needed by the Resource Office.

Mr. Larowe stated that he was trying to reallocate funds to fill voids in the budget.

(Order)

### **APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS**

Upon motion by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Martin, and passed unanimously, the Board approved re-appropriating funds that have been collected or carryover funds to the following line items:

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\$19,263.06 to CC Expo line item 012050-5416 for proceeds from the County Fair

\$122,790.00 to New Fire Truck for Laurel Fork FD line item 032020-9000 from carryover funds

\$25,000.00 to Cana Rescue Squad line item 032030-5601 for proceeds from the sale of an ambulance

\$2,033.71 to Building Official Office Subscriptions line item 034010-5412 for proceeds from the sale of code books

\$67,593.00 to Homeland Security Grant line item 032020-9015 as funds collected from the Office of Domestic Preparedness – Homeland Security

\$215.68 to Board of Supervisors Travel Expenses line item 011010-5504 as reimbursement associated with the VACo Annual Meeting

Note: Mr. Early asked if the proceeds from the sale of equipment from Cana Rescue Squad were being used to off set the Squad's debt.

Mr. Larrowe told that the County was paying this money to the companies instead of sending it to the Squad.

### **BUSINESS RECOGNITION**

Mr. Larrowe announced that the Board was honoring Nester's Store and presented the following history of the store:

Nester's Store, Inc.

In September 1946, Delmon Nester and his father, Emmett Nester, opened a small store in the Laurel Fork Community. The business has been family owned and operating since that time, continuing to grow each year and moving into the present building in 1984. Formerly known as E.M. Nester and Son after the founders, the business incorporated in 1994 to become Nester's Store, Inc. The corporation is owned by members of the Nester family, with Delmon Nester serving as president of the board. His wife Rogene, son David and daughter Debra are the other corporate officers and are active in the management of the business. September 2006 will mark 60 years in business and service to the community for Nester's Store.

The Board then presented a Plaque of Appreciation to Mr. Delmon Nester and Mrs. Rogene Nester.

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Mr. Larrowe then announced that the Board would be honoring the Hillsville Diner and presented the following history of the Diner:

#### Hillsville Diner

The Hillsville Diner was purchased by Andy Howlett & Melvin Marshall. The diner was manufactured by the Jerry O'Mahoney Co. in New Jersey somewhere around the mid to late 1920's. It was moved to its present location, on Main Street of Hillsville in 1946. Most of the equipment behind the counter, such as the hoods, steam table, and breakfast cooking area are original.

Previous owners include Roy McPeak from 1949 – 1966  
Dempsey McPeak from 1966 – 1983  
C. D. Mac McPeak from 1983 - present

The Board then presented a Plaque of Appreciation to Mr. C. D. "Mac" McPeak.

#### **ANDY HALL – VIRGINIA'S ACORRIDOR**

Mr. Andy Hall, Virginia's aCorridor, presented the Board with the Executive Director's Report. He discussed the jobs that had been created and the capital investment for the region for 2005. He showed that over the past five years there had been 374 more jobs created than jobs lost for the region. He reviewed the prospect activity for 2005 and told that the website assisted with lead generation with 60 visitors daily to the website. He told that workforce and product development was key to the region and explained that companies are looking for a site that is ready to build upon. He then told that he had accepted another job and would be leaving aCorridor at the end of the month but encouraged localities to continue to support aCorridor.

Mr. Larrowe then presented Mr. Hall with a Plaque of Appreciation for his work and dedication to aCorridor.

#### **BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

Mr. Larrowe told that after review, all current members up for re-appointment to the Community Policy and Management Team were eligible for re-appointment.

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**COMMUNITY POLICY AND MANAGEMENT TEAM  
APPOINTMENTS**

Upon motion by Mrs. Myers, seconded by Mr. Martin, and passed unanimously, the Board appointed Mr. Teddy Felts, Ms. Barbara Boyd, Ms. Brenda Marrah, and Mr. Jeff Evans to the Community Policy and Management Team for a term beginning January 1, 2006 and ending December 31, 2006.

Mr. Larrowe then told that all the current members of the Court House Preservation Committee with the exception of Ms. Patricia Sebens had expressed a desire to continue serving on this committee. He told that the Board could fill this position or leave it unfilled.

Mr. Early nominated Mr. Ron Hall to fill the vacancy on the Court House Preservation Committee.

(Order)

**CLOSE NOMINATIONS – COURT HOUSE PRESERVATION  
COMMITTEE**

Upon motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Early, and passed unanimously, the Board closed nominations for the Court House Preservation Committee.

(Order)

**COURT HOUSE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

Upon motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mrs. Myers, and passed unanimously, the Board appointed Ms. Betty Geisler, Ms. Laura Bryant, Mr. Jim Kilbourne, Mr. Jack Lewis, Mr. Randall Gravley, Mr. Brian Spencer, and Mr. Ron Hall to the Court House Preservation Committee for a term beginning January 1, 2006 and ending December 31, 2006.

**ANIMAL SHELTER**

Mr. Larrowe told the Board that the Animal Shelter was in need of being repainted and that the low bid had been \$22,400. He told that Carroll County's share would be \$7466.66 but that this had not been budgeted for this year. He told that he had been in contact with the Galax City Manager and had received information about the inspection.

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Mr. Evans asked who had made the decision to paint the facility now.

Mr. Larrowe told that there had been a little discussion from the City of Galax with Mr. Newman and Mr. Woods. He told that the request had been made to delay this until after July 1.

Mr. Evans stated that this should be delayed but things such as the employees doing some of the work should be discussed to try to cut costs.

Mr. Larrowe told that he would have discussions with the City and that a solution would be worked out.

Mr. Larrowe then told that the printing of the Board Packets costs about \$1500.00 per year but that Crystal Swain had worked to put the packet information on a CD and that an alternative to the current packets may be laptop driven meetings. He then told that 911 service was available to the citizens in the Laurel Fork and Dugspur area and encouraged homeowners across the County to post their addresses so emergency personnel could easily locate them.

Mr. Larrowe then told that the Prescription Drug Card program was a huge success with people seeing savings. He told that currently 115 cards had been issued through the County Administrator's Office, 154 through the Department of Social Services, and 54 through Rooftop of Virginia.

Mr. Larrowe informed the Board of several items that were being worked on. He told that at the March 13 IDA meeting there would be a presentation concerning New Market Tax Credits and that on April 5 there would be a Smart Communities Conference. He told that he was working with companies to find a natural gas distributor, that he had been attending the aCorridor meetings, and that he was looking into solid waste alternatives by talking with several companies and was hoping to visit one company. He told that the Tourism Department had attended a regional tourism meeting with Virginia and North Carolina working together. He thanked Mrs. Nichols, Mr. Jones, Mr. Evans, and Mr. Clinton Willie for attending the VML/VACo Legislative Day and thanked Mr. Martin for hosting the Department Head meeting.

Mr. Larrowe told that at the last meeting it was announced that the Business Development Team was working with 11 companies. He told that the Team was now working with 23 businesses and that a member of the Team had accompanied one business as they went to a bank seeking financing.

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**ADOPT BUDGET CALENDAR – FISCAL YEAR 2006-2007**

Upon motion by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Martin, and passed unanimously, the Board adopted the following fiscal year 2006-2007 budget calendar:

1. February 14, 2006 Adopt budget calendar. County Administrator to advise all County Departments to submit budget requests to the County Administrator not later than March 1.
2. March 1-15, 2006 Budget presentations made to County Administrator.
3. March 21, 2006 Budget Workshop, 6:00 p.m.
4. April 11, 2006 Presentation of School Budget and direct advertising of School Budget.
5. April 25, 2006 Special Meeting for Public Hearing on School Budget and County Budget work session. Review first draft of County Budget.
6. May 9, 2006 Approve School Budget and budget work session. Direct advertising of County Budget synopsis.
7. May 17, 2006 Advertise County Budget synopsis. Advertise County Budget available to public.
8. June 13, 2006 Public Hearing on advertised County Budget.
9. June 20, 2006 Special meeting to adopt budget, make appropriations, and set tax levies, and close out fiscal year 2005-2006.
10. July 11, 2006 Final adopted budget available for distribution.

**REASSESSMENT DISCUSSION**

Janie Harrison, County Assessor, presented the Board with a history of the general reassessments since 1980. She pointed out that the sales ratio for the first year of the last reassessment was 89.6% in 2004 and had dropped to 85% for year 2005. She told that some years there is a drop in value of 4% and others it may only be 2% so the same percentage does not always apply. She indicated that if the County wanted to do a reassessment to take effect in 2008

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there was a need to get started now. She told that there were three options: Contract with an outside firm; Contract through the Mount Rogers Planning District Commission; or do an In-house Assessment. She told that all three would cost money.

Ms. Harrison told that doing the assessment in-house would be a new branch of work that would be an extension of the office. She stated that there would be a need to hire field personnel who would basically be 18-month employees and that some of the administrative and secretarial work would be done by the office. She told that office space and equipment would be needed and that the field personnel would either need a vehicle or need to be paid mileage. She stated that when using a contract company that company is bonded and assumes some liability but if this is done in-house the County bears the liability. She told that do to an in-house assessment there is a need to have another Assessor hired by January 1. She told that there are 32000 parcels of land in the County and that one person can look at about 30 parcels per day.

Mr. Martin stated that in 1998 the ratio was 76%. He told that the Board was uncomfortable with the low bid but it was the low bid. He told that with the ratio low the first year it only got worse over the 6 years which showed what could go wrong with a 6-year assessment. He told that he was opposed to the County doing its own assessment but after seeing the job done the goal should be to do an in-house assessment. He suggested that Carroll County, Grayson County, and the City of Galax might go together and would be able to keep employees full-time.

Ms. Harrison stated that this was a workable solution but there would be a need to work with the other localities to see if they were interested.

Mr. Martin asked what happened to the property value if a property were sold at an increased value.

Ms. Harrison stated that as long as the property was not split the tax value stays the same over the six years.

Mr. Martin stated that one of the arguments used for land use was that Carroll County was one of a few that didn't have land use to benefit the farmer. He told that Carroll County is one of only two or three still using the 6-year assessment with most using a 4-year cycle, some a 2-year cycle, and the larger localities using a 1-year cycle. He told that if the argument is used that everybody else is doing it the same argument could be used toward reassessment.

Ms. Harrison stated that the only reason Carroll County can do the 6-year assessment is due to being a rural locality with a population less than 50,000.

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She told that the only thing that needed to happen to change this was a Board decision. She commented that the Board might want to do a 5-year cycle and then move to a 4-year cycle.

Mr. Martin stated that the Assessors Office had done an excellent job and they could do a quality in-house reassessment.

Mrs. Nichols asked if the goal after the last assessment had been to do this in-house.

Ms. Harrison stated that this had been discussed since 1997. She told that the time frame is important because personnel will have to be trained.

Mr. Jones asked if the reassessment would be easier now since the records are on computer.

Ms. Harrison stated that she now has the records with pictures on the CAMA system and that there was a rate table with the rates being applied to things like new additions. She stated that properties do have to be reviewed to make sure they are in line with what the calculations produce.

Mr. Martin stated that he had studied reassessments as part of a class he took and that four years ago Alexandria City, which assesses every year, had a rate of 122%.

Mr. Dalton suggested that the problem with high rates is that companies coming in compare localities with low rates but high values or high rates with low values.

Ms. Harrison told that Wingate Appraisal done a good job in 2004 because they had to raise the values 60% to get the values where they should be.

Mr. Evans told that last year it was discussed possibly working with Galax and Grayson and that this should be looked into. He stated that the Board needs information on what could or would work.

Ms. Harrison stated that she had been giving this same presentation since 1997 but there had never been a decision to sit down and make plans.

Mr. Early stated that he did not think the County should look beyond doing a 4-year assessment. He told that this had been talked about for two years with lip service being given to a 4-year assessment and twice per year tax collection.

Mr. Martin suggested that the County may have to bridge into things with having an out of house assessment and then go to an in-house assessment.

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Ms. Harrison stated that after doing a 4-year assessment the Board might want to keep the staff and go to a 2-year cycle.

Mr. Early asked that options with time lines be presented at the next meeting.

Mrs. Nichols stated that the other localities needed to be contacted to see if they would cooperate.

Mr. Larrowe informed the Board that he did meet with the Treasurer, Commission of Revenue, and Assessor yesterday to discuss twice per year tax collections.

### **REGIONAL SERVICE RECOGNITION**

Mr. Larrowe told that it is a pleasure to recognize a state worker who has gone well above and beyond in their efforts to assist Carroll County. He told that Virginia Welcome Center Director Roger Carpenter had done just that. He told that Mr. Carpenter keeps Carroll County at the forefront of his work while meeting with tourists at the Lambsburg Welcome Center. He stated that in addition to this, Mr. Carpenter saw an opportunity to assist Carroll County even more. He told that while the Lambsburg facility was going to be renovated, Mr. Carpenter started the ball rolling to re-locate the Virginia Tourism Center Welcome Center to Exit 14 with the Blue Ridge Plateau Tourism Center. He told that today this idea is a reality and businesses at Exit 14 are very appreciative for the extra efforts. Mr. Larrowe stated that today Carroll County celebrates in giving Mr. Roger Carpenter a small token of appreciation as he presented Mr. Carpenter with a Certificate of Appreciation.

### **MOUNTAIN VIEW YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES**

Ms. Barbara Boyd, Mountain View Youth & Family Services Director, told the Board that the mission of the office was to promote positive youth and family development and to prevent juvenile delinquency. She stated that the office worked with the Virginia Tobacco Settlement Foundation whose mission was to lead a statewide effort to reduce and prevent the use of tobacco products by youth in Virginia. She told that students begin to experiment in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades and that the office was teaching the Life Skills Training to 675 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders. She told that Miss Virginia and the area General Assembly Delegates had made presentations to the youth and that the office had made presentations to the WAI youth as well as had presentations by the Carroll County K-9 unit.

Ms. Boyd told that the staff had become employees of the school system in September 2005 and that funding for the office comes from the Virginia

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Tobacco Settlement Foundation, Carroll County, and the Twin County United Way.

Mrs. Nichols commended Mountain View Youth & Family Services stating that they provide a lot of information to the youth and that the After Prom activities were appreciated by all.

Mr. Early stated that he commended the efforts to curb teenage smoking. He stated his displeasure with people being allowed to smoke in the stands at football games or outside the door during a basketball game. He stated that if Carroll County has a no smoking policy it should enforce it.

### **CITIZENS TIME**

No citizens came forth to speak during Citizens Time.

### **PUBLIC HEARING – DISPOSITION OF LAUREL FORK FIREHOUSE PROPERTY**

Mrs. Nichols declared the Public Hearing Open at 10:56 a.m.

Mr. Larrowe told that the purpose of this Public Hearing was to hear public comment pertaining to the possible disposal, sale, or lease of the old Laurel Fork Fire Station and Community Center. He then opened the floor for comments.

Mr. Sam Terry told that the Laurel Fork Community, Inc. was the lessee of the old Laurel Fork School site and was in the process of developing a community complex. He told that they had preserved the ball field and had build picnic shelters and a playground. He told that all facilities were used and that the next objective was to build a Community Center.

Mr. Terry told that it was the request of Laurel Fork Community, Inc. for the Board to sell the old community building and fire house that was built in 1966 by the community and given to the County and to donate the proceeds toward the new Community Center. He asked that the sale be subject to the Community using the upstairs of the building for approximately two years while the new building was being built.

With no one else to speak, the Public Hearing was Closed at 11:00 a.m.

(Order)

### **AUTHORIZE SALE OF LAUREL FORK FIRE STATION AND COMMUNITY CENTER**

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Upon motion by Mr. Early, seconded by Mrs. Myers, and passed unanimously, the Board authorized selling the Laurel Fork Fire Station and Community Center with the stipulation that the Community Center could use the upstairs portion of the building until a new Community Center is built and did designate the proceeds from the sale to be donated to Laurel Fork Community, Inc. to be used toward the building of a new Community Center.

Mr. Dalton suggested to the Board that it would be easier to donate the property to Laurel Fork Community, Inc. and allow them to proceed with the sale.

(Order)

**AMENDED MOTION – DISPOSITION OF LAUREL FORK FIRE STATION AND COMMUNITY CENTER**

Upon motion by Mr. Early, seconded by Mrs. Myers, and passed unanimously, the Board amended the above motion and did approve disposition of the Laurel Fork Fire Station and Community Center by deed of gift to Laurel Fork Community, Inc. upon the Laurel Fork Volunteer Fire Department relinquishing their leasehold to the property to the County, and did authorize the Chairman to execute said deed of gift.

Mr. Early asked Mr. Terry if the building was given to the County for insurance reasons.

Mr. Terry explained that the Fire Department had asked for assistance with improvements to the building and the County had said the only way they could do this was if the County held title to the property.

**DR. TOM LITRELL – TWIN COUNTY AIRPORT COMMISSION**

Dr. Tom Littrell, Twin County Airport Commission, told the Board that he was excited about what is going on at the Airport. He explained that the mission of the Airport is to better serve the business community, to facilitate area growth and economic development, and to encourage wider utilization by general aviation. He told that currently there are only six T-hangars which brings in 10% of the income for the budget but stated that there are 12 people on a waiting list. He told that the projected fuel sales profit for 2006 shows a \$13,000 increase.

Dr. Littrell then discussed the Airport Layout Plan and future project plans. He informed the Board that funding for the projects comes 95% from the FAA, 3% from State Aviation, and 2% local. He stated that a lot of money is brought into the area with little local investment. He told that Congressman Boucher had committed to increasing the runway to 5005 feet. He told that the

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Airport Capital Improvement Plan is a 6-year plan that sometimes does have to be changed.

Dr. Littrell told that he appreciated the support by the County and invited the Board to visit the Airport as well as invited any Board member that had not flown to take a flight with him.

Mrs. Nichols thanked Dr. Littrell for his work with the Airport Commission and told that she appreciated what was being done at the Airport.

Mr. Martin stated that there is a lot of potential at the Airport and that with the increased runway corporations can use it.

Dr. Littrell told that the area had the Interstate and the Airport and they were working to become an attraction to industry.

Mr. Larowe announced that Dr. Littrell had just returned from a mission trip to Costa Rica and applauded his work with youth.

### **GATEWAY TO COMMUNITIES PROJECT**

Mr. Jim Helvy, Virginia Department of Transportation, discussed the Gateway to Communities Project. He told that this program has great potential and that VDOT had been trying to find a place to get this started in Virginia. He stated that Carroll County would be a good place to start. He informed the Board that AmerLink had expressed an interest in the I-77 Route 58 intersection and explained that Carroll County would apply for a land use permit and then he would review the plan. He told that this would be a nice way to get good landscaping making an attractive entrance into the community.

Mrs. Nichols asked if the landscaping would be on both the exit and entrance runways.

Mr. Helvy told that this was what had been discussed.

Mr. Evans asked what the money would go to.

Mr. Helvy explained that the money would be used for installation and maintenance of material such as plants.

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Mr. Larrowe stated that Carroll County would be the first to adopt the Gateway to Communities Program. He recommended that a landscaping plan be reviewed for the entire intersection and recommended adopting the program.

Mr. Richard Spoor, AmerLink, stated that he would work with Mr. Larrowe on the plan.

Mr. Larrowe told that VDOT had been asked to help with the design and stated that assistance might be obtained from Virginia Tech.

Mrs. Nichols asked if the Board needed to adopt the plan today.

Mr. Helvy told that this would be appreciated so that plans and the application could be submitted.

Mr. Larrowe told that the Board could adopt the program and then when the plans are submitted hold public hearings on the plans.

(Order)

#### **ADOPT GATEWAY TO COMMUNITIES PROGRAM**

Upon motion by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Jones, and passed unanimously, the Board adopted the Gateway to Communities Program.

(Order)

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

Upon motion by Mrs. Myers, seconded by Mr. Martin, and passed unanimously, the Board convened a Closed Session at 11:32 a.m. until 12:30 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).

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**CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION**

Upon motion by Mrs. Myers, seconded by Mr. Evans, 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 and 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.

**SUPERVISORS TIME**

(Order)

**APPROVE IDA FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO KETTLE MASTERS, INC.**

Upon motion by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Early, and passed unanimously, the Board approved for the Industrial Development Authority to assist Kettle Masters, Inc. with financing to obtain additional equipment to upgrade the Cannery.

Mr. Evans told that the County needed to look at what equipment was needed and where it was needed for the fire departments and rescue squads. He told that he couldn't appreciate the volunteers enough but that the County needed to be preparing for what it needed to do and how to do it. He told that it might be best to have someone from the outside to look into this.

Mr. Dalton told that he and Mr. Roma had visited Surry County, North Carolina and received some good information on how to transfer Carroll EMS to a County department. He stated that this would take some time.

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Mr. Evans told that it looked like some of the bills for fire and rescue were out of control. He told that he looked at things like the phone bill and suggested that there might be a need to see a record of the calls made. He told that there was pride in local areas but he felt that the County should have Carroll County Fire Department and then maybe have the station name.

Mr. Jones asked if someone had looked at the trailers below Mountain Man where the insulation is coming out from under it.

Mr. Early told that the Fire Fund money received last year was \$51,983.96 and was split between the three departments. He told that in January 2005 the Board had approved \$3876.30 being used for a Hillsville Volunteer Fire Department truck payment with \$1194.70 of this coming from Cana's allocation and \$2681.60 coming from Laurel Fork's allocation. He told that he would like to see the money Cana and Laurel Fork had been shorted given back to them to be used for their benefit.

Mr. Martin stated that he had some questions but he just needed to sit down and discuss them with Gary.

Mrs. Nichols told that she had received a letter of appreciation from the Crooked Road for the funds from the County. She then thanked all those that could go to Richmond for Legislative Day and thanked Mr. T. C. Stacey for the good job he was doing in regard to litter and trash control.

Mr. Jones asked if the County would be getting the litter control grant.

Mr. Larrowe told that a letter had come in last year saying that was the final year.

Mr. Dalton presented the Board with a letter of representation from Mr. Eric Reeher, Elliott Lawson & Minor, to represent Carroll County regarding employment law issues. He told that this was in association with cleaning up the personnel policy and recommended approval by the Board.

Mr. Early asked if this could not be done in-house.

Mr. Dalton stated that the last time this was done by what the County considered an expert and was not satisfied with it. He stated that it would be better to hire an expert.

Mrs. Nichols asked if they would be re-writing the policy.

Mr. Dalton stated that they would be looking at wording and things like that to help clean up the policy.

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Mr. Early asked what the cost for this would be.

Mr. Dalton stated that it would be under \$2000.00.

Mr. Martin commented that one suit would cost more than \$2000.00.

(Order)

**APPROVE LETTER OF REPRESENTATION – ELLIOTT LAWSON & MINOR**

Upon motion by Mr. Early, seconded by Mrs. Myers, and passed unanimously, the Board approved and authorized acceptance of the Letter of Representation for Elliott Lawson & Minor to represent Carroll County regarding employment law issues.

**AMERLINK VISIT**

The Board visited the AmerLink sales center and the sawmill building construction site. During this visit Mr. Richard Spoor told the Board that AmerLink was out of money and would have to shut down construction this week if the Board did not help. He told that he did not see the deed and was not aware the free of any lien clause was in the contracts. He told that he had put \$2.5M of his own money into the project and now needed to borrow against the property. He stated that the County had given the property to them but now they can't use it as collateral.

Mr. Jones stated that this should have been worked out at the beginning.

Mr. Spoor replied that he needed help now. He told that the County had breached the contract but that he had not.

Mrs. Nichols stated that the County could not do anything until the Board found out from the Attorney would they could do.

Mr. Early asked Mr. Spoor is he had other property he could borrow against.

Mr. Spoor replied that he did but that he wasn't going to pay the 3% penalty to use the property in New York.

Mr. Evans stated that the County had done what it was supposed to do.

Mr. Spoor then stated that the tour was over.

(Order)

February 14, 2006

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion by Mrs. Myers, seconded by Mr. Early, and passed unanimously, the Board adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

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Sharon F. Nichols, Chairman

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Ronald L. Newman, Assistant Clerk

Note: Following the meeting, several Board members visited Virginia Produce to tour the facility.