

A REGULAR MONTHLY SENIOR STAFF MEETING WITH THE NEW KENT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IN ATTENDANCE WAS HELD ON THE 7TH DAY OF MAY IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND EIGHTEEN IN THE BOARDROOM OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING IN NEW KENT, VIRGINIA, AT 9:00 A.M.

IN RE: CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Thomas W. Evelyn called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

IN RE: ROLL CALL

Thomas W. Evelyn	Present
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Absent
Patricia A. Paige	Present
Ron Stiers	Present
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Present

All members with the exception of Mr. Tiller were present.

IN RE: OTHER ATTENDEES

Others staff/County contacts in attendance included:

- County Administrator Rodney Hathaway
- Economic Development Director Matthew Smolnik
- IT Director Jonathan Stanger
- Zoning Administrator Kenneth Vaughan
- Environmental Director Justin Stauder
- Deputy Board Clerk Wanda Watkins
- Executive Assistant to Administration Krista Eutsey
- Deputy Treasurer Alicia Akrie-Williams
- Human Resources Director Karen Wiscott
- Building Official Clarence Jackson
- General Services Manager David Bednarczyk
- Cooperative Extension Office Representative Patty Townsend
- Parks and Recreation Director Kim Turner
- Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Jason Baldwin
- Sheriff Joe McLaughlin
- Fire Chief Rick Opett
- Assistant Public Utilities Director Mike Lang
- Child Services Director DeDreama Harrod
- Airport Manager Duane Goss
- Financial Services Director Mary Altemus
- Chickahominy Health District Director Dr. Thomas Franck
- County Attorney Brendan Hefty

Special guests in attendance included:

- Revolutionary Racing President Prentice Salter
- Colonial Downs Chief Development Officer Stefan Huba
- EDA Chairman Charles Davis
- EDA Member Eugene Williams
- Chamber of Commerce Chairman Don Hillbish

IN RE: BREAKFAST

The New Kent Economic Development Authority hosted a breakfast for all in attendance. The meal was catered by Colonial Kitchen and Market.

IN RE: INTRODUCTIONS

County Administrator Rodney Hathaway welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted he was pleased to have several representatives from Colonial Downs in attendance. He asked Economic Development Director Matthew Smolnik to introduce the Colonial Downs representatives. Mr. Smolnik thanked the Economic Development Authority for providing the breakfast. He then introduced Revolutionary Racing President Prentice Salter and Chief Development Officer for Colonial Downs Stefan Huba. He indicated the purpose of the meeting was to provide an opportunity for all in attendance to meet and greet each other as well as an opportunity to hear from the Colonial Downs representatives.

IN RE: COLONIAL DOWNS MEET AND GREET/DISCUSSION

The individuals previously listed under "OTHER ATTENDEES" introduced themselves.

Revolutionary Racing President Prentice Salter noted his partner, Larry Lucas, was sending apologies for not being present. He reported having worked "feverishly" over the past eight months to purchase the Colonial Downs property. He indicated he had been working with Board Chairman Thomas Evelyn, County Administrator Rodney Hathaway and Economic Development Director Matthew Smolnik and they had been "wonderful representatives of New Kent County." He suggested that although purchasing the property had been a "very difficult deal", these individuals had made the process welcoming. He reported that Stefan Huba, who was affiliated with JNB Gaming, would run the day to day operations of the track. He indicated that although he knew there was much work to be done, he was extremely excited. He suggested they had methodically worked through the process and the closing on the property had been completed one and a half weeks ago. He reported he was looking for a home in the Richmond area and was excited about moving to the area and getting started on a new chapter. Mr. Hathaway thanked him for his comments and noted the County was looking forward to working with Colonial Downs. He suggested that Mr. Salter would find County staff to be one of the best teams with which to work.

IN RE: SENIOR STAFF DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. FY19 Budget – County Administrator Rodney Hathaway reported plans for the payment of employee bonuses in FY19 had changed since the previous Senior Staff Meeting. It had previously been reported that these bonuses would be paid in December but it had since been determined it would be better if they were paid at the beginning of the fiscal year. Bonuses would be paid in the July 15th pay cycle.
- b. July BOS Meeting Schedule Changes – Mr. Hathaway reported the Board had taken action to change the meeting schedule for July. He indicated the July 9 and July 25 meetings had been canceled and the Board would hold its regular meeting on Monday, July 23rd. There would be no work session in July or August and he encouraged staff to plan the submission of agenda items accordingly.
- c. County Fuel Services – Mr. Hathaway reported an IFB had been issued by the County for fuel services and there would be a pre-bid meeting at 10:00 a.m. on May 8th in the County Administration Building Boardroom. Representatives from any

departments impacted by fuel services were encouraged to attend. Mr. Davis (W.R. Davis, Jr.) asked if the County purchased fuel at State contract prices. Mr. Hathaway indicated the County had actually been able to do better than State contract prices and this was why the IFB had been issued. He also reported our current vendor had indicated there was an unleaded fuel shortage and was delivering only a three-day supply. He suggested this could cause some issues. Mr. Davis asked if the Parks and Recreation and General Services Departments were using non-ethanol fuel in their mowers. Parks and Recreation Director Kim Turner and General Services Manager David Bednarczyk both reported the use of non-ethanol fuel but indicated this fuel was not a part of the fuel services contract.

- d. Upcoming Wellness Committee Events –Mr. Hathaway reported on several upcoming Wellness Committee sponsored events including:
- National Salad Day on May 18th – He reported this event would be expanded to include pizza and salad. Salads would be provided by the Extension Office.
 - National Donut Day on June 1st – Donuts would be purchased from Hole Family Donuts.

He suggested that although these events may not be perceived as “wellness” they were good opportunities for staff to get together and encouraged team building.

IN RE: SCHEDULING ITEMS FOR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETINGS

- a. May 14, 2018 – BOS Regular Meeting – The agenda for this meeting was already set.
- b. May 23, 2018 – BOS Work Session – County Administrator Rodney Hathaway noted this work session had been moved up a week and reminded everyone to plan to submit agenda items accordingly.

IN RE: DEPARTMENT REPORTS

County Administrator Rodney Hathaway opened the floor to any department wishing to make a report. The following reports were presented:

- Sheriff Joe McLaughlin reported briefly on a number of special events held over the weekend including but not limited to the *Green v. Board of Education* event, the *Half Corked Marathon* and the *A Taste of New Kent* wine festival. He reported that all events had gone very well. Mr. Evelyn reported he had received 30 to 40 calls regarding marathon road closures the previous year but had received none this year. He thanked Sheriff McLaughlin and Fire Chief Rick Opett for all they had done over the weekend and especially for keeping the roads open during the marathon. Sheriff McLaughlin also reported the Sheriff’s Department Citizen Academy would start on Thursday, May 10th.
- Fire Chief Rick Opett reported the roadway at the I-64 exit 205 interchange would be narrowed as a part of the I-64 widening project. He suggested this may lead to more traffic issues. He reported Sunday, May 6th had been a bad day with several accidents at the 205 interchange and noted traffic had been a “nightmare” over the weekend.
- Economic Development Director Matthew Smolnik reported a new billboard had been installed on I-64 near Colonial Downs. This billboard contained the words “Thank You Virginia!” and a red heart inside of a horseshoe.
- Cooperative Extension Office representative Patty Townsend reported they were excited about National Salad Day on May 18th and noted most of the greens and vegetables would be from the garden on the campus. She also reported the Extension Office would be hosting a Fishing Derby at Ed Allen’s Landing on May 19th. Spaces were still available for 4-H camp and Extension would also be hosting a

three-day fishing camp including pond, river and salt water fishing. Ms. Townsend also reported the office was surviving without an agent on staff and she had no update on Virginia Tech's plans to find a replacement for Agent Carl Frick who had been transferred to another locality several months ago.

- Executive Assistant to Administration Krista Eutsey reported tentative schedules for New Kent University would be sent out later in the week. She encouraged department heads to review the schedule and let her know if there were any concerns. Sessions would be held during the day this year.
- Building Official Clarence Jackson reported 30 single-family dwelling permits had been issued in April 2018 compared to 16 in April 2017. This brought the 2018 year-to-date total to 93 compared to 75 at the same time in 2017.
- County Administrator Rodney Hathaway reported New Kent Youth Government Day would be June 7th and the County would be partnering with New Kent Middle School eighth grade civics classes for this event. Students would be shadowing County staff members from various departments. Fourteen departments had indicated they were interested in participating. Parks and Recreation Director Kim Turner also reported the Kip Kephart Foundation would be sponsoring the breakfast and lunch for the day. Mr. Hathaway reported a portion of the day would include a meet and greet with Board of Supervisors members and he thanked all departments who had agreed to participate.
- Financial Services Director Mary Altemus reported auditors had completed their preliminary field work which had gone very well. She thanked all departments involved for their assistance.
- Assistant Public Utilities Director Mike Lang reported painting would soon begin on the courthouse water tanks. This was being scheduled at a time which would have the least impact on users.
- Human Resources Director Karen Wiscott reported there were only eight days remaining in the benefits open enrollment period. Anyone who had not already completed their enrollment documents were encouraged to do so by May 15th.
- Chickahominy Health District Director Dr. Thomas Franck reported several new staff members had been hired including a Nurse Manager and an environmental health position. He noted the opioid crisis remained a focus and the Health Department would be providing "revive" training. Mr. Hathaway indicated he was interested in working with the Health Department on this and Sheriff McLaughlin reported he had three "revive" trainers on staff.

IN RE: OTHER BUSINESS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Other Business – Mr. Davis (W.R. Davis, Jr.) asked Mr. Salter for a timeline on the reopening of Colonial Downs. Mr. Salter indicated they were interviewing local contractors and were making final selections. He also reported he was hopeful the track would be open for racing by fall 2019. He pointed out there would still be a political process to work through and that would determine the timeline. Mr. Davis asked if the historical racing machines would come sooner. Mr. Salter suggested that the political process would again determine when historical racing would begin. He suggested their approach would be to go as fast as they could but there were still political hurdles to clear. He reported \$30 million had already been put into the market and plans were for another \$200 million over the next three years. Mr. Davis asked if there were any plans to change the facilities. Mr. Salter indicated this was something they were working on and suggested it would be something that would "knock your socks off" and would be "world class". He also suggested the facilities would be "something never seen before in New Kent". He further suggested they were "aggressively pursuing this high-end project" and were "not here for a short term".

Mr. Salter noted the first step in the process had been getting the historical racing legislation passed. Purchasing Colonial Downs had been the next step. He indicated they would like to meet with staff frequently to discuss what they were thinking about and looking at and at only two weeks into ownership, they were just getting started. He also indicated he expected the business and the County to grow together and noted they would be using a different approach from the previous owner. The new approach would be focused on revitalizing horse racing. He suggested there was a "new horse racing model" and the new model used machines. He suggested there would be issues for Colonial Downs and the County to get through and they would have to work together.

Dr. Franck asked Mr. Salter what he expected to be the biggest source of revenue for Colonial Downs. Mr. Salter indicated historical racing machines would be the biggest revenue generator.

Mr. Davis (Charles Davis) asked if there was anything the County or EDA could do to help with the political aspects previously mentioned. Mr. Evelyn indicated he had asked similar questions and had learned that most of what needed to be done was at the State level. He reported that he had offered assistance if there was anything to be done on the County level. Mr. Salter also noted Governor Northam had put an "executive directive" on the bill and this was the first time this had been done. He indicated he was seeking more clarity regarding the directive. He reported the bill had purposely been written to pay New Kent a higher rate of taxes. This had been done because they recognized they would need New Kent's support and the County would need more money to provide Colonial Downs with needed services at a "world class" facility. He indicated they wanted to be good citizens and wanted to work with the County.

Mr. Davis (W.R. Davis, Jr.) noted the Kentucky Derby had been run the previous weekend and asked if historical racing machines had been used at this event. Mr. Salter reported that Churchill Downs did not have racing machines at this time but was moving in that direction.

Mr. Jackson questioned if there were plans for monthly DRC (Development Review Committee) meetings. Mr. Smolnik indicated this had not been worked out.

Announcements – There were none.

Future Agenda Items – Mr. Hathaway noted the next Senior Staff Meeting would be June 4, 2018. Agenda items should be forwarded to him. He thanked the EDA for hosting breakfast.

IN RE: ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to discuss, Mr. Davis moved to adjourn the meeting. The members were polled:

C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Absent
Patricia A. Paige	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye

The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 a.m.