

June 14, 2010

The Carroll County Board of Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on, June 14 10, 2010 in the Board Meeting Room of the Carroll County Governmental Center.

Present were: Wesley G. Hurst
Dr. Thomas W. Littrell
David V. Hutchins
W.S. "Sam" Dickson
Andrew S. Jackson
N. Manus McMillian
Gary Larrowe, County Administrator
Ronald L. Newman, Assistant Administrator

Mr. Hurst called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION – PURSUANT TO VIRGINIA CODE SECTION 2.2-3711(A1, A3, A5, A6, A7)

Upon motion by Mr. Hutchins, seconded by Mr. McMillian, and passing, the Board convened a Closed Session for the discussion of personnel, disposition of real estate, prospective business, legal matter, as authorized by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A1).

VOTES

Mr. Jackson	Yes
Mr. Hurst	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. McMillian	Yes

(Order)

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

Upon motion by Mr. McMillian, seconded by Mr. Hutchins, 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. Jackson	Yes
Mr. Hurst	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. McMillian	Yes

(Order)

Mr. Hurst lead in invocation and pledge. He told that it is great to see everyone here.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Mr. Dickson, seconded by Dr. Littrell and passing, the Board approved the minutes of the meeting on May 10, May 17, and May 24, 2010 as previously distributed to the members of this Board.

VOTES

Mr. Jackson	Yes
Mr. Hurst	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Mr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. McMillian	Yes

(Order)

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL

Upon motion by Mr. Dickson, seconded by Dr. Littrell, and passed unanimously, the Board approved the payroll for May 2010 and did authorize the Chairman and Clerk, along with Bonita M. Williams, Treasurer, to sign on the 15th and 30th days of June 2010 of 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.

VOTES

Mr. Jackson	Yes
Mr. Hurst	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Mr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. McMillian	Yes

(Order)

ESAB MISSIONS/GOALS

Upon motion by Mr. Dickson, seconded by Dr. Littrell and passing, the Board approved the ESAB Missions and Goals listed below.

**Carroll County Emergency Services Advisory Board
Mission, Goals and Objectives**

Mission: *To provide hands-on assistance to the Emergency Services operations of Carroll County including Volunteers and paid staff with regard to Fire and Rescue in the areas of Facilities, Technology, Equipment, as well as Recruitment, Retention and Recognition of human capital and Training that will result in more lives and investments saved.*

Goals/ Objectives:

1. To have an Emergency System in place that provides superior services to the Citizens and guests of Carroll County.

Measurable Objectives

- a. Encourage a minimum of 25% of the volunteer Rescue Squad active members at an ALS level of certification by December 31, 2010 have.

Measurable Objectives

- a. Identify and Plan for Growth of the ES system needs in conjunction with the County Comprehensive Plan into areas that need increased Emergency Services by December 31, 2010.

VOTES

Mr. Jackson	Yes
Mr. Hurst	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Mr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. McMillian	Yes

(Order)

HILLSVILLE AGREEMENT RESOLUTION

Upon motion by Dr. Littrell, seconded by Mr. McMillian and passing, the Board approved the resolution regarding the Hillsville Agreement.

VOTES

Mr. Jackson	Yes
Mr. Hurst	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Mr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. McMillian	Yes

(Order)

CAPITAL PROJECT RESERVE TRANSFER

Upon motion by Mr. Dickson, seconded by Dr. Littrell and passing, the Board approved a transfer of \$193,593.19 from Capital Project Reserve to Debt Reduction to pay off Sun Trust Loan on substations.

VOTES

Mr. Jackson	Yes
Mr. Hurst	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Mr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. McMillian	Yes

(Order)

VRS RESOLUTION

Upon motion by Mr. Hutchins, seconded by Mr. Dickson and passing, the Board approved the VRS Resolution below.

The Virginia General Assembly, in its 2010 session passed legislation creating a separate retirement plan for employees hired on or after July 1, 2010 (hereafter referred to as “Plan 2” employees). The legislation amended VA Code § 51.1-144 to provide that Plan 2 employees will pay their 5 percent member contribution and that, absent other action by the employer, such contribution will be paid through salary reduction according to Internal Revenue Code § 414 (h). Internal Revenue Code § 414 (h) provides that a

governmental employer may “pick-up” mandatory employee contributions and thereby cause the contributions to be made on a pre-tax basis. The formal written action required by Internal Revenue Code § 414 (h) to effect the pick-up has been taken by the General Assembly with the Governor’s signature.

The legislation also permits each county, city, town, local public school board or other local employer to pick-up, in whole or in part (in 1 percent increments), the 5 percent member contribution as an additional benefit not paid as salary. The employer’s optional payment of the 5 percent member contribution may be phased in over a period approved by the VRS Board not to exceed 6 years and may only be made on a uniform basis for all its Plan 2 employees. The formal written action required by Internal Revenue Code § 414 (h) to effect the pick-up using the alternatives permitted by the legislation must be taken by the governing body of the specific employing entity and must be effective only on a prospective basis.

Please indicate, by selecting one option below, how member contributions will be paid:

- This is to acknowledge that _____ (Employer Name) will have the employees pay the 5 percent member contribution according to the terms of the legislation. This action does not require action by your governing body.
_____ (Authorized Signature) _____ (Date)
- This is to acknowledge that Carroll County elects to pick-up some or all of the 5 percent member contributions as detailed in the following duly approved resolution.

RESOLUTION

Authorization to Pick-up the Employee’s Contribution to VRS Under § 414(h) of the Internal Revenue Code For Plan 2 Employees

WHEREAS, the Virginia General Assembly, in its 2010 session passed legislation creating a separate retirement plan for employees hired on or after July 1, 2010 (hereafter referred to as “Plan 2 Employees”). The legislation stipulates that Plan 2 Employees will pay their 5 percent member contribution and that, absent other action by the employer, such contribution will be paid through salary reduction according to Internal Revenue Code § 414 (h) on a pre-tax basis; and

WHEREAS, the legislation allows certain employers, including Carroll County, to pick-up and pay all or a portion of the member contributions on behalf of its Plan 2 Employees as an additional benefit not paid as salary; and

WHEREAS, the election to pick-up and pay all or a portion of the member contributions on behalf of its Plan 2 Employees as an additional benefit not paid as salary shall, once made, remain in effect for the applicable fiscal year (July 1 - June 30) and shall continue in effect beyond the end of such fiscal year absent a subsequent resolution changing the way the 5 percent member contribution is paid; and

WHEREAS, employee contributions that are picked-up as an additional benefit not paid as salary are not considered wages for purposes of VA Code § 51.1-700 et seq. nor shall they be considered salary for purposes of VA Code § 51.1-100 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, Carroll County desires to pick-up and pay its Plan 2 Employees’ member contributions to VRS as an additional benefit not paid as salary in an amount equal to (5%) of creditable compensation; and

WHEREAS, VRS tracks such picked-up member contributions and is prepared to treat such contributions as employee contributions for all purposes of VRS.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that effective the first day of July 2010, Carroll County shall pick-up member contributions of its Plan 2 Employees to VRS as an additional benefit not paid as salary in an amount equal to (1%) (2%) (3%) (4%) (5%) of creditable compensation subject to the terms and conditions described above; and it is further

June 14, 2010

RESOLVED that such contributions, although designated as member contributions, are to be made by the County of Carroll in lieu of member contributions; and it is further

RESOLVED that nothing herein shall be construed so as to permit or extend an option to VRS members to receive the picked-up contributions made by t directly instead of having them paid to VRS.

Adopted in Carroll County, Virginia this 14th day of June 2010.

VOTES

Mr. Jackson	Yes
Mr. Hurst	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Mr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. McMillian	Yes

(Order)

SHERIFF'S OFFICE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Upon motion by Mr. Dickson, seconded by Dr. Littrell and passing, the Board approved an appropriation of \$1661.50 from monies recouped from various expenses.

VOTES

Mr. Jackson	Yes
Mr. Hurst	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Mr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. McMillian	Yes

(Order)

CANNERY TRANSFER

Upon motion by Mr. Dickson, seconded by Dr. Littrell and passing, the Board approved to transfer a total of \$4980.00 to purchase jars for the cannery.

VOTES

Mr. Jackson	Yes
Mr. Hurst	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Mr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. McMillian	Yes

(Order)

CITIZEN'S TIME

There was no one to speak at citizen's time.

AGRICULTURE AWARENESS – MICHEAL AKERS

Mr. John Carpenter told that he is honored as a teacher to have Michael in his class. He told that he was also student of the year at Carroll County Intermediate. Impressively, Michael will be competing in the state FFA competition as a senior even though he is in the ninth grade.

Michael Akers' presentation:

My personal adventure with Agriculture and the FFA began in the 8th grade. I had never before taken an Ag-related class and had no interest in doing so; until one night

when I watched the news. It was a CBS News report on starving children in Africa. The words and pictures were graphic beyond belief, and for the first time in my life I began to question where my food came from. As I learned more about Agriculture, I began to crave knowledge about the subject. How could people be so oblivious as to the importance of our food supply? How is it that these people are starving, and no one seems to know, or care? I wanted to know. I wanted to change things, and so I signed up for Agriculture 1. It was there that my questions began to be answered. People did care about our food supply, but not enough of them. People were trying to change things, but money was tight, and awareness low. Statistics show that the average American farmer feeds about 95 people in the US, and 34 abroad. I wonder how many of those 129 people actually stop and think about what would happen without that farmer? (Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, 2010 ¶ 3).

Skip ahead to the present. A teacher from our school's Ag department quit the other day. She had been here a few years, and felt that it was time for a change. Obviously, her pupils were upset. No one wanted to see her go. For weeks the students raised questions about who would take her place—and what would happen to them in the meantime—but no one really made that big a deal out of her departure. The school administration even considered leaving the spot empty and simply downsizing the Agriculture department. No petitions were signed, no funds were re-examined, and no parents complained. When budgets are cut, efforts are usually made to keep as many teachers of “core subjects” as possible, for fear of SOL scores failing. Why is the study of how we are fed, and clothed, and kept alive not a core subject?

And therein lies the problem: Agriculture is no longer a concern of the public at large. Any modern historian will tell you that Agriculture is the basis of the modern world. Our ancestors were hunter-gatherers, people who sought out their food in the bush, and on the hunt. They had to constantly move around from place to place, because the food supply in any given area was limited. This obviously made it quite hard to develop anything but the most rudimentary tools or technology. Once techniques of planting, irrigation, and harvesting were discovered, however, people were free to build villages, cities, communities, and political systems. It could be, and often has been, argued that it was the Agricultural prowess of Roman civilization that enabled them to make major advances in such fields as medicine, politics, philosophy, science, and, of course, Agriculture. The serf/ knight/ lord system of medieval times and feudal Japan was completely dependent upon small families of crop farmers, and it was the promise of expanses of prairie land that helped to settle the American West. Ancient people used to venerate, even worship Agriculture. They believed that farming techniques were gifts from the gods; a special sacred sort of knowledge that they could not live without. Ancient peoples built temples dedicated to the death and rebirth of the seasons, and the crops, and the people themselves. It was a holy thing, a thing that tied people to the land, and made them who they were. During the Dust Bowl and Great Depression of the 1930's, (Wikipedia, 2010 ¶ 1) almost every American understood the importance of Agriculture. Every time another announcement about food rationing was made, or they sat down to empty plates, they understood its importance fully. Now, your average person could barely describe to you what Agriculture is, much less care about it.

So, is Agriculture any less important today? No it is not. In fact, it is more important than ever, especially now that a crisis is brewing. All but a few groups ignore Ag education, and public awareness is at an all-time low. Earth's population grew from three billion to more than six billion between 1959 and 1999 [8], and is expected to reach a staggering nine billion by 2045 [7]. 15 million children starve to death each year worldwide, and one person dies from starvation every 3.6 seconds. [6] Global food prices have skyrocketed 50% since the end of 2006, [4] most Americans are oblivious to this situation, and almost nothing is being done to rectify it. The UN is trying to improve these conditions through such projects as the Millennium Development Goals, but they are fighting a losing battle. Because of our failing economy, which is partially due to these same Agricultural problems, funds for Agriculture classes, programs, and research are being cut nation-wide, leading to a vicious cycle. One example of this is the Honey Bee. Bee pollination accounts for one-third of America's food production and \$15 billion of our economy annually [3]. These same bees are being decimated by Colony Collapse Disorder, falling from four million hives in the 1970's, to under 2.5 million today [1]. How can we fix these problems that our world is facing, if we are not aware of them? If people are not voting for legislation for increased research and funding for Agricultural science, how will it get passed? If people are not aware of the population problem, and its

June 14, 2010

consequences, how will we prevent it? If the public doesn't know about things like global warming, pesticide use, genetic engineering, overpopulation, and other such issues, what should we do? Should we lay the entirety of this huge burden upon the backs of a few concerned scientists and politicians? My answer is a resounding "No!"

Our government is a representative democracy. Every time that there is a budget cut, every time that an Agriculture program is cut, every time that funds are denied, it is our elected officials who are doing it. The government may have billions of taxpayer dollars, and thousands of scientists, but we decide how these are used. Every time we buy a product, every time we cast a vote, every time we sit at home and do nothing, we are deciding the future of Agriculture. If it is we who wish to see another Green Revolution, then it must be we who make it happen. So I say sign the petitions; complain to your schools; contact your congressmen. If we shout loud enough, we will be heard. Agriculture belongs to no man, and to no government. It belongs to the people. It is ours, and it is ours to change! We must play the honeybee. Alone, we are weak, but together, we can change the world. We can solve these problems. We can make a difference. We can feed the world. All we need is your help. Agriculture has traveled many paths in the past, but now we stand at a crossroads: Action or Starvation; Knowledge or Death; Awareness or Collapse. Which will you choose?

Mr. Larrowe told that part of the State competition there are questions always asked and he would like to ask if you could do anything what would it be.

Mr. Akers answered that he would go into genetic plant research and added that one person can make a difference.

Mr. Dickson wished Mr. Akers good luck.

PUBLIC HEARING – SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

Mr. Larrowe told that if you agree with the person who is in front of you just let us know so we can continue down the list. He told that there is a 3 minute time limit.

Mr. Hurst told the purpose of the public hearing and opened it at 5:37 p.m.

Mr. Stacy Willard told that as a parent and an officer for the athletic association that he hopes we move forward on Phase III.

Mr. Chip Neely thanked the Board for letting him speak. He told that he feels the same way and told that he has spoken with many who feel that new construction is not feasible and reconstruction is the way to go. He told that Woodlawn has fulfilled its purpose.

Mr. Aaron Raffener told that he has never spoke in front of the Board but he has been part of the band since 7th grade and the program has grown a lot. He told that he graduated this year and if you put the 9th grade in with the band students that are already there it will be to crowded. He told that the room is much too small and it needs to be expanded. He told that some students don't have instruments because of storage. He told that he doesn't want to waste anymore time but this is his view as a previous student.

Mr. Randy Caudill thanked the Board for time to speak. He told that his child graduated over a year ago and he has seen the condition of the schools. He told that he agrees with Mr. Neely that Woodlawn has served its purpose. He told that he feels the cost should be reasonable with materials and the economic impact that goes along with construction. He told that a few jobs would be created and thinks it will be good to do the renovations.

Ms. Krista Neely thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak. She told that you know the numbers and the interest rates and now is a good time to move. She told that she comes as a parent who has worked in the school system and it is needed before someone gets harmed. She told that she now works in the medical profession and they need a facility that students can utilize and will help them in the future. She told that they

June 14, 2010

need proper facilities to learn their trade. She told that she encourages the Board to think about their decision.

Mr. Keith Grubb thanked the Board for the time and also thanked all of the previous BOS and School Boards for his daughter's education. He told that his daughter graduated last year and his son is a rising senior. He told that the Board has supported the School in the past and he appreciates it. He told that we have exceptional students and he is in favor of Phase III and asked that we not neglect physical education and athletics. He asked everyone to think outside of the box and if we have students who are interested in building trades or electrical classes then maybe we can accommodate them.

Ms. Margaret Leggett told that she graduated in the class of 1966 and has moved back home after 40 years. She told that schools are the main attraction of new business. She told that we have outstanding students and faculty and it is time to renovate.

Mr. Dale Ross told that construction will be good. He told that his child is a rising senior and there are 91 kids in the band. He told that a lot of the room is used for storage and they need more room if we can find the extra space.

Mr. Olen Gallimore thanked the Board. He told that he agrees with part of the renovations. He told that he would rather see the 9th grade building attached instead of separated from the rest of the school so you don't have extra administration. He told that before construction starts at the Intermediate School he would like to see a different loading/unloading pattern and would like to see a circle around the school. He told that this needs to be in place at the beginning of school this year.

Ms. Vickie Ross thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak. She told that she agrees with her husband and she knows that it is not considered part of the renovations, but the room they use is cramped. She told that she was never in music but the school has an excellent program. She told that it is amazing to see what they can do with the resources they have. She told if they could find the money to make more space it would be greatly appreciated.

Ms. Sherry Burnette told that she is the parent of 2 children and that academically the school is great, but her child was in Woodlawn for an entire year with no windows in the room or no air or heat. She told that she was concerned for her to go there but she had no other options. She told that she supports Phase III and hopes that the Board does as well.

Mr. Donnie Morgan told that based on what he knows he is mostly for it if it is done right. He told that he has 3 children and he does not want to see the frills that were used on the elementary schools because there is some waste there. He told that he has been hearing things like the economy is bad but you also have low construction rates. He told that people are also saying we are putting a band aid on a bullet wound, but he would rather have a band aid than nothing. He asked that the Board support this and move forward.

Mr. Gerald Goad told that this time 2 years ago he was working with the County as an intern and he would like to express some of his concerns on the Preliminary Report that is on the website. Mr. Goad went on to state that even though these upgrades and new additions may be decided as priority over other needs of the high school, his concern is that there is no plan to renovate or add to probably the most widely used facility at the high school within not only the public school system, but also within the community and even the region we live in, and that is the high school's auditorium. The auditorium is the only facility of its kind within the borders of this county. With mentioning this, the facility hosts all concerts and events within the school system's band and chorus programs, drama and other arts departments, in addition to holding the schools employee county-wide day just to name a few. Not only is the auditorium intensely used within the public school system, it is constantly used for local church events, music concerts, pageants, and even governmental meetings when the power is out in this building. Recently, Wytheville Community College held a college commencement exercise in the auditorium in which defines the regional usage of the facility. We may think that the auditorium does not need any renovations at this time, but whenever you count all of the

broken seats, torn and stained upholstery, a major leak in the ceiling at the back of the stage, inefficient lighting, torn carpeting, very small, old bathrooms and exceeding the approved fire code of occupancy at most events, he strongly encouraged the Board to consider making necessary changes to this proposal to include the auditorium before it makes a financial commitment of up to \$30 million in which the press release states – something that citizens including himself are going to have to help pay for. Most importantly that he wanted to point out that the auditorium is in NO means handicap accessible. He knows this by personally serving as an usher at WCC's commencement and having to direct approximately 5 individuals in wheelchairs into the auditorium by having to run all the way to the main front entrance, open the door, direct them through the gym and then inside the auditorium due to the appropriate outdoor entrances to the auditorium containing nothing but steps – is there not a law pertaining to this?

Another concern that he has with this proposal is the renovation and addition to the Athletic Field House and Press Box. According to page 5 of the Report, it states that there will be “renovation and addition to the Athletic Field House and Press Box,” but in the cost estimates on page 6, there is NO mentioning of any renovations of the Field House, but there will be “additions” to this facility and the press box “if funding is available.” He is concerned if the field house is even going to be renovated within the Phase III plan because it houses in his opinion, one of the poorest public restroom facilities he has seen at a public school institution. The current restroom facilities at Tommy Thompson field by any means do not accommodate the general public – especially the handicapped during sporting events. Why can't there be restrooms located adjacent to the press box or something? This year, Carroll County High School will host its first ever Marching Band competition at the football field and there is already talk of the band boosters “renting” portable bathrooms due to being ashamed of the current conditions of the main restrooms at the field house. With non-handicap public facilities which are constantly used by individuals that are not only from Carroll County, but all of our visitors, public officials from other localities, what does that say about our county? Just to clarify, he went only by the information that was provided to the general public and so if there are plans of renovations of these two facilities, then he was not aware and therefore apologized for taking up time. Before the Board makes its final decision on the Phase III proposal, he wants them to strongly consider the county's school motto, which is, “Education for All...Success for Everyone,” in addition to the school system's mission statement, which is “to provide education for ALL within our community, which respects, supports, and encourages those who learn and those who teach.” He apologized, but added when he sees Phase III consisting of building a \$ 1.3 million auxiliary gym and a \$1.5 million baseball field, in addition to work on other athletic facilities, he wanted to remind the Board that not everyone, including himself, was blessed with the talent of playing a sport, but became successful through the education of music – make sure the Board understands that our students can become successful in other areas of education – not just in athletics. Thanked the Board for its service to Carroll County and God bless.

Ms. Connie Smith told that she is a mother of 5 with 2 in Woodlawn and 3 in Laurel. She told that her child is on the same floor as the other lady and has no windows. She told that one day the boys were waiting for the school bus and there was a septic leak that backed up in the cafeteria. She told that she is worried about the ventilation. She told that it is time to move on and retire Woodlawn.

Mr. Clark Reece thanked the Board and told that he is a 1973 graduate who played football. He told it was a new facility when he was in school and it has not been improved since then. He told that education is tremendously important and that he supports Phase III and improvements to the athletic facility. He told that the first thing Frank Beamer did at Va. Tech was to improve the facility. He told that sometimes it is easy to do nothing and he encouraged the Board to find a way to make this happen.

Mr. John Carpenter told that this is great for Economic Development. He told that it is a case of trusting ourselves. He told that we have extremely talented kids who can do anything. He told that it is about the future and investing in it and it is a good insight for companies that come to the area.

June 14, 2010

Ms. Charlene Guynn told that she graduated here and her son and daughter have also benefited from the elementary construction. She told that we need to move forward. She told that if we don't do it now then when are we going to do it? She told that the interest rates are low. She told that we have wonderful children and teachers and if we had a new facility there is nothing that we can't accomplish.

Mr. Todd Catron told that he has three kids and that Hillsville Elementary is a fabulous school. He urged the Board to move forward with Phase III so his children can benefit. He works at Wytheville Community College in the computer field and stated that we need our schools to be modern.

With no one else to speak the Public Hearing was closed at 6:09 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING - ROAD ABANDONMENT 772

Ronald Newman told that a couple of months ago we had citizens ask to abandon a road. It has been posted and they have advertised it. The proposed abandonment is a 1.5 mile long ford in Little Reed Island and extends north to another ford in Little Reed Island. Letters have been presented by the property owners all except one but they have talked on the phone.

Mr. Hurst opened the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

Priscilla Richardson addressed the board on behalf of the property owners. The reasons the owners requested the abandonment were because of the condition of the ford. It is almost impassable. She also told of a problem they have with four-wheelers making paths on private land. There is also a wooden bridge left in place on the property that is not safe. All of the property owners along the ford are in support of the abandonment. She told that she felt it was illegal for the four-wheelers to be riding on a public road. The property owners are afraid of someone getting hurt. Those riding the four-wheelers are passing signs posted and it has become an uncontrollable, unsafe situation.

Olen Gallimore stated that since he was old enough to remember people have used that road. People walk on it, ride horses, ride four-wheelers and such so they do not have to cross private property. He told that he as spoke with Mrs. Richardson's father who used to own the property and used the road for twenty years with his permission. Mr. Richardson asked that they respect the land and we have always done that. He told that he sympathizes with Mrs. Richardson because he has had similar trouble before. This road is a part of the Pony Express Trail. He knows of twenty to thirty individuals who use it on a regular basis. Many own a piece of property or rent property and access it through this road. These people don't tear stuff up intentionally. He and others are willing to work with the property owners if they would just talk to them about it.

Mr. Hurst asked who they rent property from in that area. It was said to be Paul Byrd.

Dewey Caviness told that the road has been there and is a historical trail. He owns land on the other side of the creek. He uses this road to take his tractor to get to that land so as not to have to go twenty miles out of the way. The only four-wheelers allowed should be farm vehicles and as long as they stay in the road and not trespass. This has happened before.

Lynn Myers from NC has had property in the area for five to 6 years. They come up for the weekend to Little Reed Island. He has met a lot of people including Mr. Gallimore. He feels you shouldn't condemn good people for the other people's mistakes. He goes fishing there and enjoys using the old road bed.

Mr. Hurst asked if any of the land adjoin the property along the road.

Mr. Myers stated that his land is at the bridge but they use the road bed.

Mr. Dickson asked if his property actually connects to the land along the road?

Mr. Myers stated we have been given permission to use the road.

June 14, 2010

Janet Tate stated that she has sat in meetings for two years and that she likes Olen. However, he had the same kind of problems. This is a hard issue, but he's had these problems before and the rights of the property owners should be upheld.

Conley Edwards told that he is Mr. Richardson's son in law. He told that it is a transportation road and four-wheelers are illegal to ride on the road. Mr. Richardson never gave anybody permission to ride. Mr. Coble signed a letter.

With no one else to speak the Public Hearing was closed at 6:31 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING- SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE, SUBDIVISION OF LAND CHAPTER 113

The Planning Committee addressed items of concern from the last meeting. Ronald Newman told of the proposed changes the Planning Committee approved on Thursday night.

Mr. Hurst opened the Public Hearing at 6:34 p.m.

With no one to speak the Public Hearing was closed at 6:35 p.m.

Mr. Hurst said thank you to the room for their patience. It is very rare that we have three public hearings on one agenda and this is the reason it is taking more time. We will address each item in reverse order beginning with the Subdivision Ordinance.

SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE

Upon motion by Mr. Hutchins, seconded by Mr. Dickson and passing the Board approved the changes to Subdivision Ordinance that includes changes to Subdivision of Land Chapter 113-4 stating: **Subdivisions may be completed in phases. For multiple phase subdivisions, a subdivision map key or subdivision overlay map must be included and all properties to be subdivided shall physically connect.**

And that in reference to Class B Subdivisions: All lots in Class B Subdivisions shall be a minimum of **two and one-half (2.5)** acres in size and shall not be re-subdivided.

And that in reference to Chapter 133-42 Exceptions: **A division of property by will which devises parcels with an acreage or boundary description shall not be a subdivision as defined herein, provided however that all improvements constructed on the parcels created shall comply with the International Building Code at the time of construction of improvements thereon and all parcels created shall not be further divided without compliance with the provisions of this ordinance.**

VOTES

Mr. Jackson	Yes
Mr. Hurst	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Mr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. McMillian	Yes

Noted: Mr. Littrell stated that he is opposed to the reduction in size of acreage. However he will continue to fight that in other ways.

(Order)

ROAD ABANDONMENT

Mr. Hutchins moved that the Board that this subject be moved to a table topic due to additional research needed by the Board before a decision is made. Mr. Jackson seconded.

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

Mr. Hurst told that major decisions are never easy. All of us want better things for the citizens of Carroll County. We have to think of our future. Our hopes and goals are to not increase the tax level. There is no perfect solution. Everything has pros and cons. And not everybody will be happy but we want to try and please the most people. All six of these board members have had many sleepless nights over this subject.

Dr. Littrell told that in the past he has been known to say that a building didn't educate the children but the teachers did. However, this is not the case today. We need the building, the equipment and so forth. He told that he supports the IDA and school so as not to exceed the \$26.7 million and contingent upon USDA and BABs. He told that we should allow the Administration department to sign any and all documents and move forward.

Mr. McMillian told that this has not been an easy decision. When the day is done our children will be paying for this project. But if we do not act, our children will be the ones who suffer.

Mr. Hutchins told that this subject has certainly been open for debate and discussion. He told he hadn't had any more sleepless nights than usual. He recommends two changes that are needed; the new structure and how we teach. He told that he certainly hopes that we look at innovative ways to do things. We have heard no new taxes over and over. And let's look at the median income of our county. The speakers today represent the 50% above that income. We have to weigh all sides. Then we have to think about our future. What makes this project palatable is saving lots of interest. Our Finance Department has worked to adjust our budget and by paying off debt it would not increase debt service for our schools. We need to do what is right for our children's future. I've been told the structures there are sound for the additional renovations.

Mr. Dickson told he knew that the School Board has had less time sleeping and even this morning he was unsure how to vote. He has spent time gathering information and would not vote for a tax increase or take money from school administration to fund this project. He told that he is very proud of the system we have. We respect Mr. Vaughan for keeping our schools maintained. He added that we have set ourselves apart as a progressive county. If we say no to our schools then we are not doing what we were voted in for based on the knowledge he has been given regarding this project.

Mr. Jackson told that this is the hardest thing he has had to deal with since coming onto the Board. We've all been through the same thing. It has been a hard decision. He told that he did not have a vote when he came but after reviewing everything again, he questioned Mr. Larrowe on whether he could guarantee no tax increase.

Mr. Larrowe told that there is no guarantee on anything. However, means are in place so that won't happen. Because everyone has worked diligently to structure the finances for this project so that would not happen.

Mr. Jackson told that ninety percent of the residents he spoke with were telling him to vote no. He told that he is pro-education no matter how he votes today.

Upon motion by Dr. Littrell, seconded by Mr. McMillian and passing the Board approved the proposed Phase III Renovation Project in the amount not to exceed \$ 26.7 million, contingent upon the use of USAD/Rural Development Funds and BAB Bonds and to allow Board Chair and County Administrator to sign any and all documents that may be associated with this.

VOTES

Mr. Jackson	Yes
Mr. Hurst	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes

June 14, 2010

Mr. Littrell Yes
Mr. McMillian Yes

Mr. Cornwell presented the draft resolution from the bond council of \$26.7 million, contingent upon USDA and noted if not a resolution.

Upon motion by Mr. Hutchins, seconded by Mr. Jackson and passing the Board approved the Resolution for BAB's contingent upon the USDA funds.

VOTES

Mr. Jackson Yes
Mr. Hurst Yes
Mr. Hutchins Yes
Mr. Dickson Yes
Mr. Littrell Yes
Mr. McMillian Yes

Mr. Hurst told that today starts another milestone for Carroll County and its children within the county. He told that this BOS has done an excellent job of working through many complex and time consuming issues while in office:

- We have allowed the PSA to move forward with investments in infrastructure that WILL allow this community to take advantage of the future.
- We have worked with the Town of Hillsville to settle a dispute that has been going on since prior to my birth in many ways.
- We have supported the work of Entrepreneurial growth, which has created more than 600 new jobs in our region.
- We have shown a level of regional support with Galax and Grayson County that many other counties are envious of. Due to the results, we have seen upgrades to the Farmers' Market, the relocation of the Fries Fire Department and the project to bring Higher Education to the region through a collaborative BA/ MS delivery effort with the localities and the Crossroads Institute working together. Not to mention the exciting work of bringing fiber to the region that will allow us as a community to move forward in technology and be able to turn the technology into cash for our citizens.
- Even within the past two weeks, our region has signed an option on 164 acres of the Wildwood Commerce Park that will certainly reap great dividends for this community in bringing much needed jobs of the future.

Now, it is time to invest in our "Human Capital". The way we can start this series of investments is with the funding of Phase III School remodeling of CCHS and CCIS. The time is correct to take advantage of the opportunities. The rates are as low as they will ever be at some 2.68% for 40 year term. (I might add that just because it is financed for 40 years does not mean the payments have to be for 40 years). One of the other realities is that we are in the best bidding environment that we have ever seen in my life time. Plus, we will NOT be able to take advantage of 40 year money in the future, which will increase the total cost of the project by a multiple of at least 2 or more.

With the Phase III project (along with a philosophy change in education to train individuals for high paying foundation jobs), we are working to "break the chain" of higher unemployment and are taking the advantage of the other investments we have made in this community. There should be no question that investing in our "people" will be one of the last elements that will create prosperity for our community..

Due to the financial planning we have done as a BOS, we have set the stage for today in changing course for our community. We have paid debt down, have built reserves and have done so with a stabilized tax rate. We continue to plan for a stabilized Tax Rate and are making prudent strides toward funding Phase III.

We know that this BOS cannot encumber future Boards with decisions; however it is our educated desire to create an environment where future Boards do not have to be searching for the dollars for the debt service for this project. With this being said, I would entertain a motion to dedicate \$1.5 million of the current Fund Balance to the debt payments for the 5 bridge years where additional funds will be necessary. This will leave approximately \$800k to be planned for over the next 5 years before the total debt starts to decline significantly.

This planning will allow for us to make the investment in our most precious commodity, our families, including Children!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow Board Members, IDA, School Board, Staff, USDA-RD and all of the other folks who have worked on this project so much. It has taken a cooperative effort to make this happen and we as a community will benefit from the actions of this progressive Board this evening.

He told that we should dedicate \$1.5 million dollars of the current fund balance to the debt service payments for the five bridge years where additional funds will be necessary.

Upon motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Dr. Littrell and passing the Board approved the dedication of \$1.5 million dollars of the current fund balance for the five bridge years.

VOTES

Mr. Jackson	Yes
Mr. Hurst	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Mr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. McMillian	Yes

Mr. Dickson encouraged the School Board to look at the band room since it was mentioned several times this evening. He also encouraged them to look at obtaining their building materials and labor from our local market. He acknowledged he understood the bidding process but that we can try and gain something out of this for our area.

TAX RATES/ BUDGET

Upon motion by Mr. Hutchins, seconded by Mr. McMillian and passing the Board approved the tax rate of 59.5 cents for 2010 as advertised.

VOTES

Mr. Jackson	Yes
Mr. Hurst	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Mr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. McMillian	Yes

Upon motion by Mr. Hutchins, seconded by Dr. Littrell and passing the Board approved the budget as presented.

\$39,909,569 2010 County Budget
 \$15,000 for Law Library
 \$39,662,027 School Operating
 \$72,586,596 TOTAL

WCC APPOINTEMENT

Upon motion by Dr. Littrell, seconded by Mr. Dickson and passing the Board approved to appoint Dick Dalton to the WCC Board.

VOTES

Mr. Jackson	Yes
Mr. Hurst	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Mr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. McMillian	Yes

Mr. Hutchins told that he has hired several young men from WCC and that its Vocational Education gives individuals numerous opportunities to excel. He also noted that some areas of the program need attention.

ADMINISTRATOR'S TIME

Mr. Larowe told that we have the signed copies back from the Hillsville Agreement. He introduced Kim Glass who will be working part time in the Administrator's Office and told that we will be sharing her with Mt. Airy. He told that the Farmer's Market lease has been agreed to in draft form and we hold to sign this week and move forward for the next 5 years. He told that if you drive by the fairgrounds that the large hill has been removed and the dirt has been placed across the street to make a parking lot.

SUPERVISOR'S TIME

Mr. Jackson told that he is glad to see that we still have people present. He told that he thinks most people left happy and that some hard decisions have been made. He told that he is glad that it is over and thinks they made the right decision.

Mr. Hutchins told that it has been a long day and thinks they made the right decisions for the right reasons. He told that Woodlawn tipped the scale for him and told that he doesn't think the whole building is bad, just portions. He told that he thinks that we need an agreement to share the ball fields. He told that overall they made the right decision. He told that it is sad that the thing we export is our children.

Mr. Dickson told that it has been a good day and he is pleased with the vote. He told that anytime you make decisions are good and some are bad. He told that Ms. Leggett and her father both graduated from Woodlawn and that property will now come back to the county. He told that the County has a goal of having an upgraded Recreation Department and we can possibly use the property for recreation. He told that we need a water park and this might be the place for it. He told that we are never too old to share and fellowship.

Dr. Littrell told that it has been a long day. He told that he is a man of few words and like Elizabeth Taylor always told her husband "I won't keep you long". He told that it has been a historic day and we keep checking off goals. He told that he is pleased that the vote went the way it did. He told that he has faith that the School Board will carry the project to fruition.

Mr. McMillian told that he appreciates the public coming out to support the school and the Board of Supervisor's. He told that it has been a long day and if this had been an easy vote I would have been surprised because this is a lot of money. He told that the children are the ones to pay for it if we voted yes or no. He told that he is proud that the Board stuck together and worked together. He told that we don't always agree but we can meet in the middle. He thanked Dr. Smith for working really hard on this. He congratulated Carroll County and told that we will reap a bountiful harvest.

Mr. Hurst told that he appreciates all of the citizens for coming out and he thanked the Historical Society for the presentation of the award. He told that the school board has worked hard and thanked them for all they do.

ADJOURNMENT

June 14, 2010

Upon motion by Dr. Littrell, seconded by Mr. Jackson and passing, the Board recessed until July 12, 2010 at 4:00 p.m.

VOTES

Mr. Jackson	Yes
Mr. Hurst	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. McMillian	Yes

(Order)

Chairman

Clerk