



VIRGINIA: A SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE SURRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
HELD IN THE GENERAL DISTRICT COURTROOM OF THE SURRY COUNTY GOVERNMENT
CENTER ON THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2024, 6 PM.

PRESENT: SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.
SUPERVISOR BREYON PIERCE
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM (TIM) CALHOUN
SUPERVISOR AMY DREWRY
SUPERVISOR WALTER HARDY

ABSENT:

ALSO

PRESENT: MS. LOLA PERKINS, COUNTY ATTORNEY
MS. MELISSA ROLLINS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
MS. ROBIN FAULKS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATION
MS. LAUREN CHAPMAN, WEBAPPS SPECIALIST
MR. HORACE WADE, PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
MR. RAY PHELPS, CHIEF OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
MS. LAJEUNE STONE, YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES
MR. STEVEN MORRIS, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
MS. RENEE CHAPLINE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
MR. MATT WESTHEIMER, BUILDING OFFICIAL
MS. LASONYA WHITE, VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
SHERIFF CARLOS TURNER, SURRY COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

INVOCATION

The invocation for tonight's meeting was given by Pastor Leon Pettaway of Abundant Life Christian Church.

CALL TO ORDER/MOMENT OF SILENCE/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ADOPT AGENDA

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Elliott, who then asked for a moment of silence. Following the moment of silence, he asked those present to stand and recite the pledge of allegiance. Chairperson Elliott asked if there were any questions or corrections relating to the agenda. There being none, Supervisor Pierce made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Supervisor Drewry seconded the motion. All present voted affirmatively. (Approved)

SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.	AYE
SUPERVISOR BREYON PIERCE	AYE
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM “TIM” CALHOUN	AYE
SUPERVISOR AMY DREWRY	AYE
SUPERVISOR WALTER HARDY	AYE

Consent Items

1. Approval of Draft BOS Minutes - February 8, 2024
2. Approval of Draft BOS Special Meeting Minutes - February 21, 2024
3. Approval of Draft BOS Work Session Minutes - February 21, 2024
4. Approval of Accounts Payables for \$528,696.81
5. Resolution: April as Surry County Clean-up Month
6. Resolution: March Women's History Month
7. Resolution: Recognizing and Supporting Surry Youth Sports Program
8. Resolution: Participation of Board Supervisors in Meetings by Electronic Communications Means
9. Budget Amendment - Funding for Tyler MUNIS ERP
10. Surry County Public Schools - Budget Amendments

Supervisor Elliott read the items listed for consent and asked Board members if any items needed to be pulled for discussion. Supervisor Drewry asked for an explanation for items #8 and #9. Ms. Perkins provided clarity on item #8 and Ms. Rollins provided clarity on #9. There being no further discussions on the consent items, Supervisor Hardy made a motion to approve the consent items as enumerated. Supervisor Pierce seconded the motion. All present voted affirmatively. (Approved)

New Business

1. **Virginia’s Gateway Region Industrial Facilities Authority (RIFA) Agreement** – Melissa Rollins, County Administrator presented the Board with a brief history of the RIFA agreement. A Public Hearing was held at the February 3, 2022 meeting to consider adopting an ordinance to join the Virginia’s Gateway Region Industrial Facilities Authority (ARIFA) in collaboration and cooperation with the City of Colonial Heights, the County of Dinwiddie, the City of Hopewell, the City of Petersburg, the County of Prince George, and the County of Sussex, to foster economic growth and development of the region by developing, owning and operating one or more facilities on a cooperative basis with the other member localities. This followed a presentation from Keith Boswell, Executive Director of the Virginia Gateway Region, outlining the process for creation of this agreement. The

ordinance was adopted by the Board at the February 3, 2022, meeting. Since that time, the localities of Petersburg, Hopewell, and Prince George have elected not to sign the agreement and necessary steps to implement the ARIFA, such as filing with the Secretary of the Commonwealth, were never taken by the participating localities. Further, current legal counsels for the various remaining jurisdictions have revised certain language in the agreement that requires all interested localities to approve and sign or re-sign. At this time, staff is recommending that we forego participating in the agreement.

Supervisor Drewry made a motion to not participate in the Virginia Gateway Region Regional Industrial Facility Authority Agreement. Supervisor Calhoun seconded the motion. All present voted affirmatively. (Approved)

2. Recognizing and Supporting Surry Youth Sports Program

Supervisor Elliott asked to refer back to #7 of the consent items, Resolution Recognizing and Supporting Surry Youth Sports Program. Supervisor Pierce read the resolution, and Mr. Newby was recognized and thanked for his services to the youth of the County.

3. Emergency Operations Center - Security Access Control Upgrade

Steven Morris, Director of Finance, presented for approval the request to upgrade the security access control system at the Emergency Operations Center.

Supervisor Pierce made a motion to authorize the County Administrator to enter a contract with Carahsoft for the security access control upgrade at the Emergency Operations Center in the amount of \$86,222. Supervisor Hardy seconded the motion. All present voted affirmatively. (Approved)

Special Presentations

1. Radio Communication System Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Ms. Rollins, County Administrator read the proclamation of the County's near completion of the New Mobile Radio Community Center Project, whereas the Go-Live of the New System was officially on Feb. 20, 2024. (A copy of the proclamation is attached as an integral component of the minutes). Comments were given by Mr. Ray Phelps, Chief of Emergency Management and Mr. Drew Schuetz, Motorola Representative on the success of the project. A brief ribbon cutting ceremony followed.

Supervisor Pierce made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Supervisor Calhoun seconded the motion. All present voted affirmatively. (Approved)

County Administrators Report

1. ERP Project Update - This update was continued to a future date.
2. Economic Development Update – Ms. Renee Chapline – Ms. Chapline provided a brief update on planned Agri-Tourism and workforce initiatives and progress of the local market.
3. New Report – key performance indicators from departments is included as a tool for county operations.

Public Comments

Lola Perkins, County Attorney, read a portion of the Citizens' Comments guidelines, which can be found in the Board of Supervisors Bylaws on the County's website.

- Robert Chandler, Bacon's Castle District – Shared comments in relation to Affordable Housing in the County.
- Julie Verdaguer, Dendron District -Shared concerns with the sidewalks in the vicinity of Dendron.
- Susan Corvello, Claremont District – Shared concerns with the County's website.
- Dianne Cheek, Surry District – Shared concerns with the Data Center
- Mike Eggleston, Dendron District – Shared concerns with transparency and solar projects.

Board Comments

- Supervisor Calhoun – Thanked all who shared their public comments, as well as those citizens who participated virtually. Shared his desire to look into the Data Center a bit more in depth, specifically the surrounding areas of the data center. Shared the need of affordable housing.
- Supervisor Hardy – Thanked citizens for their participation. Shared an update of his recent Board of Social Services Meeting. Elaborated briefly on the Percentage of Income Payment Program (PIPP) coordinated by Dominion Energy. Mentioned recognition of March as Women's History Month and Cancer Awareness Month and spoke of the importance of colonoscopy examination. Recognized Surry Youth Sports for the service to the youth of the County. Expressed the need for more volunteers and youth participation to ensure the success of this youth program.

- Supervisor Drewry – Stated her concerns with the state of democracy in the County; elected officials’ capacity with governing the County.
- Supervisor Pierce – Thanked all citizens who came out. Recognized the newly implemented Radio Communications System. Shared that the annual Joe Ellis celebration will be March 16. Recognized Women’s History Month. Shared that March 19 is National Ag Day. Asked citizens to be patient and mindful of the heavy farming equipment, as there will be an increase of these on the road during this time of year. Reminded citizens of an upcoming job fair on April 9. Asked parents to collaborate with the schools and community by teaching children appropriate behavior. Recognized Surry Youth Sports Program for their service to the youth of the county.
- Supervisor Elliott – Elaborated on the progress of projects that are currently being implemented in the County. Ensured citizens that his focus is for the betterment of the entire County and his dedication is to Surry County. Shared that the board follows a democratic process and as long as that process is followed, there is nothing that can be said that was done unjust.

Closed Session

1. Motion to Enter into Closed Session

Ms. Lola Perkins, County Attorney, advised the need to convene into closed session as permitted by Virginia Code:

§ 2.2-3711(A)(1): To discuss appointments to the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Supervisor Pierce made a motion to convene into a closed session. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Hardy and unanimously approved.

SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.	AYE
SUPERVISOR BREYON PIERCE	AYE
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM “TIM” CALHOUN	AYE
SUPERVISOR AMY DREWRY	AYE
SUPERVISOR WALTER HARDY	AYE

2. Motion to Return from Closed Session

Ms. Lola Perkins, County Attorney, advised the need to return from the closed session in accordance with the Virginia Code 2.2-3712 (D).

The Board returned to open session and certified by roll call vote that in the closed session just concluded, nothing was discussed except the matter or matters specifically identified

in the motion to convene in closed session and lawfully permitted to be discussed under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act cited in the motion.

Supervisor Pierce made a motion to return to open session. Supervisor Calhoun seconded the motion and unanimously approved by rollcall. (Approved)

All present voted affirmatively.

SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.	AYE
SUPERVISOR BREYON PIERCE	AYE
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM “TIM” CALHOUN	AYE
SUPERVISOR AMY DREWRY	AYE
SUPERVISOR WALTER HARDY	AYE

3. Board of Zoning Appeals Reappointments

Supervisor Hardy made a motion to recommend the following individuals to the Circuit Court to be appointed to the Board of Zoning Appeals. Supervisor Calhoun seconded the motion.

- Vanessa Scott, Carsley District
- Roselynn Miller, Surry District
- Stuart Berryman, Bacons Castle District
- Neal Bagshaw, Alternate

All present voted as follows, (Approved)

SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.	AYE
SUPERVISOR BREYON PIERCE	AYE
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM “TIM” CALHOUN	AYE
SUPERVISOR AMY DREWRY	AYE
SUPERVISOR WALTER HARDY	AYE

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, Supervisor Pierce made a motion that the Board continue their meeting to March 21, 2024, at 5 p.m. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Calhoun. All present voted affirmatively. (Approved)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 PM.

This meeting can be viewed in its entirety through the Surry County Government Website: [Surry County Government Channel By Clicking This Link.](#)



RESOLUTION 2024-04

PUBLIC SAFETY MOBILE RADIO COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the New Public Safety radio communication system went online at approximately 2:15 p.m. on February 20, 2024, and the Surry County Emergency Communications Center dispatchers began broadcasting on a new 700 MHz radio system.

WHEREAS, the \$5.4 million investment by the Board of Supervisors includes upfront project cost plus 10 years of maintenance enables our first responders to provide critical emergency services in a more effective and efficient manner than ever before. The first call on the new system was handled flawlessly.

WHEREAS, the County's Board of Supervisor's priority is to make sure residents are safe which requires significant investments in radio communication, ambulance services, fire trucks and apparatus, rescue vehicles, sheriff vehicles, and other public safety communication platforms.

WHEREAS, in FY 2023-2024, the County delivered on the new mobile radio project replacing a 25+ year legacy system that has plagued the County with poor communication for public safety users; the New Public Radio Communication System provides true inoperability for sheriff, fire, emergency management and EMS communication in Surry County.

WHEREAS, the County will have the ability to communicate with surrounding counties and the State during local and regional events, natural and nuclear disasters.

WHEREAS, the new system has numerous advantages over the one it replaces. It utilizes microwave technology which is recognized as the most reliable form of radio communication and allows for up to 4 channels currently (a 5th channel is planned) for public safety response to communicate without interruption from other calls; the signal strength and clarity of the new system is unsurpassed as demonstrated. The system was tested in areas that had previously been problematic with only 60% or less coverage. With 98% coverage, this is a life-changing investment.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Surry County Board of Supervisors recognizes this visible milestone with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony held on the 7th and 8th Day of March, 2024.

Robert Elliott, Jr. Chair

Breyon Pierce, Vice-Chair

Timothy Calhoun

Amy Drewry

Walter Hardy

Robert L. Elliott Jr.
Breyon Pierce
Timothy Calhoun
Amy Drewry
Walter Hardy

Attest:

Melissa D. Rollins, Clerk

Melissa D. Rollins