

**LUNENBURG COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
GENERAL DISTRICT COURTROOM
LUNENBURG COURTS BUILDING
LUNENBURG, VIRGINIA**

Minutes of July 9, 2020 Meeting

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Lunenburg County Board of Supervisors was held on Thursday, July 9, 2020 at 6:00 pm in the General District Courtroom, Lunenburg Courts Building, Lunenburg, Virginia. The following members were present: Supervisors Frank Bacon, Edward Pennington, T. Wayne Hoover, Alvester Edmonds, Mike Hankins, Charles R. Slayton, Robert Zava, County Administrator Tracy M. Gee, Deputy Administrator Nicole A. Clark, and County Attorney Frank Rennie.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, guests, Supervisors and staff adhered to social distancing (maintaining a distance of at least six feet from others) and masks when social distancing was not possible in the courtroom.

Chairman Slayton called the meeting to order.

Supervisor Hankins provided the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Slayton requested additions to the agenda from the Board and the public. There were no additions.

Supervisor Hankins made motion, seconded by Supervisor Edmonds and approved by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes and none voting no, to accept the Consent Agenda to include the Minutes of the June 11th and June 18th, 2020 meeting, the Treasurer's May 2020 reports, and the following Warrants for Approval:

June 2020:

Payroll Direct Deposit:	\$ 129,654.67
Payroll Check #17218	\$ 840.93
Payroll Taxes Federal:	\$ 41,042.00
Payroll Taxes State:	\$ 7,335.41
Payroll VRS payment:	\$ 27,056.07
Payroll ICMA-RC payment:	\$ 529.22
Payroll Health Savings Deposits:	\$ 4,936.08
Accounts Payable: #59321-59447	<u>\$ 452,974.24</u>
 Total:	 \$ 664,368.62

The monthly VDOT report was reviewed. Administrator Gee advised that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, VDOT representatives were not attending public meetings. Supervisor Edmonds noted that he would still like to setup a meeting to discuss potential projects for the Secondary Six Year Plan.

School Superintendent Charles Berkley provided his monthly report. He noted that they will be releasing a detailed letter on plans for reopening schools after the School Board meets for their upcoming meeting. The plan will detail how schools will operate for the 2020-21 School Year, as well as address any

changes that may be implemented in the case of any COVID-19 outbreaks. Mr. Berkley noted that all students will be provided with a computer and/or tablet and WiFi hot spots will be placed in areas of the county where internet service or WiFi is limited or non-existent. This equipment will be purchased with CARES Act funds.

Assistant Superintendent and Finance Director James Abernathy approached the Board with the monthly financial report. He advised that due to an increase in Average Daily Membership (ADM) from a projected number of 1467 to an actual count of 1521, the school’s state funds revenue would be increased by \$417,625. Mr. Abernathy added that there had been a decrease in state sales tax revenue and lottery funds revenue due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, with the increase in state funds, they should not be impacted by the loss of revenue. Mr. Abernathy shared a resolution, approved by the School Board, to increase the FY2020 State Funds in the amount of \$417,625, amending the total FY2020 School Board Budget to \$18,518,401. Administrator Gee noted that \$417,625 represented more than one percent of the total county budget and would require a public hearing.

Supervisor Hoover made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Edmonds and by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes and none voting no, to advertise for a public hearing to increase the FY2020 School Board State Funds Revenue by \$417,625, amending the total FY2020 School Board Budget to \$18,518,401.

Administrator Gee advised that the General Assembly recently approved to amend section 53.1-120 of the Code of Virginia, allowing local governing bodies to increase the fee charged in each criminal or traffic case in its district or circuit court in which the defendant is convicted of a violation of any statute or ordinance. The amendment allows the locality to increase the fee up to a maximum of \$20.00. The purpose of the fee is to assist in funding courthouse or courtroom security for the Sheriff’s Office. Per Section 34-2 of the Lunenburg County Code, the county’s current fee is \$10.00. Administrator Gee requested the Board consider raising the fee to \$20.00. She noted that increasing the fee and updating the code would require a public hearing.

Supervisor Bacon made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Edmonds and by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes and none voting no, to advertise for a public hearing to increase the fee charged to \$20.00 in each criminal or traffic case in which the defendant is convicted of a violation of any statute or ordinance.

Administrator Gee requested the Board approve Capital Carryover Funds for Emergency Services as listed below.

EMERGENCY SERVICES CAPITAL CARRYOVER FROM FY20 TO FY21

ORGANIZATION	FY20 CARRYOVER	+	FY21 BUDGET =	REVISED FY21 BUDGET
KENBRIDGE FIRE:	\$30,000.00	+	\$30,000.00	=\$60,000.00
VICTORIA FIRE & RESCUE:	\$37,383.39	+	\$90,000.00	=\$127,383.39
MEHERRIN FIRE & RESCUE:	\$10,000.00	+	\$35,000.00	=\$45,000.00
SHERIFF'S OFFICE:	\$10,211.97	+	\$30,000.00	=\$40,211.97

Supervisor Hankins made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Edmonds and by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes and none voting no, to approve carryover funds from FY2019-20 to FY2020-21 for

Emergency Services to include \$30,000 in carry over for Kenbridge Fire, \$37,383.39 for Victoria Fire & Rescue, \$10,000 for Meherrin Fire & Rescue and \$10,211.97 for the Sheriff's Department.

Supervisor Hoover made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Pennington and by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes and none voting no, to place the abstract of votes for The 2020 June Democratic and Republican Primary Elections held on June 23, 2020 into the meeting minutes.

ABSTRACT of VOTES

Cast in LUNENBURG COUNTY, VIRGINIA
at the 2020 June Democratic Primary Election held on June 23, 2020 for,
Member House of Representatives
District: 05

NAMES OF CANDIDATES ON THE BALLOT	TOTAL VOTES RECEIVED (IN FIGURES)
B. Cameron Webb	419
Claire C. Russo	85
R. D. Huffstetter Jr.	47
John D. Lesinski	21

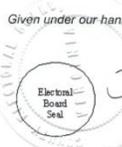
We, the undersigned Electoral Board, upon examination of the official records deposited with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of the election held on June 23, 2020, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct Abstract of Votes cast at said election for the Member House of Representatives.

ABSTRACT of VOTES

Cast in LUNENBURG COUNTY, VIRGINIA
at the 2020 June Republican Primary Election held on June 23, 2020 for,
Member United States Senate

NAMES OF CANDIDATES ON THE BALLOT	TOTAL VOTES RECEIVED (IN FIGURES)
Daniel M. Gade	291
Alissa A. Baldwin	289
Thomas A. Speciale II	40

We, the undersigned Electoral Board, upon examination of the official records deposited with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of the election held on June 23, 2020, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct Abstract of Votes cast at said election for the Member United States Senate.

Given under our hands this 26th day of JUNE, 2020

[Signature], Chairman
[Signature], Vice Chairman
[Signature], Secretary
[Signature], Acting Secretary

Given under our hands this 26th day of JUNE, 2020

[Signature], Chairman
[Signature], Vice Chairman
[Signature], Secretary
[Signature], Acting Secretary

Administrator Gee shared a request from Commonwealth Attorney Robert Clement to declare three overhead projectors as surplus property. Commonwealth Attorney Clement that the projectors were obtained over 20 years ago and are outdated technology.

Supervisor Bacon made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Edmonds and by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes and none voting no, to declare three overhead projectors as surplus property as requested by Commonwealth Attorney Robert Clement.

County Attorney Rennie explained there had been much discussion nationwide regarding Civil War monuments on public grounds. He provided a background on the monument located on the Lunenburg County courthouse grounds. The monument was placed on the Courthouse grounds in 1968 by the United Daughters of the Confederacy after being located in the Town of Victoria from 1916 to 1968. The inscription on the monument reads as follows: "In memory of the confederate soldiers of Lunenburg County, and the cause for which they fought from 1861 to 1865". The monument goes on to state: "We fought for the sovereignty of the states". Also inscribed on the monument is: "The fame and deeds of heroes will live" and "Our patriotic womanhood was an inspiration". County Attorney Rennie provided the following options:

(1) Don't remove the monument. This can be done by either tabling the issue without taking action, or by adding it to the agenda and voting to allow the monument to remain. This can be done with or without a public hearing.

(2) Remove the monument. To do this, the Board must hold a public hearing and vote affirmatively to remove the monument. After voting, the Board must wait 30 days to allow any historical group or society to come forward with a plan to relocate the monument. The cost to relocate/remove the monument has not been addressed.

(3) Hold a referendum. The law took effect on July 1, which gives the Board the authority to place the question of the monument on the November election ballot. This would allow the citizens of Lunenburg to present an advisory opinion to the Board. If the Board decides to hold a referendum, a public hearing would not be held until after the referendum answer is certified following the November election.

County Attorney Rennie stated that if the Board wants to hold a referendum, quick action must be taken to get the question on the November ballot. The Circuit Court will issue an order to the Electoral Board to place the question on the ballot, and all of this must be done by August 1, 2020.

The Board allowed for limited public comment. Mr. Timothy Hatley of 1077 Newcomb Bridge Road, Mr. Ron Graves of Charlotte County, Ms. Karen Hawthorne of 7758 Craig Mill Road, and Ms. Brittany Ryan of 5927 Courthouse Road, all spoke in favor of leaving the monument on the courthouse grounds. Ms. Patricia Harper-Tunley of 2509 Unity Road spoke in favor of removing the monument from the courthouse grounds.

Supervisor Edmonds made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Pennington, to remove the monument from the courthouse grounds. The motion did not carry.

Supervisor Hankins commented that both points of view had been addressed by the public. He recommended that the Board receive more opinions from the public by holding a referendum at the November election. Supervisor Hoover agreed, noting that such a decision should be determined by the residents of the county and each supervisor could take direction from the results of the referendum.

Supervisor Hankins made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Hoover and by roll call vote, with Supervisors Bacon, Hankins, Hoover, Slayton, and Zava voting yes and Supervisors Edmonds and Pennington voting no, to allow County Attorney Rennie to prepare a petition to the Circuit Court to order the Electoral Board to place the question of whether to allow the monument to remain on the courthouse grounds or to have it removed.

Administrator Gee provided an update on COVID-19 CARES funds. She advised that the committee consisting of herself and Supervisors Hoover and Edmonds, met earlier in the day. She stated that the committee agreed to appropriate \$15,000 to each town and \$15,000 to the school system to spend how they determined to best aid in the pandemic. She added that all invoices should be forwarded to the County Administration Office for payment, as a separate CARES fund had been set up to assist in tracking expenses. Administrator Gee advised that the committee has earmarked \$400,000 of the funds to use as small business grants. She will be working to finalize the application process based on the committee's recommendations. Funds will be awarded in increments of \$5,000, \$7,500 and \$10,000. She advised there may be an additional round of grant awards later in the year based on the status of the pandemic and remaining funds available.

Administrator Gee explained that the committee had reviewed all expense requests during their meeting and determined which requests were approved with the use of CARES funds. They will continue to review requests for approval as funds allow.

The monthly Community Development report was provided. Administrator Gee advised that there was an upcoming Planning Commission meeting scheduled. One of the topics of discussion would be a Conditional Use Permit Application for Red Brick, LLC to construct and operate a utility scale solar array. Representatives of Red Brick, LLC will be holding an informational meeting for the public the following week. Supervisor Hoover requested that County Planner Glenn Millican attend the August meeting to provide an update on the CUP application as well as his progress on formulating a plan for business licenses in the county.

Administrator Gee provided her monthly report. She advised that she has an interview scheduled with an applicant for the Airport Manager position, as Mr. Leroy Baker is retiring. Administrator Gee noted that the COVID-19 Testing event held in Lunenburg was held on June 27th with 377 tests performed and only two resulted in positive tests. She thanked the local volunteers and the Piedmont Health District staff members for coordinating the event.

Supervisor Hoover made motion, seconded by Supervisor Edmonds and by roll call vote, with all seven Supervisors voting yes and none voting no, approved, adjourn.

Tracy M. Gee, Clerk
County Administrator

Charles R. Slayton, Chairman
Board of Supervisors