

A REGULAR WORK SESSION WAS HELD BY THE NEW KENT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ON THE 28th DAY OF JANUARY IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND FIFTEEN IN THE BOARDROOM OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, NEW KENT, VIRGINIA, AT 9:00 A.M.

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IN RE: CALL TO ORDER

Chairman C. Thomas Tiller, Jr. called the meeting to order. He reminded those present this was a work session and there would be no public comment time.

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IN RE: ROLL CALL

Thomas W. Evelyn	Present
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Present
James H. Burrell	Present
Ron Stiers	Present
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Present

All members were present.

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IN RE: CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Burrell moved to go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711A.5 of the Code of Virginia for discussion concerning a prospective business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community involving a new business; Section 2.2-3711A.29 of the Code of Virginia for discussion of the award of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds, including interviews of bidders or offerors, and discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the Board involving a county wide radio system; 2.2-3711A.7 of the Code of Virginia for consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by the Board regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel involving contract negotiations. The members were polled:

Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
James H. Burrell	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye

The motion carried. The Board went into closed session.

Mr. Davis moved to return to open session. The members were polled:

James H. Burrell	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye

The motion carried.

Mr. Davis made the following certification:

Whereas, the New Kent County Board of Supervisors has convened in a closed session on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

Whereas, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board that such closed session was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

Now there be it resolved that the Board hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open session requirements by Virginia law were discussed in closed session to which this certification resolution applies and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed session were heard, discussed or considered by the Board.

The Chairman inquired whether there was any member who believed that there was a departure from the motion. Hearing none, the members were polled on the certification:

Ron Stiers	Aye
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
James H. Burrell	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye

The motion carried.

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IN RE: YORK RIVER STEWARDSHIP PROJECT

Environmental Planning Manager Matthew Venable introduced Michael Steen, Director of Development and Education at the Yorktown Waterman's Museum. Mr. Steen reported the York River Stewardship Project was a regional eco-heritage tourism, environmental project with a goal of facilitating an increase in public awareness and knowledge about the heritage and ecology of the York River and the Chesapeake Bay. Mr. Steen indicated that a portion of the project would include the use of new technology to resurvey the sunken fleet at Yorktown and the possible establishment of a State Park in Gloucester County near Rosewell. The end goal of the project would be to have the five adjoining localities work together to have the 34 mile long York River designated as a State Historic and Scenic River.

Mr. Davis noted the Federal Government owned property along the York River and asked if this would present any problems with obtaining the historic and scenic designation; Mr. Tiller asked if the designation would put any limitations on landowners and Mr. Stiers asked if the designation would have any impact on fishermen. Mr. Steen indicated ownership of the adjoining property would present no problems and landowners and fishermen would not be impacted. He added that the designation would not impact any laws currently in place.

Mr. Steen indicated one of the many benefits of having the scenic designation would be the York River would receive regional, state, national and international name recognition and promotion. This could result in increased tourism impacting businesses associated with water activities as well as ancillary businesses such as restaurants, gas stations, hotels and historic sites.

Mr. Steen provided details on the process of obtaining the historic and scenic designation and noted the first step would be to have the county governments of the localities adjacent to the river create a unified document to request the DCR (Virginia Department of

Conservation and Recreation) to conduct a study of the river. He indicated he had a letter prepared for DCR and asked if the Board would be interested in signing at this meeting.

County Administrator Rodney Hathaway asked if New Kent was the first locality to be approached with this request. Mr. Steen reported he had been working with the other localities and was scheduled to present the information to the Gloucester Board of Supervisors the following week. He also reported the project had received staff approval in York County and county administration and staff approval in both James City County and King and Queen County with those localities preparing to take the project to their respective boards.

Mr. Evelyn suggested New Kent wait to see the responses from other localities involved. Mr. Davis agreed and suggested New Kent citizens should be given the opportunity for public comment. Chairman Tiller asked that this be scheduled for the March business meeting.

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IN RE: COLONIAL DOWNS CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT/  
UPDATE ON STATUS OF COLONIAL DOWNS

Mr. Stan Guidroz, who had recently been named Colonial Downs Interim President, introduced himself. He indicated he had worked for Colonial Downs owner Jeffrey Jacobs in Louisiana since 2000 and the recent retirement of Ian Stewart had opened up the opportunity for him to come to Colonial Downs. He added that he was looking forward to working with the Board.

Colonial Downs had proposed amending their 2002 Conditional Use Permit to allow for accessory uses without the condition that it must hold a valid pari-mutuel horseracing license. Colonial Downs Attorney Jeff Geiger indicated this request had been made in order to allow the facility to continue hosting accessory events while they worked to bring horseracing back to Colonial Downs. He reported that a Color Run was scheduled for April 11<sup>th</sup> and this requirement would need to be removed in order for this event to be held. He added that removing this requirement would also allow the facility to host other events such as motorcycle races, the County Fair and other runs. He reported he had worked with Mr. Stiers to amend the proposal to eliminate mud bogs, truck pulls and monster truck shows from the list of approved accessory events. He also reported he had worked closely with County Attorney Michelle Gowdy to develop the Resolution to be presented to the Board. Ms. Gowdy indicated Planning Manager Kelli Le Duc had been working on the final revisions earlier in the day.

Mr. Davis noted that a tractor pull had been held at the County Fair several years ago and it had been one of the most successful fairs. He added that the event featured antique tractors which did not make much noise and he was concerned this would no longer be allowed. The general consensus was if an antique tractor pull were to be given consideration as a future County Fair attraction, any concerns could be addressed at that time.

Mr. Guidroz was asked to provide an update on the current status of Colonial Downs. Mr. Guidroz provided a brief history of the events back to 2013 which had ultimately lead to the track turning in its unlimited racing license. He reported there were several horseracing bills currently in General Assembly. One of those bills, which he referred to as the "Historical Racing Bill" or "growth bill", was focused on growing pari-mutuel wagering and stabilizing revenue. He indicated that he did not expect this bill would make it through. Another bill proposed to split pari-mutuel purses and expenses and proposed five days of high-end racing and fifteen days of bread and butter racing at Colonial Downs. In addition,

Mr. Guidroz reported the "Horsemen" also had a similar bill before the General Assembly which provided no funds to Colonial Downs or New Kent County and, if passed, would ultimately close the track. He suggested more would be known in a month or so and they would continue to argue the case every day. He added that Jeffrey Jacobs was very committed to high-end racing in general at Colonial Downs and stated "we'll continue to fight this fight." He suggested that a hybrid license allowing up to fifty days of racing may also be proposed.

Mr. Geiger noted, if approved, the track would only have the requested CUP for a period of time. Mr. Davis indicated he felt the Board had bent over backward to work with Colonial Downs and the County missed the revenue and jobs.

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IN RE: RADIO PROJECT

Sheriff Wakie Howard, Chief Deputy Joe McLaughlin as well as County Administrator Rodney Hathaway opened discussions regarding the proposed radio project. Mr. Hathaway stated the County was currently in the process of negotiating a contract with a regional group comprised of York County, James City County and Gloucester County and Motorola. County Attorney Michelle Gowdy indicated there were a few items remaining to work out with Motorola and many risks and unknowns remained in the contract. She noted that two of the tower sites remained "unidentified" and, after a recent meeting with Henrico County, it was doubtful a tower site would be located at the jail.

Mr. Evelyn asked, given the number of unknowns, what the possibility was of negotiating with Motorola for an additional sixty days.

Sheriff Howard indicated this had been discussed in a meeting held the previous day. He added that he thought everyone understood this project was desperately needed by New Kent's citizens and it was not only for the Fire Department and the Sheriff's Office but also for New Kent County Public Schools. He indicated that the biggest number of radios would be going to schools. Sheriff Howard noted representatives from most of the localities involved and Motorola were present and suggested they be invited to the table to answer any questions.

Mr. Burrell expressed his and the Board's concern regarding unknown costs and stated the Board needed something firm.

Vice President of Mid-Atlantic Motorola Jackie Wasni introduced herself to the Board. She indicated that Motorola had provided three proposals over the past year with the latest proposal made five months ago giving a firm price of \$5.995 million. She added that Motorola had gone to great pains to offer a complete system at \$5.995 million which would allow New Kent to join with Gloucester, York and James City. She noted the Board's concerns regarding the contingency estimates and indicated that contingency was sometimes a difficult thing to "get your arms around". She reported that the contingency estimate was originally set at \$800,000 and that industry practice was to allow ten percent which would be approximately \$600,000 for this project. She stated the contingency estimate had recently been lowered to \$415,000 and the list of possible contingency items contained none considered to be high risk, two considered medium risk and all others were low risk. She indicated this estimate was based on a worst-case scenario and the two medium risk items totaled an estimated \$170,000. Ms. Wasni recommended the Board enter into the contract for \$5.995 million and hold Motorola accountable to the contingency amount with the understanding they would need to come back to the Board for guidance in the event of any unforeseen items.

York County Communications Manager Terry Hall, addressing the topic of a contingency fund, stated that all projects had risk dollars and a contingency fund was necessary. He added that New Kent should not let Motorola in on the contingency amount and this amount should not be included in the contract. He noted there were a number of risks/unknowns associated with the four towers needed for the project and suggested some of those risks would not be fully known until digging for the towers began. He added that if certain soils were found, it may become necessary to increase the amounts of concrete and steel and it may also be necessary to "beef up" the struts on an existing tower. He again suggested that the contingency amount should not be included in the contract and stressed that the contingency would only be spent if needed. He assured the Board that "a bunch of frilly things" had not been added to the project and the focus had been on doing what needed to be done to get the towers in place.

Mike McGannon with Engineering Associates, Inc. introduced himself and indicated he worked for New Kent County as a consultant. Mr. Evelyn asked Mr. McGannon if New Kent was paying him for his services to which he answered, "yes". Mr. Tiller then asked Mr. McGannon if he was also being paid by the Consortium to which he also answered, "yes". Mr. McGannon indicated there were normal risks associated with the proposed project and, when a contract was signed for six million dollars, the County should be made aware of those risks as a part of due diligence.

Mr. Hall suggested that from a life and safety perspective New Kent needed to increase its radio coverage and the County's current radio system was a "problem lying in wait". He indicated that as soon as an agreement was signed, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) could be finalized. He reported that historically the radio projects he had been involved with had been under or on budget, on time and had met all specs.

Mr. Evelyn asked Mr. Hall if he was paid by the Consortium. Mr. Hall indicated that he did receive payment from the members of the Consortium. Mr. Evelyn asked if the new system would allow New Kent to be able to communicate with Henrico County. Mr. Hall indicated that the two counties would be able to communicate and the system would be cross-compatible for both 700 mhz and 800 mhz systems. Interoperability channels would be available and a dongle or USB device could be used for upgrading all radios. Mr. Evelyn asked if New Kent would need a switch to be able to communicate with Henrico. Mr. Hall indicated a switch would be needed and that switch was already in place in York.

Ms. Wasni noted that the Richmond area was currently on the Motorola Legacy system and would soon be upgrading. She indicated this upgrade could possibly also result in increased operability.

Mr. Evelyn asked Mr. McGannon if the statement he had made back in September in which he indicated New Kent would not be eligible for Department of Homeland Security grants was true. Mr. McGannon indicated it was true if New Kent decided not to go with a regional system, it would not qualify for the grants. Mr. Hall indicated that priority would be given to projects designed to increase regional interoperability and smaller purchases were handled differently. Mr. Stiers asked if grants were available for smaller projects. Mr. Hall indicated grants were available for smaller projects and New Kent had applied for those in the past.

Mr. Burrell noted there would be four towers and asked if they would be in the 300 to 400 feet range. Mr. Hall indicated the tower height would be based upon the topography of the selected sites. He reported that microwave systems would be located lower on the towers with other system equipment located at higher levels. All towers would be designed to hold three users and the County could offer other availability to surrounding localities. Mr. Hall

added that cellular equipment would also come in on lower levels and the County could negotiate contracts with those vendors.

Mr. Davis noted it had been stated the contract would be for \$5.995 million and the contingency was estimated to be \$415,000 and he asked if the contingency was included in the \$5.995 million figure. Ms. Wasni indicated the contingency was not included in the contract. Mr. Davis asked when annual maintenance costs estimated to be \$348,000 would become due. Ms. Wasni reported that the system would have a two-year warranty after "acceptance" by the County and "acceptance" would be defined as the County's ability to enjoy "beneficial use" of the system.

Mr. Hall indicate that as Project Manager he had access to five radios James City County currently had in its cache which could be installed in New Kent immediately. Mr. Hall indicated there were several Project Managers involved with equal roles. He noted the focus would be to get the system up and operational and conduct range testing, all of which would take some time and could be used to stretch out the actual date of "acceptance" for as long as possible.

Mr. Burrell asked Mr. Hall what he was being paid by the members of the Consortium. Mr. Hall indicated that James City County and Gloucester County were paying him \$25,000 each. He added this information would be included in New Kent's MOU and ultimately in the County's operating budget.

Mr. Davis inquired about the costs associated with future upgrades. Mr. Hall indicated this project would be a six million dollar deal for New Kent which would be locked into a forty million dollar upgrade for the entire regional system. Costs associated with future upgrades were factored into the estimated annual maintenance costs and were also covered during the two-year warranty period. He noted that once upgraded, the system should last for fifteen years. Mr. Davis asked if there was much difference in the price between release version 7.14 and 7.13. Mr. Hall indicated that only the latest release would be available for sale and this would be a very complex project or a "super system".

Mr. Hathaway indicated that New Kent would be responsible for an additional \$80,000 in 2019 when the system in York County would be upgraded.

Mr. Evelyn indicated that the Board wanted to go with Motorola but felt the contract needed to be "hammered out a little better", a fixed price was needed and other options should be considered. Mr. Hall indicated problems with further delaying would be the \$400,000 grant would be lost and the FCC licenses would expire. He noted that New Kent could not operate alone without a stand-alone switch. Mr. Davis asked if the County could operate with its own FCC licenses and Mr. Evelyn asked if the frequencies were in New Kent's name. Mr. Hall indicated that the County could use its own license and the frequencies were in New Kent's name. Mr. McGannon indicated the licenses would expire in April and a significant commitment to the project would need to be shown by then.

Ms. Wasni indicated this proposal was the third proposal and it was for a fixed price. She noted there was a change order process to handle anything unforeseen and in fact, the entire project was a change order to a previous project. She added the contingency came into play to handle unknowns and had been estimated at less than the ten percent industry standard. She reiterated that \$170,000 of the \$415,000 contingency was for medium risk items and the balance was for items considered to be lower risk and suggested that \$415,000 was the high end and \$170,000 was a reasonable amount.

In response to Mr. Evelyn's request for a fixed price, Mr. Hall indicated that in the thirty years he had been involved in communications he had never seen a radio vendor offer a "turn-key" price and had never seen a contract without a contingency. He added that it was difficult to spend millions without running into something. Ms. Wasni added that Motorola did not do "not to exceed" contracts as it was not good practice.

Ms. Wasni reported that Motorola's National Engineering Manager had designed the system and the system was considered a showcase for Motorola in the Tidewater Area. She noted her Company's desire to make New Kent happy and to keep the project on budget and reminded the Board that it would not be possible to control all things.

Mr. Hall indicated that a great performing regional system had been built one radio, one link and one tower at a time. He suggested that nothing less than what the other localities were using was being proposed for New Kent. He noted it would be a system that would be used every day for every call and the commitment was to provide this system to New Kent on budget with a small amount of contingency being made available "just in case" for unknowns.

Sheriff Howard indicated this had been a long arduous task and he thought all understood the need as could be evidenced by tapes from the 911 Center. Citing an incident involving a student at a school last year, he noted that if this situation had occurred out on the road the outcome may have been very different. He indicated he felt this was the best system for New Kent County and that James City, York County and Gloucester had all been through the process and loved the system. He noted he recognized the project would involve a tremendous amount of money and the Board had been good stewards with the County's funds. He indicated that budgets had been cut year after year and his office had presented a proposed FY16 budget the previous day in which \$100,000 had been cut to help move the radio project along. He noted that service aspects of going with Motorola and the regional system were also a plus. He indicated that a Motorola Service Center was located twenty minutes away in York County with technicians dedicated to servicing only the regional radio system. He reminded the Board, if the 911 Center were to go down, the regional system would allow for redundancy and another locality would be able to pick up our calls. This would not be possible without the regional system. He noted this was a tough decision and suggested it was perhaps one of the most important decisions for the Board and he thanked them for their time and consideration.

New Kent County Public School Superintendent David A. Myers indicated the new radio system would greatly benefit the safety of the children while they were in the schools and on the buses. He added that he recognized there were many needs and public safety was at the top of the list of priorities. He also reported that the School Board was in full support of the project.

Fire Chief Rick Opett echoed Sheriff Howard's comments. He indicated he felt it was the best system at the time and it would be a great benefit for the County to become a part of the regional system.

Chief Deputy Joe McLaughlin expressed his support for the system and indicated it would allow the County to move forward with communication capabilities that would provide citizens with the safety and service desired.

Ms. Wasni noted she recognized this would be a huge investment for New Kent County. She indicated that Motorola had made a good faith offer and wouldn't let the County down. She indicated Motorola looked forward to working with New Kent; the proposal was firm; the

contingency was a best estimate and her company looked forward to providing New Kent with the best quality service.

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IN RE:           CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Evelyn moved to go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711A.29 of the Code of Virginia for discussion of the award of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds, including interviews of bidders or offerors, and discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the Board involving a county wide radio system; 2.2-3711A.7 of the Code of Virginia for consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by the Board regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel involving contract negotiations. The members were polled:

W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
James H. Burrell	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye

The motion carried. Sheriff Howard returned to the table and indicated he had learned the \$80,000 for upgrades in 2019 was included in the figures previously provided. The Board went into closed session.

Mr. Davis moved to return to open session. The members were polled:

Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
James H. Burrell	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye

The motion carried.

Mr. Burrell made the following certification:

Whereas, the New Kent County Board of Supervisors has convened in a closed session on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

Whereas, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board that such closed session was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

Now there be it resolved that the Board hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open session requirements by Virginia law were discussed in closed session to which this certification resolution applies and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed session were heard, discussed or considered by the Board.

The Chairman inquired whether there was any member who believed that there was a departure from the motion. Hearing none, the members were polled on the certification:

James H. Burrell	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye

The motion carried.

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IN RE: RADIO PROJECT – DISCUSSION CONTINUED

Mr. Evelyn asked how quickly New Kent could get a copy of the MOU. Mr. Hall indicated he would have to work with the other three jurisdictions and did not know how long it would take. He noted that a copy of the MOU with Gloucester County could be provided now and a draft New Kent MOU could be developed in approximately thirty days.

Mr. Evelyn moved to continue negotiations with Motorola and explore other options for radio communications in New Kent. The County Administrator and County Attorney are not to execute any contracts at this time and will report back to the Board in forty-five days. The members were polled:

Ron Stiers	Aye
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
James H. Burrell	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye

The motion carried.

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IN RE: OBTAINING A SURFACE WATER WITHDRAWAL PERMIT

Director of Public Utilities Larry Dame and Roger Hart with Arcadis, Inc. were present to share information on potential groundwater cutbacks for New Kent and the process and costs associated with obtaining a surface water withdrawal permit. Mr. Dame reported the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) was cutting back on allocations for groundwater withdrawals and the County's major groundwater withdrawal permits were coming up for renewal beginning in 2018. He added that reports from DEQ indicated many permits would be cut back to current consumption levels and this caused him concern for the County's economic viability. He indicated that the County's Water Supply Plan suggested future need would reach approximately five million gallons per day and the County needed to begin looking for other water sources in an effort to be prepared to meet this future demand. Mr. Dame reported that his department, with the assistance of Arcadis had considered a number of other options to meet the County's future water needs and unfortunately many of them had been deemed unacceptable. He indicated the most viable alternative at the time seemed to be the Pamunkey River and he asked that the Board consider authorizing the Public Utilities Department to move forward with the two-year application process for a Surface Water Withdrawal Permit. Mr. Dame reported the permit would have some associated costs; the application fee to DEQ would be \$25,000 and there could be nearly \$100,000 in other costs associated with a variety of studies to be conducted in conjunction with the permit process. These costs would be built into the FY16 Public Utilities budget.

Mr. Burrell asked what would happen if New Kent decided to do nothing at this time. Mr. Dame indicated that doing nothing was an option and the County could go forward with a plan to stay with groundwater but it could not be guaranteed the County would be able to

supply the demand in five years if permits were cut back to current consumption levels. He cited the Farms of New Kent which held a permit for 238 million gallons per year and was currently using only 40 million gallons per year. If this permit were cut back to current consumption levels, the impact on this development would be substantial.

Mr. Dame indicated that if for some reason the County's application for a surface water withdrawal permit were to be denied, the County would be in a strong position to negotiate groundwater withdrawals if there were no other options.

Mr. Burrell asked if Mr. Dame could give an estimate of the cost associated with drawing surface water from the river. Mr. Dame suggested the cost would be in the thirty million dollar range and noted this plan was for a direct river withdrawal with no reservoir being built. He noted that he was concerned about salinity levels and plans were to install a salinity monitor which would take hourly readings. The County could negotiate to keep groundwater sources in place during drought seasons when salinity levels would increase. Mr. Dame asked the Board to authorize him to proceed with the permit and plans to include requests for funding in the FY16 budget.

Mr. Davis asked when the \$25,000 permit fee would be due. Mr. Dame indicated the fee would be due at the time of application which would not occur until after July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Hathaway noted that funding for this proposal would come from the utility fund and not the County's operating fund.

Mr. Davis moved to have the Public Utilities Department apply for a Surface Water Withdrawal Permit from the Department of Environmental Quality. The members were polled:

W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
James H. Burrell	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye

The motion carried.

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IN RE: COMMUNITY CHILD PROTECTION UPDATE (MULTI-DISCIPLINARY TEAM)

This item was deferred to the March work session.

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IN RE: 2014 STAFFING FOR ADEQUATE FIRE & EMERGENCY RESPONSE (SAFER) GRANT

Fire Chief Rick Opett shared information regarding a recent U.S. Department of Homeland Security Funding Opportunity Announcement regarding applications for Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grants. Chief Opett also distributed copies of several documents substantiating the specific needs in New Kent County. He indicated that his department's intention was to focus on a grant to provide funding for additional firefighter positions. The proposed grant would cover 100% of the costs for two years with no local match required. He indicated statistics had shown grant applications resulting in the largest percentage increases in compliance with the relevant section of NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) 1710 (career departments) or 1720 (volunteer departments)

received higher consideration than grant application proposals resulting in smaller percentage increases in compliance.

Chief Opett reviewed current staffing levels at all four fire stations and statistics on calls for service during the time period of November 30, 2014 to January 25, 2015. He noted that 365 calls for service had been received during this 56-day time frame and there had been 66 periods when no units were available to respond. He requested that the Board authorize his department to move forward with writing a grant proposal for twelve SAFER positions to include nine firefighters and three lieutenants. He noted, if awarded, the grant would fund the twelve positions for two years with funding to maintain the positions beyond the two years falling back to the County. Documents provided by Chief Opett indicated, based on when the grant would actually be awarded, additional FY18 costs to maintain the twelve positions would be between \$224,000 and \$393,000.

Mr. Stiers inquired about what had happened to the 32 volunteers the County had in training a year or so ago. Chief Opett reported that many of them were not active and it was a struggle to turn out volunteers in the evening. Mr. Burrell asked if this was a trend. The Chief responded that it was very much a trend and suggested the fact that many individuals were working multiple jobs and the one year of training required of new recruits could be factors.

Mr. Evelyn noted his concern regarding the impact the future loss of the grant funding would have on the County budget. Mr. Hathaway indicated, with revenue projections remaining flat in the near future, he too was concerned and that it could require a two or three cent tax increase to fully cover salaries when the grant was over. Mr. Hathaway also noted there would be a reassessment next year that could possibly result in a small increase.

Mr. Stiers asked if the addition of these twelve positions would result in 24/7 coverage at Station 4. Chief Opett indicated that it would allow for 24/7 coverage at all four stations.

Mr. Evelyn again expressed his concerns over the County's responsibility to decide what to do with the positions after two years. Mr. Davis replied, "We need the positions. Things will change in two years."

Mr. Davis moved to have the County Fire Chief and his staff write a SAFER grant application, addressing NFPA 1710 staffing needs, for twelve new firefighter positions. The members were polled:

Thomas W. Evelyn	Nay
James H. Burrell	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye

The motion carried.

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IN RE: FLOODPLAIN ORDINANCE

Building Official Clarence Jackson reported that FEMA had issued new floodplain maps through the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and had asked that localities revise their Floodplain Ordinances accordingly. County Attorney Michelle Gowdy reported that New Kent had held a public meeting to review such maps and DCR had requested that localities review their ordinances to ensure compliance. She indicated that

DCR had reviewed New Kent's proposed ordinance twice and had provided recommended changes which had been incorporated. Mr. Jackson and Ms. Gowdy asked the Board to consider forwarding this proposed floodplain ordinance to the Planning Commission for a public hearing and provide a recommendation to the Board.

Mr. Evelyn moved to ask the Planning Commission to hold a public hearing on the floodplain ordinance and provide a recommendation to the Board. The members were polled:

James H. Burrell	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye

The motion carried.

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IN RE: HEALTH AND WELLNESS BENEFITS FOR COUNTY EMPLOYEES

Mr. Hathaway and Human Resources Manager Jane Bahr reported that the County had been interviewing candidates to assist with Employee Health and Wellness Benefits. After having issued an RFP and conducting interviews, Willis of Virginia was being recommended as the group with which to enter into a contract. Mr. Hathaway reported that the contract would be for \$15,000 annually and he believed this could save money. Willis of Virginia would evaluate current plans and make recommendations for change, assist with the renewal negotiation process and assist with Affordable Care Act (ACA) compliance. Mr. Hathaway indicated that the County's current budget for healthcare, which was \$1.3 million, would continue to grow and was not sustainable. He noted that under the current plan coverage for a family was costing employees approximately \$900 per month.

Mr. Burrell asked if a nutritionist had ever come in to speak with employees. Ms. Bahr indicated that "Lunch and Learn" sessions covering a variety of topics were offered on a regular basis and employees were encouraged to attend.

Mr. Burrell moved to authorize the County Administrator to enter into a \$15,000 contract with Willis of Virginia. The members were polled:

Ron Stiers	Aye
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
James H. Burrell	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye

The motion carried.

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IN RE: BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Davis moved to appoint Martha Martin as an at-large representative to the Historic Commission to serve a four-year term beginning January 1, 2015 and ending December 31, 2018. The members were polled:

W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
James H. Burrell	Aye

Ron Stiers	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye

The motion carried.

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IN RE: MEETING SCHEDULE

Chairman Tiller announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Supervisors would be at 6 p.m. on February 9, 2015 and the next work session would be held at 9:00 a.m. on February 25, 2015. Both meetings would be held in the Boardroom of the County Admin Building.

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IN RE: ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Evelyn moved to adjourn the meeting. The members were polled:

Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
James H. Burrell	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye

The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.