

The Carroll County Board of Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on, November 14, 2017 in the Board Meeting Room of the Carroll County Governmental Center.

Present were: Joshua Hendrick
Rex L. Hill
Dr. Tom Littrell
Bob Martin
Phil McCraw
Robbie McCraw
Steve Truitt, County Administrator
Nikki Cannon, Assistant County Administrator
Steve Durbin, County Attorney

Mr. Martin called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

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

Upon motion by Mr. Phil McCraw, seconded by Mr. Rex Hill, and passing, the Board convened a Closed Session for the discussion of personnel, legal matter, as authorized by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A1, A5, A7).

Mr. Durbin explained the reasons for entering Closed Session.

1. Discussion or consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body; and evaluation of performance of departments or schools of public institutions of higher education where such evaluation will necessarily involve discussion of the performance of specific individuals. Any teacher shall be permitted to be present during a closed meeting in which there is a discussion or consideration of a disciplinary matter that involves the teacher and some student and the student involved in the matter is present, provided the teacher makes a written request to be present to the presiding officer of the appropriate board.

5. Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community.

7. Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body; and consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. For the purposes of this subdivision, "probable litigation" means litigation that has been specifically threatened or on which the public body or its legal counsel has a reasonable basis to believe will be commenced by or against a known party. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick Yes
Mr. Phil McCraw Yes
Mr. Hill Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw Yes
Dr. Littrell Yes
Mr. Martin Yes

(Order)

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

Upon motion by Mr. Hendrick, seconded by Mr. Phil McCraw, and passing, the Board adopted the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Carroll County Board of Supervisors convened a Closed Session 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 this Closed Session was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting to which this certification applies.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick	Yes
Mr. Phil McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

Dr. Littrell lead in the pledge.

Mr. Hendrick lead in invocation.

(Order)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Hendrick told that he would like to add request for buses.

Upon motion by Mr. Hendrick, seconded by Mr. Robbie McCraw and passing, the Board approved the agenda.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick	Yes
Mr. Phil McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

Mr. Martin told that they belong to an organization, VACo and once a year they have a conference with sessions. He told they gave a long presentation on what they expect from the State for next year and frankly he doesn’t know much more than when he started. He told that it appears it will still be a tough time.

Ms. Cannon told that according to the presentation, it was based on the 1st quarter of the year so it is going to be dependent on the economy. She told we have 3 more quarters to go and their estimates are actually higher by about 1.5%.

Mr. Truitt told that they are being optimistic on what we are going to spend on things like medicade and things like that.

Dr. Littrell told that there are at least 15 seats that have switched so the best the republicans can bet on is 51 to 49 and democrats have a different take on social programs. He told that we will have to wait until the new General Assembly meets to see what happens.

Mr. Martin told that we will be cautious on expenditures.

(Order)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Mr. Hendrick, seconded by Mr. Phil McCraw and passing, the Board approved the minutes of the meeting on October 16, 2017.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick	Yes
Mr. Phil McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon motion by Mr. Hendrick, seconded by Mr. Robbie McCraw and passing, the Board approved the Consent Agenda except #1 and #15.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick	Yes
Mr. Phil McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE / RESOLUTION

Mr. Martin asked what is being presented.

Mr. Truitt told that it is the same as the State.

Mr. Hendrick asked what is on our approved schedule for this year around Christmas.

Mr. Truitt told it is Christmas Eve, Christmas Eve and New Years Day.

Ms. Adams told they give exactly what we already have.

Mr. Martin asked about the additional days.

Mr. Truitt told those were Good Friday and the following Monday but they aren't on here.

Mr. Hendrick told he would like to see March 30th added.

Mr. Hill told he would like to see all of the offices open at the same time. He told it makes it difficult for some people to be in the office and some people not.

Mr. Phil McCraw told he doesn't see anything wrong with adding Good Friday.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told that he likes to idea of following the State but he thinks it is the right thing to do is give Good Friday.

Upon motion by Mr. Phil McCraw, seconded by Mr. Hendrick and passing, the Board approved the Holiday Schedule adding March 30th as Employee Appreciation Day.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick	Yes
Mr. Phil McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

SCHOOL APPROPRIATION

Upon motion by Mr. Hendrick, seconded by Mr. Phil McCraw and passing, the Board approved an additional appropriation for grant funds received in the amount of \$210,145.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick	Yes
Mr. Phil McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

NALOXONE GRANT

Upon motion by Mr. Hendrick, seconded by Mr. Phil McCraw and passing, the Board approved an additional appropriation for the Sheriff's Department for \$3000 from DCJS for Narcan, to combat deaths due to drug overdose.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick	Yes
Mr. Phil McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

RURAL RUSTIC RESOLUTIONS

Upon motion by Mr. Hendrick, seconded by Mr. Phil McCraw and passing, the Board approved the Rural Rustic Resolutions as presented.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick	Yes
Mr. Phil McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

PERSONNEL POLICY

Upon motion by Mr. Hendrick, seconded by Mr. Phil McCraw and passing, the Board approved the Personnel Policy change as presented.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick	Yes
Mr. Phil McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

NATURE CONSERVANCY

Mr. Hendrick told this is not a federal or state ran agency. He told this is a non-profit that receives funding from some governmental and individuals.

Mr. Truitt replied correct.

Mr. Martin told the Nature Conservancy did own 40 acres of the Carter Property and the property this building is sitting on.

Mr. Hill told that typically they purchase property and hold until another state agency purchases from them.

Mr. Martin told that originally the County proposed we buy 4 acres and they said we will not sell any part but will sell the whole thing.

Mr. Hendrick told that they have requested tax exemption for Real Estate, is that because they are a 501 C3 or because they are in a conservation district.

Mr. Truitt told he believes it is just because they are just a 501 C3.

Mr. Hendrick told that he knows a little about the land and he would like to see the conservation agreement.

Mr. Martin asked where the parcel is.

Mr. Hendrick told that it is on Keno Rd. right before the Parkway.

Mr. Martin told that he thinks George L. Carter sold this boundary of property and he gave the land and \$40,000 for them to take it and when the County bought it they gave \$100,000 to buy the property.

Mr. Hendrick told if a conservation agreement is not necessary to get a tax exemption does that mean other 501 C3 can do the same.

Mr. Truitt told that being a 501 C3 does not exempt you from Real Estate Tax.

Mr. Durbin told that you would have to pass an ordinance to even permit you to exempt it. He told that he doesn't see where we have that ordinance on the books that would allow the Board to do that.

Mr. Truitt told that the reason he brings it up is there are numerous churches in the area that have applied and received a 501C3.

Mr. Truitt told there is no law that says we have to do it or that they are entitled to it.

Mr. Durbin told that he can prepare a draft ordinance and do the pros and cons.

Mr. Hendrick asked if the Board is acceptable for the counsel to do pros and cons.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told that he is okay with that.

Mr. Durbin told that there is an application that has been used by the Commissioner's Office.

Mr. Martin told that somebody has to pay taxes and he doesn't mean to be a scrooge but it could open a can of worms. He told we can do pros and cons.

(Order)

FARP

Upon motion by Mr. Hendrick, seconded by Mr. Phil McCraw and passing, the Board approved the Fire Apparatus Replacement Plan with the only change being the cost divided over two fiscal years.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick	Yes
Mr. Phil McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

SAM DICKSON – SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY

Mr. Dickson told that he serves on the Solid Waste Authority along with Mr. Truitt and Benny Robinson. He told that Galax and Grayson also have representatives. He told that we do not have a Board Member on Solid Waste and if you need to replace me he has no problem with it and you really need a Board Member on there. He told the Solid Waste Authority is solid financially, there is an excellent manager over there. He told that the post closure is going to end in 2044. He told that cell 2 is going to be constructed in 2018 and they are already getting permits. You have 6 cells and if you went in that order #3 needs a lot of fill so it will be very expensive. He told we are going to get a permit amendment to change the order. The compaction rate has increased from 11,000 pounds to 14,000 because they bought a heavier compactor. The total estimated life of this facility is 40 years. He told that they have several pieces of new equipment including a new tarp that can be rolled out each evening. He told they have a new building, they had a trailer and they were wasting more money in heating and cooling. He told they paid for it as they went. He told they also bought 35 acres of land that they will use for the fill dirt. He told it joins Nelson Worrall's place. He told we needed a fence around it and they fenced it with his crew of men for about 1/3 of the cost of hiring someone to do it.

Mr. Martin told once before there was additional land purchased and it was the same deal.

Mr. Dickson told the employees, once they are hired they stay. He told if you ever see any problems let us know. He told there are very few complaints. He told a cell normally costs millions. He told there are no DEQ violations and they started something that costs a little money but it is worth it. You can bring hazardous waste at no cost. He explained the kinds of products that they will take and told they also have a shredding event.

Dr. Littrell told that he knows you are a progressive thinker but have we ever looked at waste to energy instead of burying it.

Mr. Dickson told that there is not enough to make it worthwhile. He told that Galax tried burning and they quit it.

Mr. Hendrick told they had Draper Aden work plans up with a collection system and it cost way more to collect it but it doesn't cost much more to add the collection system later. He told as the landfill grows it may be something to look at.

Mr. Martin told that he remembers years ago people would say they were being robbed and it was close to \$17,000 per year to run the landfill.

Mr. Dickson told that he is only aware of one small increase, they try to keep the cost low.

Mr. Hendrick told that on the land, without that 35 acres you may only have 10 years left instead of 40.

(Order)

KEVIN SEMONES – FAIR UPDATE

Mr. Martin started by saying Kevin, I thought you walked on water because during that last County Fair we had over there it was one compliment directed toward you after another, and I thank you on behalf of all the compliments I heard from citizens.

Mr. Semones replied that number one, they don't need to be directed at me; they need to be directed to a pile of people, okay. It takes a pile of people to do all that work.

Mr. Martin said well, you are sort of on the top of the pile.

Mr. Semones said before we get to this year's list of kind of what we did this year, I know most of you all know that last year's fair earned you all the Best Small Fair in the State. It won you something else that most of you didn't see. It was actually the Best Overall High Point Fair in the State last year, the 2016 Fair. The 2017 Fair will be graded in 2018; that's just the way it works. It was kind of mistakenly given to another County to start with but it come back to us so I thought you might want to see that upfront. I don't know where to really start at. This was by far the biggest Fair we've ever had. Each day was bigger than that same day last year. Some days were tremendously bigger. Friday night was a knock down; those who were there know we ran out of parking. That was really a challenge on Friday night. We worked a little harder Saturday; we didn't quite run out on Saturday night but by far Saturday was the biggest day of the Fair. It's a little hard to estimate your gate attendance simply because we do different fees for different ages. To take the middle of the road, you're probably looking at 18 to 20 thousand people coming through the gates during the four days of the Fair. The sponsorship money tends to grow every year as well. That's from a lot of your local businesses and folks. This year you're well in excess of 10 thousand there besides money that you all put up. The Fair can't be done without a lot of money; we all know that. It takes a lot of people too. We've got a lot of good people which is what you were getting at. It takes everybody and then some; we're always looking for more, to do more events, to do different events, and do all the events we're doing even better. Let me throw a few numbers out here and I'll answer questions of where we need to go to. One of our big deals is we always do Ag Education Days, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, with the second and third grades in Carroll County and second and third grades with the City of Galax. We have invited Grayson County Schools for several years now; they actually brought two of their schools this year. The hope is that they bring more next year which may mean we're going to have to have another day and that's really going to complicate things but my group really thinks that's important. One of our big goals is to try to educate people about the importance of Ag here in both this county and the region. We've really got a lot of diversity if you look around. Carroll is one of the more diverse Ag counties in the state. Last month, Virginia Farm Bureau and RFD TV came here and done a story on Carroll Ag. They got to quizzing me about the Fair while we were working on the story. They

kind of put a hard question to me; they said what makes this Fair so good? We get lots of folks coming and looking at what we're doing and why this one's working when others are not? It sounds like I'm bragging; I don't mean to be. I'm bragging on the people that do the job. It's the people. We've got people who work these events whether it's Eddie and Rylan on the Horse Show or whatever the event it is, Crystal, over here, on the beauty pageant. It doesn't matter what the event is, we've got somebody with a little expertise that knows how to make it work if it takes that. Ag Education Days, second and third graders, is over 900 in attendance over 3 days. Carroll County Farm Bureau Young Farmers Committee do the Friday deal; that's the fifth graders at Carroll County only. That's about 300 kids. Any of you who haven't been, there's different stations set up each day of the Fair during the daytime when the school kids come. We really appreciate the schools working with us on that also. We may teach them; Bennie may do something on bees, somebody may teach them about taking care of horses or animals of any type, lawnmower or ATV safety. There's all kinds of different stations; we try to vary it from year to year. We started something a little different; we seen Magnolia do this. They did a presentation for us year before last and it kind of gave us an idea that we took off on. We kind of want to take the kids from a raw Ag product that we may produce here or not. We've kind of got goals of doing forestry products that way, cabbage and maybe other products and showing them what it goes through from a raw product on. I think it's really important that they see and understand that. The barn yard is always a hit with little kids. We may live in a rural county but a lot of them don't really see these animals. They may ride by and see them for what they are. The Beauty Pageant I think had 53 girls this year. The Bench Show and Treeing Contest: I wasn't sure that one would ever work to be honest with you but it's getting to the point you can't hardly do it and the Horse Show on Sunday. Between the dog trucks and the horse trailers, it's pretty packed so we put a theory out on the floor and we'll go look at it again in January about something we can do to alleviate that a little bit. Carnival: we're still using Brinkley's; they do us a great job. The carnival company we've had a chance to work with that's been around, they're normally hard to beat for us. Corn Maze: 1,500 + folks went through it. Justin Barnard, our GIS guy, does a great job planning that out. We have some other guys that plant and take care of it to that point. It's been a big hit. I don't know if we'll do it another year; we need to sit down and have some discussions about parking problems. I don't know if that's part of the parking solving or not, just a thought. Drug Dog Demonstrations: The Sheriff's department comes over and helps with that, Terry Woods also. It's really a big hit; a lot of people sit there and look at that on Saturday and more every time. You never can walk away from it. Equipment Displays: We've struggled with that over the years; David Padgett works a lot on the new equipment. Ronald, myself, Randy Horton, can't say enough about Randy; I probably need to thank him more than anybody for all the antique tractors and stuff setting there in front. He really works hard on that. We've got a little different plan for that next year as well; Randy had a thought he wants to try so we going to try something a little different. Exhibit Hall: Overall, I think the Exhibits were well up this year. Crops may have been a little off; it wasn't an ideal crop year. Between photography and other stuff, it was great. Steve worked on a program trying to get our registration working a little faster than what it's been. Every year we try to figure out something to get us a little better; hopefully, we're doing that. Forestry Events: Brad Carico, he has kind of took that event over for about the last three years and it grows every year. I can see that becoming one of our nighttime events. Right now, it's an event on Saturday morning. He gets a lot of sponsorship on that and there's a lot of folks that's really interested in the chainsaw cutting, cross-cut saw cut, log roll and that type of stuff that the forestry boys do. Forestry is a big part of Ag in this county so I can see that event keep on growing and getting bigger. Homegrown Authors: Anybody who is a local author can set up to sell their books, talk about their books, give you a chance to talk to them. A lot of folks enjoy that. Horse Pull: We've done a horse pull at the County Fairs for as long as I can remember I guess. We've got two guys who've got the experience and got this thing working really well for us right now. We had eighteen teams this year; I think that was bigger than the New River Valley and almost rivals the West Virginia State Fair. That one's going well. Horse Show: We had a new lady take that over about two years ago; this is her second year. She's doing us a great job. Our biggest thing, we can't hardly get the show in on Sunday; We end up under the lights on Sunday night. It's a good place for kids to learn to start and that's what we intended for it to be. Lawnmower Race: I don't know how you handle a much bigger crowd on Saturday night. Like I said, we had everything parked to the gates over to the ball fields. I would have

probably parked on the ball fields if I had to. They were parked back out the roads on the State grounds, anywhere we could but it was still a problem on Saturday night. We tightened parking up a little, down on the banks a little more than we did on Friday night, that helped us a lot on Saturday to save a little room. Parking is the number one problem. Livestock Shows: The first year we had the fair at the VFW, we basically done a sheep show. Thanks to a couple of veterinarians around here, we had several sheep shows that year. To give you just a few numbers, on Dairy there were 22 animals, on Beef there were 16. Some of those came down from Washington County which is a pretty good distance. Point is we had several kids showing that we didn't have years ago. It's good to have that many. The Poultry Show was added three or four years ago, we had 35 exhibitors in that group. The Rabbit Show had 9 exhibitors with 33 rabbits; Goat Show, 11 exhibitors, 19 goats; Lamb Show was a big deal with 43 exhibitors with 103 lambs. Basically, all of that happening on Saturday afternoon starting about 10 o'clock. It's getting almost so big to where you can't get the next event ready because the other is trying to get done. Stockman's Contest is usually done on Thursday and FFA pretty much handles that. Different FFA groups come in and judge live livestock as well as meats; it went well. We get more teams each year; we've had that about three years now. Music: Annabelle Primm handles that. We do mostly country music. We've got some theories and things we'll be looking at there over the next couple of years. Pet Show: Basically, the high school Interact Club handles that for us for about the last three years. They do a good job. A lot of people really enjoy that. Pig Races: That was a new event this year. Some of your bigger fairs have this event; they pay five thousand plus to bring a professional in and do that. We had a professional do it in-house, a professional comedian at least and she did a great job. That was voted our best event at our first meeting afterwards. She said she is done working on it for next year. Recipe Contest: We had several there. Emily Padgett, Pat Burkholder, my wife and some other folks work on that quite a bit. That's growing every year. The lady who won the Eggs O'lay got second place at the State Fair for her dish this year. That was pretty great. Story Telling: We got a little more competition on that. Vicky Town handles that for us. We get more people doing that each year. Wrestling: It's always a hit.

Mr. Martin stated you're sort of just breezing over wrestling. The Boogie Woogie man was there; 95 years old and weighed 64 pounds but he was there. Then you had several of the gals; I'd say they could probably take you, Steve, with one arm behind their back. They were big gals. I'd like to see the Sheriff's department and maybe Robbie McCraw and Steve tag team with two of the Sheriff's department or something; get something local. Just everything was a hit. It's just a ton of people but I know it probably wouldn't go without your name on it too. May I ask a question? Can we close down the Interstate and take over the southbound lane and put some stuff there? Being serious for a change, that is the best site in the whole world from the standpoint of the busy highways.

Mr. Semones replied that if the Farmers Market ever had anything going for it, it was location. If the Fair had anything going for it there, it's location too.

Mr. Martin responded that I guess if you can pay for it, you can do anything. I've thought about you've got all of that dirt on that hill and if you could pipe that branch coming down. You could level that whole place off over there. You would pick up a tremendous amount of land.

Mr. Semones said that there are several things I've looked at. Actually, Rex has ridden around with me a little already. You own a little bit of land past the rear fence, to the south of the market. The chain link fence there is not the market line. That was put up by federal grant money probably the first or second year I was there at the market. I chose not to go across that creek because I didn't see we had the need for it at that time. Creek crossing was expensive and caused problems that were expensive so we didn't go across it. There's about another acre or acre plus out there. I have one theory; I don't know if my original theory's going to work but if some folks go along, I would like to clean that up. It's got some small trees on it, not much timber value. It may not be my original thought of what I thought it was going to work for but we need to use any amount of land we've got, period. There's another tract of land that somebody else owns that we're seeing if there's any chance we might could rent or somehow barter with on that. Your idea is great and I think it'll take some of yours to work with DEQ and everybody else if we do

travel across the road. The top of the hill, how you deal with it whether you cut the Corn Maze down a little bit, there's a couple of fields up there we've just been using basically to bush hog and clean a little bit on every year and get a few more trees down. We might want to look at doing that. Allen Lawson has looked at it a little bit for me as far as seeing if there's a simple second way to create a road going up the hill. We use an old road to get up there. Thanks to DLB and Turman's, we got a bunch of millings a few years ago to take care of the first road he built. We need to have another way in and out. Nikki had another theory about the possibility of coming out where Ben's Flea Market is but I can't remember if the property goes that far. If we had access that way, it might keep us off the hill. There's some options there. I know there've been talks and things about other properties. There has been quite a bit of investment by the County with putting lights and power in. You've got some infrastructure there already as far as the driveways, pavement and gravel. It's going to cost wherever you go to. It sounds like I'm being negative to the Fair; I'm not. Truthfully, you all have no idea, and I'm not saying that with any disrespect; in general County Fairs are going away. You all have got one that's growing still. That's lots of things you could add if we could move the lawnmower race to another location on the property for Friday night, we have an excellent event for Friday night. I can't get too into the details right now; it is the event for Friday night. If we move that, it opens that center area up to doing an event every night. We could then move Brad's Forestry event to Wednesday night or Thursday night. Your other fairs do really well with certain events and I don't know, we may want to create our own or do a demolition derby. There's lots of things out there we can do; there's things we can do in-house. Some people question why you do a Corn Maze at the Fair? We do a Corn Maze at the Fair because years ago we couldn't get a decent carnival company at the Fair so the Corn Maze was something we thought we could do. If you look at the goals of the Fair, there's about five goals we try to meet. One of those is to create a fun environment for people of all ages; I think you all are accomplishing that; there's something there for everybody. I guess the one most important to me is to try to get people to understand the importance of Ag and how big it is to this community and this county. I think you've got a lot of folks doing a lot of things: Farm Bureau; I can't get the cars parked without Search & Rescue; there's a lot of critical people that make this thing work.

Mr. Martin responded that these guys with equipment are essential; you have to have a lot more track and completely take the track down.

Mr. Semones said that Terry Jennings spends two to three days doing that and won't hardly take fuel money. He does it on his own. We have all kinds of folks furnishing equipment, tractors, wagons, and so on. While it looks like it costs a lot, if you really had to pay for all of it, it's untold what it would cost.

Mr. Martin stated that it is a very positive thing and certainly, I think I'm safe in speaking for the Board, the job you do at the Farmers Market is great. You deserve eighteen pats on the back.

Mr. Semones expressed his Thanks and asked if the Board had any questions or was confused on anything that was being done.

(Order)

SHORT TERM RENTAL ORDINANCE

Mr. Martin told that he thinks this has been less than a positive experience.

Mr. Truitt told that people have felt singled out and like it was an attempt to establish a business license which it really isn't so what we are doing is leaving it as it is and doing away with the \$50.00 to register. He told the penalty for not registering will remain in place. He told the good news is we have identified a lot of properties that were under the radar before.

Mr. Martin asked for the people who have paid the \$50.00 fee what happens.

Mr. Truitt told we will give it back.

Mr. Durbin told that the way it is drafted right now we can reduce it or abolish it. He told that he would also delete sub paragraph c.

Dr. Littrell asked if we are going to make any effort to see if compliance is there.

Mr. Truitt told he can't speak for the Commissioner's Office but they have already made efforts. He told that it appears to be yes.

Mr. Hendrick asked the what the thoughts of the Commissioner's Office is.

Mr. Truitt told that she is okay with it.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told that he feels like leaving the penalty will help with people being compliant.

Upon motion by Mr. Robbie McCraw, seconded by Dr. Littrell and passing, the Board approved to eliminate the \$50 fee and to remove subsection c of the ordinance.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick	Yes
Mr. Phil McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

TAX RECEIVABLES

Dr. Littrell told that he wanted to open discussion on a subject that he considers very important to the financial health of Carroll County. He told that last month he voted to approve the Revenue Anticipation Note which is similar to a line of credit. The Treasurer had forecast that the cash flow in the County would be insufficient to meet the obligations in the near future. This condition would be corrected later as the real estate and personal property taxes were collected, in the mean time without the revenue anticipation note might have been forced to initiate a government shutdown which would mean unable to pay employees' salaries, electric bills and other expenses. He told that he really wasn't in favor of the motion to approve but also knew that we had to do that in order to pay our expenses. He told there is a cost to having a revenue anticipation note because you have to pay a certain amount plus interest on any amount that is used. He told the reason he didn't want to vote for it is because it ends up costing the county additional money from our budget which is already tight and it is tight because we could have tapped into over \$5 million of our own money. He told you might ask where is that \$5 million and told that is the latest total of delinquent taxes that is on our books. According to today's list there is a little over \$2 million in uncollected personal property tax and about \$2.9 million in real estate. He told the percent of tax collected has decreased from the high 90's to about 93% last year. He asked if we were sending out past due bills on a timely basis. He told that he can relay a personal experience that just happened to him about that. He told that he is treasurer of his church and the process is the bills come to the church, the secretary or the pastor collects them and put them in his box and he picks up on a Sunday and pays them from his office. He received the tax ticket and paid on October 26th of this year. In a week or so he received a receipt and also a bill for the 2016 bill which included penalty and interest. He told thinking it was a mistake he searched his records to find that he had paid 2013, 2014, 2015 but apparently 2016 was not paid. He told he has no idea how that happened but his question is why did it take 10 months to receive a second billing, are there other unpaid taxes that haven't been billed and sent out in a timely fashion. He told according to the state tax code the Board is suppose to receive a list of delinquent taxes and he read the code in part, by August 1 of each year the Treasurer must provide a list of uncollectable and delinquent taxes of June 30th and the lists are as follows; real estate, tangible property and some

others. He told the Treasurer must submit the list to the Board at their first meeting after the completion of the list. He told that he has been on the Board for almost 10 years and he only remembers getting that list once. He told if you will notice the code said must not may or might. He told he has some questions for the Treasurer, why are our percentages of paid taxes on time only about 93% when historically it has been in the high 90's, why aren't past due tax tickets being sent out in a timely manner, and why isn't the Board of Supervisors receiveing a list of uncollected taxes on a yearly basis as demanded by the code of Virginia. He told that if we had collected only ½ of the uncollected taxes on the books, we would not have needed the revenue anticipation note which would have saved the County money. He told that he has had taxpayers ask him why do they have to pay their taxes when so many others are not paying taxes. He told that he feels like if he doesn't point out the problem, he becomes part of the problem.

Mr. Martin told that the Board has had many discussions about lowering taxes and it seems to be going the other way and part of the problem where Dr. Littrell just gave the case is people have to pay their taxes and the second part of the equation is the Board in the very near future is going to start taking a long hard look at expenses and if you can get revenue up and expenses down it allows the Board to do a lot of things. He told he thinks you will see this Board going in a different direction and it will occur soon.

(Order)

SCHOOL BUSES

Mr. Truitt told that he was informed that there is a deal available to purchase as many as five school buses for 35% off the normal price. He told that for the buses they are interested in purchasing, the price would normally would be \$435,000 and the price with the discount is about \$284,000. In order to take advantage the County in some form or fashion has to commit by December 1st so the question on the table is, nothing has been worked out she just brought this down today, she is interested to know if there is any interest in committing to this deal. He told that it is with Thomas Built buses and they are Detroit diesel. He told the question is are we interested in adding to the budget money to cover some or all of these buses. He told that we don't have to buy or pay for them until next year but we have to send in a letter of commitment by December 1st.

Mr. Martin asked if it would be \$284,000.

Mr. Truitt told that is for four regular school buses and one special needs.

Mr. Hendrick asked what is currently on the CIP.

Mr. Hill told there are buses on there.

Mr. Hendrick told that we have buses every year, if possible.

Mr. Martin told we didn't buy buses last year.

Ms. Cannon told that it is subject to funding.

Mr. Phil McCraw asked when you had the discussion did she say what the school system would be willing to do.

Mr. Truitt told that she didn't, but he said to her that she needs to be thinking along those lines. He told that she didn't make any commitment, I guess she was hoping for the best. He told that it would seem like a shame to leave these buses on the table but the school in his opinion need to participate atleast in equal percent.

Mr. Phil McCraw told that he could go along with that, equal parts. He told that Thomas Built Buses is in High Point and he is assuming that the pickup of the discount with Detroit Diesel would have Detroit Diesels in them.

Mr. Truitt replied yes.

Mr. Hendrick told for FY18 they have three priorities listed as requests and one of those was part of the roof at the high school.

Mr. Truitt told they still have that issue.

Mr. Hendrick replied correct. He told he was trying to get in touch with his dad in between and his understanding is they may have bids on the roof.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told there is an RFP on the website.

Mr. Hendrick told they have the bids in, did Tammy mention how that impacts any of this request and approaching for additional funds. He told from what he has learned they may request additional funds for the roof as well.

Mr. Truitt told that we did not get into that and in fact there is not a hard boundary around the whole budget. He told if we push this into next year then everything is open for discussion. He told the answer to your question is no.

Mr. Hendrick told that it sounds like the roof would not be in next years budget. He asked how much was appropriated for CIP.

Ms. Cannon told that it was none in our budget. She told they may have some in their own budget.

Mr. Hendrick told that he just wanted to know how this all ties together and if the school system did not want him to then he apologizes in advance but if we are going to commit to buses how does that impact the roof. He told it goes back to the same discussion we have had the last six years, this is still not the solution to the way we are handling it. He told you can't kick maintenance down the road but so long until it becomes a necessity.

Mr. Martin told to him it just makes Dr. Littrell's case, we should have a better tax money in we could pay this and several other things.

Mr. Hendrick told from the 5% difference that is almost \$1 million. He told we do have a lot of needs, it is the County to. He told if we have to give a commitment on the buses we are going to have to shoot from the hip. He wanted everyone to be aware that there are other things out there to and what position do stand in for even half the buses right now.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told that he feels like if we make the commitment to half of the buses that is all we can do.

Mr. Martin asked don't we have a responsibility along with the School Board to maintain these buildings and safety for school buses, he told that it is a bitter taste for him.

Mr. Hendrick told he just wants to make everyone aware, money doesn't grow on trees. If we make this commitment to maintenance it has to come from operations somehow.

Mr. Hill told that we have emergency vehicles that need to be replaced as well.

Mr. Hendrick told he is not going to be here during the budget process but if that commitment is made some serious consideration is going to have to be given as to where that money comes from, are you going to raise taxes, cut whether it be county general, sheriffs office, school, every list that we go down how do you get that money back. He told we are at the point now that we don't have room to spare. He told that we entered into the budget and the school had requested \$250,000 in engineering fees for the next phase at the high school and we said on best faith that we can't commit to it but if the budget turns out better than expected we would do what we could.

Mr. Durbin told to the extent pertaining to a legally binding commitment that would bind a future board where there has been no appropriation, I don't think we can do that. He told if it is a contingent agreement, all he is saying is if there is a motion to approve this he would want it to be contingent upon review of legal to make sure we are not exceeding our authority.

Mr. Hill told the last couple of years we have had to make additional appropriations the later part of the year.

Mr. Hendrick told that it will come again, we ain't done yet.

Mr. Martin told he doesn't like this stuff. He told he goes home and can sleep because he knows he has done the very best he can but he doesn't want to be in the situation, he knows the buses are getting older and the bus garage does a good job but he doesn't want to go to bed and think about well you could have gotten the buses and maybe there wouldn't have been that wreck. He told he goes home and knows he has done the best he can. He told he personally would be in favor of Steve's suggestion about approving on a contingent basis.

Mr. Hendrick told that apparently they are not used to dealing with local government because nobody sets a two week deadline.

Mr. Durbin told that is a concern. He told there is reference in the state contract but right now we are just going on not having seen it.

Mr. Phil McCraw told we are shooting from the hip.

Mr. Martin told that it would be nice if somebody was here going over this stuff.

Mr. Truitt told that he didn't know if this could be solved or not but he wanted you to know because of the savings.

Mr. Phil McCraw told that it would have been helpful if someone was here from the school system.

Mr. Truitt told that he is just guessing but it looks like the way this program is laid out it would physically replace some of the old buses and you have to actually destroy the block and show evidence that the bus is not in use.

Mr. Martin told we have just a little bit of time.

Mr. Hendrick told that we have a holiday in there and you have to be cognizant of everyone's schedule. He told that if we contingently agree to commit and we get in the budget process and it just can't happen would it be possible to get a loan for those buses.

Mr. Phil McCraw told that may be a better way to go about it.

Mr. Hendrick told we would still take advantage of the savings, the interest would eat up some of that, but it would still be cheaper than sticker price.

Dr. Littrell told another possibility would be not going with the full five. He told that also try to get the school board to go with us on half's. He told he would feel much more comfortable.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told that he thinks we should try to have a meeting and have someone here to answer questions.

Mr. Hendrick told if the roof thing is there also then we have some things we need to discuss.

Mr. Martin told the concensus is for you to set up a called meeting with someone from the School Board office that can explain the situation and make a decision on sharing the cost.

(Order)

CITIZENS TIME

Ms. Delilah Brady started by saying Good evening to everyone. I am the one you've been receiving email from and I want to thank you for giving me this moment to speak. Over a year ago, I went to the Rec Board and I begged them to add soccer to their listing. Why did I do this? For the last five years, my children have participated in baseball, basketball and football with the County. This year we can add soccer to that list. This year I've also witnessed several problems and issues. I realize this is only the first year of soccer for the Rec but look at the numbers who participated in the spring versus the fall soccer. That number will be drastically lower and why is that? It's because soccer, baseball and football were scheduled at the exact same time. There's no way that we can be at a soccer game at 10:45 at Woodlawn and at 12 o'clock in Floyd for a football game. This decision has cost the County money. Where has the disconnection happened with the Rec and who they are as a department? The website hasn't changed in five years; neither has the way we pay. We're able to sign up online but we still have to bring the money to them or mail it in. Why can't we pay online? Why is that not possible? We start our first basketball practice tonight. We have not received a basketball game schedule. Our money was taken the first of October and here it is a month later, and we don't have a schedule. I have talked with parents to see why they have pulled out and went to Grayson, Patrick, and Surry County for sports. You'll be shocked by what you're told. As a public servant, the Rec's job is to ensure the public's money is spent as efficiently as possible and programs that are provided are effective. It seems like I've done a lot of begging and asking with this Rec department. Now I'm asking you the Board of Supervisors, please take time on what most feel is such a very small issue and what parents' feel is a huge issue, and discuss the shape of our Rec department. What can be done to fix these issues? Whatever it takes, do it. As you are all aware, I attended that football game Friday night. We were told four days before that we would be having that game. When other options were suggested, I was told I hope your schedule can accommodate things. I'm amazed that one person has all this power. Why was one person who obviously has no vested interest in our children given the responsibility and power to decide what is important for our children? Once, a school administrator asked for a game change due to SOL testing in the spring and was told the game will go on as scheduled. This has got to stop. We are better people than this. I can't say that everything the Rec department does is bad; they do a lot of good. The bad is starting to outweigh the good though. Our children in this county are fortunate to have the options of going to different counties or states to play sports; I chose this area for my children because I feel the folks from Carroll are some of the best. Our children have the best teachers and coaches of anywhere in the world and we're in one of the best areas of the world. Let's prove it to our future generations and offer them the best that we possibly can so they will stay in the area and help our area grow. Please don't let me down on this. My original question was why did do it? Why did I go to the Rec Board? That answer is easy. It's for our children. Thank you so much for taking time to listen.

Mr. Martin thanked Ms. Brady and called on Mr. Robert Mabe.

Mr. Robert Mabe said first of all, I want to thank you for representing our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The second thing is on the water and what's going on with it. I'm still upset as far as making the people that are not hooked up to water, that don't have a water meter, or anything at all outside in front of their house except for a PVC pipe with water going down through it in the ditch; and they still charge us a monthly fee. I don't have nothing to do with the water. I've been living at the house, I've said twenty years; my wife corrected me and said twenty-two years. We've always had a good well; when my well went out, I had the jacuzzi put back in it. The old one was taken out and a new one put back in it. I'd like to know what's going on if you could answer my questions. I know you get a grant and you okay it. If you remember Coy Hill, when he was on the Board of Supervisors, tried to pass a thing saying that any time the trash truck went by a

person's house and they had to pass it; and it dropped like a hot potato. I'd like to know why that you trying to charge people that the water pipe goes past their house and they still have to pay. To me, that's communism. They told us to ask y'all.

Mr. Martin stated that he will try to explain as best he can; some of you other folks can join in. Originally, Carroll County was trying to put in water lines all over. We had a lot more liberty; in other words, people could say they would probably sign up and we would run the line from a farmer's home or whoever. They would give us a grant of maybe fifty percent; in other words, if it was going to be a million-dollar project, they would say we going to give you five hundred thousand and then you'll owe five hundred thousand and so we would go and do it. Not only that, maybe we would get the interest rate at three percent or something. As time went along, they changed the rules and came in and said you will still have access to this federal money. You can get four million dollars but two million will be grant money but then they said you only got one little thing; it has to be mandatory hook up. If we ran the line, the people got charged. I happened to be on the Board then and as I remember, five out of six of the Board members got beat that year. I got a vacation. If it wasn't for getting that federal money and fifty percent was free with the other fifty percent we got a low interest rate; it had to be mandatory. We would have never had any water in the county. It's just so expensive and the only thing worse than that would be my mother and sister and brother where they live out on Shorts Creek, they took the short cut up Pleasant View Road to Laurel with the water line. They were all stuck with iron ore as this as brown gravy in the water they drank. You didn't drink the water; you bought your water. Frankly I grew up thinking every woman in the world had red hair because every woman on Shorts Creek had red hair from washing their hair in that iron ore water. I went down to Virginia Tech and they made fun of me because I had pink underwear on. I didn't know; it was just that iron ore where they washed my clothes. When we had to go to mandatory hook ups, nobody on the Board liked it. Like I say, we adopted it so we could get water lines throughout the county. The problem was you voted for it, like I say, five out of six got a vacation. I do remember that. Times have sort of changed in the county. We have problems now in lots of places when they say there's five houses out there and you only have to run the line a half a mile, and they will all hook on. The got that iron ore and we can't do it because the money is not as free-flowing as it used to be. That probably doesn't answer your question. It would be nice if a fella could say I ain't going to hook on because I've got a brand new well. I spent eight thousand dollars and put in a new system to filter the water. I've got good water and I would just as soon keep it. I understand that but the way it worked is we couldn't wait until somebody suddenly ran out of water. It was part of the process of doing business with the federal government. It cost you fifty cents to get a dollar bill and the interest rate was very low. Then they said mandatory hook-up. People got upset with us. That doesn't answer your question exactly but that's about how we got into the situation. We put a line down a certain road and people with lots and houses could keep their water but then you get into minimum hook-ups and stuff. I guess another advantage would be that a lot times they're required to put in a fire hydrant every so often. I can tell you from being in insurance years ago that way out in the county, you had an ISO insurance rating of ten; but if you were within five hundred feet of a hydrant, it dropped to a nine. Depending on the cost of your house, there could easily be over a hundred dollars difference. A lot of companies wouldn't even write you if you weren't close enough to a fire hydrant. A lot of people get a savings because ISO hydrant regulations. Mr. Lineberry, you're the one who knows about it. It may have saved you and certainly has saved some people because even though they didn't hook up to the water line and they're still having to pay, there may be a fire hydrant four hundred feet down the road that helped to drop their cost tremendously on house insurance. That's the best I can do.

Mr. Mabe said it might have dropped their money on house insurance but Katherine Frazier had a fire with a hydrant right in front of her house; house practically burned to the ground. Harmon's, over here off of Mount Zion Road, had a fire just last week and burned it down. They had fire hydrants you can get to but the houses are burnt. You were talking a while ago about doing business with the government but you're neglecting the citizens. I'm a citizen, and I don't have a thing out there hooked up. Y'all took the grant and we're supposed to talk to y'all. That's what I'm upset about. If you going to talk to us, how about the rest of the people on Hard Scuffel Road. I know a family that lives over

there and worked with them. They said the water line goes right by our house and we don't pay for it. You don't charge them for it but you charge somebody that lives ten miles away from Hillsville. They live two miles away. I'm just trying to make things right, you know. You're charging people out there that ain't even hooked up to your water. I'm not knocking people out there that's got the water; I want them to have good water too. You're trying to charge me for something I ain't even got, and that's not right.

Mr. Martin responded by saying that I don't know whether we'll ever get together on this or not. In the past if a person wanted to hook up to the water when we went by, they got a substantial discount on hooking it up whereas, if they said I'm not going to hook up, it's 750. I do know if you get out and drive through lots of places in the county, there's a ton of houses gone up because now they have water and septic there. Every situation is going to be a little different. I think overall, it's been good for the county and good for most citizens.

Mr. Hendrick said one request, please ask the PSA what's the options with mandatory hook-up on previous grants? Because I'm pretty sure at this point, we're locked in. Just see if there's anything that, as the PSA or as the Board, and where does that stand?

Ms. Cannon responded will do.

Mr. Hendrick stated he had a feeling what the answer is. I think if we do away with mandatory hook-ups, they will recall that money. If you would, check on that please, just to make sure. Mr. Chairman, is that it?

Mr. Martin supposed so and responded that we would try to get some clarification from the Public Service Authority that does all of this and hopefully we can supply you an answer but I've got a feeling you're going to be at the same place and we are too.

Mr. Mabe said you better believe it. I'm trying to say something here that's relevant. We've got a lady in the neighborhood that's got a trailer park and she's got to pay for nineteen trailers. She ain't even hooked up with it and that's stupid. The Sheriff brought these things by and he'll say I've got a whole stack of these in the car to deliver to the same people that's got questions just like you do. (Mrs. Joyce Mabe came up to the podium.)

Mr. Martin said on the positive side, if the Health Department came by and said ma'am your water is not passing for these nineteen trailers and you can't dig one well for the whole park. You're going to have to dig seven or eight wells to be tested and so forth. It would be a whole lot cheaper to hook on at that point. He asked if she were Joyce Mabe?

Mrs. Joyce Mabe replied I am.

Mr. Martin stated that they had already explained to Mr. Mabe but she was welcome to speak.

Mrs. Mabe said that she wasn't against anyone having water. She just wanted a choice; in America, we should have a choice. We should have the freedom not to pay a non-user fee. We would cross that bridge when we come to it if we had to dig a well or something. That's beside the point. This is America; we should have freedom of choice.

Mr. Martin said the only thing is whereas you make a valid point there, if we didn't have water running in the county that's guaranteed to be clean and so forth, we wouldn't have a lot of the industry we have because they require so much water. You can't do it on wells. The other thing is that there would be a lot of folks that would say why can't the county do something for a young person like me trying to start out and I'm trying to put in a trailer for my wife and I and two young ones. If I dig a well, it's going to cost eight thousand dollars; I would be glad to pay 750 or 500 dollars to hook up. I mean, we catch it both ways it the only point I make to you. Depending on which person is here, they both would be right.

Mrs. Mabe stated just like I said at the last meeting, just on these Ordinances, y'all just please try to think about what's right before you do them. Like I noticed in listening to the meeting a while ago, one Ordinance you can make an adjustment to turn a fee around to zero. That's what we're asking is for you to turn that fee around to zero.

Mr. Martin responded as Josh points out, if we said it's not mandatory hook up and if you don't want to be hooked up just don't do it. I've got a feeling we would be facing ten or fifteen million dollars' worth of pay back to the federal government. Then the place will be full the next year when we triple the taxes to come up with ten million dollars to pay them back.

Mr. Mabe said I've talked to people out there on the street. You haven't apparently. They say oh, it's just a little bitty old fee. We just send twenty-eight dollars in every month. What about the people that's living off of Horace Scuffel Road that the water goes by their house and you're not charging them? How do you answer that?

Mr. Martin stated that he didn't know a thing about that. Is it in town?

Mr. Mabe said it's right over here across from the where the veterinarian is and B & B Tire. Matter of fact, you can see their house from B & B Tire Company, across the road.

Mr. Hendrick responded that's a county line. It was put in with County forces.

Mr. Mabe said it's downright dirty, just dirty. I mean, we've lived there for twenty-two years. Like you beating the devil around a bush or something.

Mr. Martin said I hear what you're saying. Believe me, I've talked to a lot of folks and I know the rest of the Board does too. I don't know a person on this Board or the last Board that just said well, we're going to put it to them people and they go to mess somebody over. We bend over backwards lots of time because one person may not be done fairly. I care; they care. I hear what you're saying.

Mr. Mabe commented I would just like you to take a little action.

Mr. Hendrick stated we have. We've asked that they check with the PSA on what the status of the mandatory hook ups are and as far as I'm concerned, I would like to move on from Citizens Time to the next signed up person please.

(Order)

SUPERVISORS TIME

Mr. Hendrick stated that he didn't have but two more times at this so he was probably going to talk more than normal. First off Kevin, appreciate everything that folks for the Fair does, tremendous job. I want to go back to what we had on the Agenda as Tax Receivables. I agree with everything Dr. Littrell said. I think we've got an issue and it's an issue I think we've skirted around for my six years on the Board. Sam done had to step out but I was going to say that Sam made a couple of attempts to work on it as well, proving no fruit; but I think it's something that we're going to have to address and request that the Treasurer help us address. We can't send out the notices; we can't turn the list over to folks to collect, but we've got a bunch of delinquent taxes on the books that need to be collected. I pay my taxes along with ninety-three percent of the folks in the county, roughly. And this is just my opinion but part of the reason collections went down because it's made the papers several times about our discussions on this subject. What has happened as a result? I can't say nothing, but it's still not pushing folks to the point where there's consequences for not paying your taxes. So, the mentality can easily be to the point of I'm just going to keep my property, keep using my property and I'm not going to pay taxes on it; and then when I get ready to sell the property, I'll pay the taxes and incorporate that in the sale price. Now unfortunately that puts us in a bind; like I say that five percent when you drop from ninety-eight to ninety-three approximately is almost a million dollars. That's a big chunk of change. We just talked about school buses that cost two hundred eighty-four and a roof that's two hundred fifty and that's just in one

year. Now the collection of delinquent taxes is not the solution to our financial strain at the county but does it help, absolutely. Does that five percent help? Absolutely. I think we need to do whatever we can to collect them and I appreciate Dr. Littrell bringing it up. He said if you don't address it, you are part of the problem; and I feel that's really what we've done for political sensitivities. I have been as guilty as anybody the last six years of skirting around the issue because we didn't want to ruffle feathers, afraid of what might happen or what might get put in the paper. This is it; we got an issue. We need to fix it. It's a little easier for me like I say because I've only got two more shots at blasting off my mouth and standing on a soapbox. I can do it but won't nobody show up; I've got a captive audience right now. It is an issue and we should've hit it head on a little sooner I think because all the efforts we've made and there have been efforts, they go on not that you see here unaddressed in this issue. We're still at ninety-three percent. I applaud the staff for what they've done and the work that's been put towards it but I think there's more that could be done and more cooperation come out of the Treasurer's office to make it happen. That's my discussion on it and I appreciate Dr. Littrell for bringing it up and I've already talked a little bit about the budget. There's going to have to be some difficult decisions made. We've been very fortunate. I've voted for one tax increase. Fortunate we haven't had to do it again; a part of that reason is because of delinquent taxes. We're still behind the curve on where we're supposed to be by our budget forecast; is that not a correct statement? As far as our delinquent tax forecast, where we're at? Are we behind? Have we met it?

Mr. Truitt asked if Mr. Hendrick was talking about collections for this tax year?

Mr. Hendrick replied yes, that's a budget line item in our revenue is our delinquent tax collections. Are we ahead of it, behind it or met it?

Ms. Cannon responded that we have not met it.

Mr. Hendrick asked where was we at? Where did we finish?

Mr. Phil McCraw said we didn't meet it.

Ms. Cannon stated we didn't come close to meeting it.

Mr. Hendrick said no and that goes back to the discussions we had with the Treasurer's office on what do you think is a good number that you can put up. What good faith effort do you have and we built our budget on that. Just to give you an idea, it's about 1.4 million bucks if I remember right, that's not bad for off the cuff. That's a big chunk of our budget. When you think our budget's roughly seventy-four?

Mr. Truitt responded counting schools and everything? Eighty, eighty-one.

Ms. Cannon replied it was eighty.

Mr. Hendrick said okay. So, 1.4 of eighty was for delinquent tax collections, in our budget; the way it's built.

Ms. Cannon stated this year we budgeted 1.2.

Mr. Hendrick said right, we lowered that because we put the goal up here in trying to work with the Treasurer's office and we've missed it time after time again. We've went to the Treasurer's office and said hey, what can we do to help you. We've done everything we can. Anyway, something's got to give in that arena. We either going to have to start collecting more revenue or something. Which I know Mr. Mabe has left but I'm going to go back to that one too, that's all we can do. We've requested what happens with a mandatory hook up. I say nobody on this Board as it sets, Bob you may have been on that Board differently, I know there is at least four of us that wasn't on there, that's just the way the funding works. What folks need to realize too, you may not have a water line going in front of your house but you pay the PSA. We pay over a million dollars a year to PSA to service debt for those lines that was put in. So, it doesn't matter if you pay a mandatory hook up charge or not. Decisions have been made on this panel for

economic development or betterment of citizens or whatever the justification was, you pay for it. Do I think that's right or wrong, doesn't matter; it's a decision we've got to live with. Now I can tell you if I had a non-mandatory hook up, I wouldn't pay it. I don't agree with it, but if I'm going to pay for it, I'm going to hook up to it. At any rate, we pay the PSA whether you have lines run in front of your house or not. I appreciate everybody coming out and listening to me rant. You've only got one more time at it so.

Mr. Phil McCraw said it was good to see everybody out tonight. I would like to say to Kevin, great job by you and everyone else involved with the Fair. I know there's a lot of people and you all have done a great job every year. We had the perfect storm this year; good weather and the whole nine yards. It was super; Where I am down close to Surry County, I have heard many, many comments about the Carroll County Fair is so, so, so much better than the Mount Airy Fair which is the Surry County Agricultural Fair. I've heard that and how much more reasonable it is; how much cleaner it is; how much better and safer the rides look. My hat's off to all of you; done a fantastic job. I appreciate everybody coming out tonight. I'm going to cut mine off now. Next month, I may talk a whole lot longer than everybody else put together. Thank you all for coming.

Mr. Hill wanted to say to Kevin and all of the other folks, I asked Steve to get together a list of folks that helped and I think the majority of County employees spent a lot of time helping out there and I really appreciate that. I usually work the gate; that's where we hear all the compliments. People come in there and they appreciate it. They don't just come one night; they come two maybe three nights. We really appreciate what you do and the volunteers and county employees who all helped with that. That's all I've got to say.

Mr. Robbie McCraw said he was going to take a minute too, I'm going to be like Josh. First of all, Kevin, I think you all do a great job with the Fair. I think the importance of promoting agriculture in this county is the number one priority we should have. There's so much that we benefit from the agriculture here and getting people involved and letting the kids know. I think it's so important that the school kids come and get to experience it. What Josh said about what Tom has spoken about, I want to share with you on something. Years ago, when I was young and dumb and just got married and missed paying my taxes one time, I got a notice that said they was going to come and sell my house and take it, it scared the ___ out of me just to be honest with you all. That's what we're missing. That's what we don't have. We've got to go after this somehow, some way, some shape, some form. We've got to get aggressive and set some examples. I think setting examples is the most important part. and part of what Josh said. It being advertised in the paper that with all these delinquent taxes but yet, there's nothing being done about it. That sets the example that they are not doing anything about it. We need to do it. It would help our financial status tremendously. I hate that Delilah left because I had thought about something I wanted to say about the Rec department. I think we've got a good Rec department. I think we've got one that works well with the county and does a lot for the county and the kids but I thought about something that would really help out. I'm going to ask Steve and Nikki to present this to Libby and see what she thinks. I think she needs to establish a written policy of when they make a schedule. The policy needs to be like this is the schedule, you get this at the beginning of the year, if a game is postponed due to weather it will be played X amount of days later; plan that out front so everybody knows. If that game is postponed a second time because of weather, it will be cancelled. You'll have one make-up date; you won't have to struggle to try to make it happen. I think that would work for all the sports involved. That way the parents know up front what's going to happen if something comes down. I think if it's a written policy and something that everybody's got to look at. I really think it's important that when the Rec department is scheduling things especially for the elementary age students that what is going on at the schools needs to be taken into consideration. I think those are things they really need to look at because a lot of the school's plan functions especially on weekends that are fundraiser functions or whatever and that effects the amount of people that attend those. I think that needs to be an important part of the planning process. I do thank everybody for coming out. Be patient with us; we're working hard to try to make things better for the people in this county and to make it what Carroll County is, what Carroll County stands for. I hate that the gentleman is upset over the water fees. It's like I've said many times ago, if my neighbor needs water and I've got it; if I can pay a non-user fee so

my neighbor can have water, I'm willing to do it. That's just the way it is; you've got to care about your neighbors. Rex is out of water; Rex would trade in a heartbeat. Thank you all.

Dr. Littrell stated I've had a lot to say tonight so I don't have very much now. I do want to thank Kevin for what he's done for the Fair. It's certainly an impressive activity and I've always enjoyed it. Year after year, it gets better and better. I also want to thank the Board of Supervisors for sending me to the VACo meeting this past weekend. It was very good. I learned a lot of things that I'll share over the years as they come along. I already mentioned something about the House of Delegates race and how that turned out. I also got some statistics on the Supervisor seats that were open this past election year, a week ago. Over the entire Commonwealth, there were 160 seats that were contested and of those 160 seats, there were 107 incumbents running for the 160 seats. Of the 107 incumbents, 80 won so that's a loss of 27 incumbents. That means that this coming year over the Commonwealth, there will be 80 incumbents returning and 80 new Board members coming on. I just thought you might find that interesting. There were 89 Independents, 50 Republicans, and 7 Democrats and 4 Write-Ins. That's all I have to say. Thank you.

Mr. Martin said I don't want to beat a dead horse but if the Board passed an ordinance that if you weren't on public water and you had to test your water every year, I think you would see panic by a tremendous amount of people because when it came back from the State Water Control Board and says you've got two parts of fecal material in there, you're going to have to do X, Y, Z on your water. I've had people come to me and said you got to help. Our lot was ok when grandpa built it and we ended up with it. He had a septic system out back and dug a hand-well in the front of thirty-four feet. Hello, my neighbor had his well-tested and it was awful the stuff that was in it. They came up and tested mine; it was worse than my neighbors. What can you do about it? We live in a democracy and sometimes you make hard decisions to protect the total population. I am glad that we have water systems where the water system is guaranteed to be 100 percent clean because I can tell you that there's a lot of people out in the county that would get a rude awakening if they had the Health Department test their water. Enough said. I just remember getting beat because I had to go onto something I didn't like and five other members of the Board did too. Thank everybody for coming. I am glad we live in a democracy that these people can come up here and say what's wrong with you hotheads making me pay that fee. I understand what he's saying and I'm with Josh; if it wasn't mandatory, I wouldn't pay the dang thing. I'm not on county water. We live in a democracy. We elect our people, and if we don't like what they're doing, we can vote them out. I can tell you every member on this Board is very caring and cares about each individual. I need a motion to adjourn.

(Order)

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Mr. Robbie McCraw, seconded by Mr. Phil McCraw and passing, the Board adjourned.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick	Yes
Mr. Phil McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Not Present

(Order)

November 14, 2017

Chairman

Clerk