

A REGULAR MEETING WAS HELD BY THE NEW KENT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ON THE 12TH DAY OF NOVEMBER IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY IN THE BOARDROOM OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING IN NEW KENT, VIRGINIA, AT 6:00 P.M.

IN RE: CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Patricia A. Paige called the meeting to order.

IN RE: ROLL CALL

Thomas W. Evelyn	Present
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Present
Patricia A. Paige	Present
Ron Stiers	Present
John N. Lockwood	Present

All members were present.

IN RE: INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Lockwood gave the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance.

IN RE: CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda was presented as follows:

1. Minutes
 - a. September 8, 2020 Regular Session Minutes
 - b. September 30, 2020 Work Session Minutes
2. FY21 Supplemental Appropriations
 - a. To close completed COVID-19 Projects for Reallocation and request funds for projects over budget, \$25,937.85.
 - b. Animal Shelter Donations: \$1,081.
 - c. Gifts & Donations: Fire/EMS - United Way of South Hampton Roads (\$161.56), William & Mary Baker (\$100) and Girl Scout Commonwealth (\$200), \$461.56.
 - d. Funds from VRSA Insurance: Fire/Rescue - Claim #02-20-33984-1-AP DOL 9/25/20 (\$2,625.75) and Public Utilities - Claim #02-20-33275-1-PR DOL 7/18/20 (\$7,050), \$9,675.75.
 - e. Veterinarian Expense Restitution Received, \$250.
 - f. VCU Transportation Costs, \$42,403.
 - g. Henrico Transportation Costs, \$856.17.
 - h. The Center for Technology and Civic Life COVID Response Grant, \$9,372.
 - i. VA Dominion Power Funds, \$20,500.
 - j. Four for Life Grant, \$25,995.84.
 - k. Additional DSS Funds, \$19,416.
 - l. DMV Animal Friendly License Plate Sales, \$2,898.05.
 - m. Bulletproof Vest Partnership, \$2,270.97.
 - n. Sheriff Extra Duty: Colonial Downs, \$2,203.40 and Fire/Rescue Colonial Downs 25,760.96.
 - o. Extension Program Sponsorship Revenue, \$200.

- p. Admin First Aid Box Refills, \$2,500.
- q. FOIA Request, \$783.54.

- \$140,690.39 - Total
- (\$91,225.71) - Total In/Out - General Fund (1101)
- (\$19,416.00) - Total In/Out - Social Services (1201)
- (\$42,403.00) - Total In/Out - Capital Projects (1302)
- (\$7,050.00) - Total In/Out - Water/Sewer (1514)
- \$19,404.32 - From Fund Balance - General Fund (1101)

- 3. FY20 Interdepartmental Budget Transfers
 - a. NKCPS - Transfer of \$100,000 from Contingency to Textbook Rev from Gen Operating and appropriate to Textbook Replacement Instr MS (\$20,000), to Textbook Replacement Instr HS (\$20,000) and to Textbook New Instr ES (\$60,000), \$100,000.
- 4. FY21 Interdepartmental Budget Transfers
 - a. Financial Services/Public Schools - Wi-Fi Scattered Connection to Google Meet Licensing, \$777.
 - b. New Kent Sheriff's Office - to move funding for one position from Sheriff-Law Enforcement to Sheriff-Animal Protection - From Salaries & Wages - Regular to Salaries & Wages - Regular (\$40,530), From FICA/Medicare to FICA/Medicare (\$3,101), From Retirement-VRS to Retirement-VRS (\$4,434), From LODA to LODA (\$765), From Hospital/Medical Plans to Hospital/Medical Plans (\$8,016), From Group Life Insurance to Group Life Insurance (\$543), From Workers' Compensation to Workers' Compensation (\$1,021), From Medical Examinations to Medical Examinations (\$300), From Contract Services to Contract Services (\$400) and From Uniform & Wearing Apparel to Uniform & Wearing Apparel (\$1,800), \$60,919.
 - c. Public Utilities - From BB Cary Rd Well Replacement to Ground Level Storage Tank Mnt., \$50,000.
 - d. NKCPS - Transfer/Appropriation of \$200,000 from Textbook Fund Balance to Textbook Replacement Instr MS (\$60,000), to Textbook Replacement Instr HS (\$60,000) and to Textbook New Instr ES (\$80,000), \$200,000.
- 5. Treasurer's Report: Cash as of September 30, 2020, \$45,420,449.95 including escrow funds.

Mr. Tiller moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and that it be made a part of the record. The members were polled:

Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
John N. Lockwood	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye

The motion carried.

IN RE: SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS – NEW KENT UNIVERSITY CLASS OF 2020

2020 New Kent University (NKU) graduates, identified as Debbie Donaldson, Tera Ertz, Danny Green, Cynthia Green, Kenneth Pierce, Aaron Piotrowski, Elisa Relyea, Allen Taylor, Virginia Taylor and Roy Wullich had completed the ten-week citizen engagement program. Ms. Paige joined County Administrator Rodney Hathaway in front of the dais to recognize and congratulate those in attendance as well as present them with diplomas. Mr. Hathaway thanked them for finding the time to participate in this program. He stated the goal of the program was not to make citizens experts on everything the County did but rather to introduce them to the various departments and services provided. He noted the County Administration Office was always open if they had any questions and presented each participant with a diploma acknowledging their achievement.

Ms. Paige thanked NKU participants for their commitment and dedication to this program. She encouraged participants to complete a Citizen Service Form if they had any interest in serving on a County board, committee or commission.

IN RE: SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS – RICHMOND REGIONAL TOURISM

Economic Development Director Matthew Smolnik introduced Richmond Regional Tourism (RRT) representatives including Director of Sports Relations J.C. Poma, Executive Vice President Katherine O'Donnell and President and CEO Jack Berry. Mr. Smolnik reported New Kent had a great working relationship with RRT. He reported New Kent Economic Development and RRT would be hosting a virtual workshop on December 1st for local businesses, a virtual "I am Tourism" workshop would be held on December 10th, a new website had been developed and RRT staff would be meeting at the Visitors and Commerce Center to discuss proposed facility upgrades. He turned the floor over to Mr. Berry.

Mr. Berry thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak and indicated his colleagues and he would be providing an update on RRT and how the pandemic was affecting tourism in the region. He reported the state, the country and the world had been in record territory in regard to hospitality and tourism prior to the pandemic. Visitor spending had reached record levels in 2019 with \$2.7 billion being spent by 7.7 million visitors in the Richmond region and \$37.5 million being spent in New Kent County. 2020 had been on track to outperform 2019 until the COVID-19 pandemic. There had been almost 25,000 jobs in the hospitality industry in Virginia prior to the pandemic and this industry had been devastated with 40% of jobs being lost. Many businesses had not reopened or were underperforming. He also reported RRT had taken a field trip to New Kent just prior to the pandemic. They had toured the brewery, wineries and Rosie's Gaming Emporium, had traveled together in one motor coach and had enjoyed a wonderful lunch before the need for social distancing.

Mr. Berry drew attention to a graph providing information on hotel sales for the past twenty years. Four of the years had been recessions and fiscal year 2020 was down 12%. As previously mentioned, 2019 had been a record year for motels and motel occupancy was currently trending off by 50%. He compared 2019 and 2020 motel occupancies for a number of destinations across the state and all noted tremendous drops. Many first quarter 2021 events were being canceled but a rebound was projected by the third quarter. He stated tourism diversity would help our region and referenced the four pillars of travel including family and friends, business travel, sports tourism and tourists. Family and friends was always the number one reason for travel and business travel was always the last to come out of a recession. Tourist numbers were down with attendance at many attractions at 30% of the norm. 53% of those surveyed had indicated they were not planning to travel this holiday season. Although most meetings and conventions had gone virtual, 40% of convention travelers reported planning to attend a convention/meeting in

2021. Sports tournaments were also a big attraction with 80% of American athlete parents reporting they felt safe allowing their athletes to participate in fall sports. He turned the floor over to Ms. O'Donnell for an update on efforts to boost tourism recovery.

Ms. O'Donnell reported RRT's service area included Chesterfield, Hanover, Henrico and New Kent Counties, the City of Richmond, the Town of Ashland and the most recent locality to join, the City of Colonial Heights. RRT had launched the VisitRichmondVA website providing a host of information on restaurants, attractions, parks and events in each of the participating jurisdictions. A TakeOutRVA website had also been launched near the start of the pandemic in support of restaurant take-out and delivery options. She reported they had found visitors were very concerned and confused about safety protocols. In response to this, information on industry-wide efforts to ensure safer stays at hotels as well as meeting safely in the Richmond region had been posted on their TravelSafe and MeetSafe websites. Typical communications had been with visitors planning trips to the region but the pandemic had caused the focus to shift to residents. Information on what to see and do was pushed through the RVABlog, regional trivia challenges and digital puzzles featuring regional destinations. RRT and Threshold 360 would produce virtual tours of 100 venues in the Richmond Region. Colonial Downs, Rosie's, New Kent Winery and Viniterra would be included in the tours which would help those planning a trip to the region make decisions about what to include in their itinerary without actually visiting the venues in advance. An advertising campaign including 21 billboards with 11 messages had been launched in the Virginia Beach Hampton Roads area to encourage travelers to visit the Richmond region.

Ms. O'Donnell also reported JetBlue had recently announced direct flights from Richmond to southern California, Nevada and Tampa. The RRT team had been working to encourage residents of those destinations to book flights to the Richmond region. In addition to the RVABlog, RRT was also pushing information through almost all social media platforms. Media relations had also been a strong focus and the region was receiving coverage in publications such as The New York Times, Essence and TripSided. Business Event Recruitment was also a focus. Although many meetings/conventions had been canceled or postponed, a good number had been confirmed for 2021. The Meaningful Meetings program had been launched to reactivate the economy through business event recruitment. Many of the meetings being scheduled would have a smaller number of attendees to meet social distancing requirements. The RVA Champions program was utilizing local residents to encourage their affiliated groups to bring their meetings to Richmond. 29 RVA Champions had recently participated in a virtual recognition event. These individuals had collectively brought in \$10.2 million in economic impact with the groups they recruited. Visitor Services had been severely restricted with all Visitors Centers being closed when COVID initially hit. Two of the centers had since reopened. Over 20,000 copies of the Richmond Region Visitors Guide had been distributed to Washington Post subscribers. RRT was continuing to provide digital learning opportunities including a workshop exclusively for New Kent County businesses on December 1st. This workshop would help businesses better understand how they could benefit from RRT's free outreach and marketing services. A virtual "I Am Tourism" workshop was also scheduled for December 10th. She closed by drawing attention to the Richmond Region 2030 Tourism Master Plan distributed prior to the meeting. She noted RRT had spent a good part of 2019 working on this plan. 115 industry stakeholders, 1,000 visitors and 2,100 residents had been surveyed and more than 50 individuals had participated in workshops in the development of this plan. The plan focused on visitor experience, infrastructure and advocacy to strategically move the region forward over the next ten years. She turned the floor over to Director of Sports Relations J.C. Poma.

Mr. Poma provided an update on sports tourism noting that thousands of athletes from around the world visited the Richmond region annually. He reported the Richmond region was a very sporty community and it took multiple community members to host many of these sporting events. He noted 51% of sports tourism bookings were in Henrico County adjacent to New Kent County. When thousands of people were in Henrico for sporting events, RRT was encouraging them to take advantage of opportunities in neighboring localities such as Colonial Downs, Rosie's, three golf courses and historic features located in New Kent. Sports was not only big but also long-term at RRT and they were actually working on a sports booking for 2024. He reported on a recent conversation with the Royal New Kent Golf Course where they had discussed the National Club Championship for Collegiate Golf. They had also been working with Colonial Downs and a coach from the University of Richmond to establish cross country courses in the area which would attract events such as Tough Mudder and the Spartan Race. Sporting events accounted for 69% of all RRT bookings and in FY 2019, there had been 83 events with 171,000 visitors resulting in \$62.5 million in direct visitor spending. COVID-19 had significantly impacted sports events in the region with 43 events either being cancelled or postponed resulting in an estimated \$29 million in economic impact. When Governor Northam had announced the start of the Phase 2 reopening, the Richmond region had been the first to begin hosting sporting events. 30 events had been hosted between June 10 and Labor Day resulting in \$15.5 million in economic impact. Another 17 events had been or would be hosted between Labor Day and the end of 2020. Sports tourism was also providing media attention to the region and generating thousands of visitors to hotels, restaurants and local attractions. Looking forward to 2021, he reported sporting events scheduled for Dorey Park included The Celtic Football Club, USA Field Hockey, the Jefferson Cup (soccer), USA Softball, USA Archery and the Virginia Cup (soccer). Tens of thousands of visitors would be attending these events and RRT would be working to get those visitors to New Kent attractions. He stated RRT's marketing was all about "one-upping the competition" and specifically noted Kings Dominion's offer of complementary tickets to attract sports event attendees. He also reported on the Experience Pass and the PlayInRVA program. RRT and New Kent Economic Development had worked together to get local restaurants and attractions on the Experience Pass. He stressed the importance of sports on the entire region and again noted the impact getting visitors to events at one location would have on attractions in neighboring localities. He closed by reporting RRT was looking forward to next year when they would be able to share the progress being made.

Mr. Berry returned to the podium and thanked the Board for the opportunity to provide an update. He entertained questions. NKU Graduate Virginia Taylor asked for the location of Dorey Park. Mr. Berry reported Dorey Park was located in Henrico County to the west of New Kent County along Route 5 and also provided easy access and parking for the Capital Bike Trail. Ms. Paige thanked Mr. Berry, Ms. O'Donnell and Mr. Poma for the presentation. She also expressed appreciation for RRT's assistance with the recent Board Retreat and for the partnership between RRT and the County's Economic Development Department.

IN RE: CITIZENS COMMENT PERIOD

There were no citizens comments.

IN RE: VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – RESIDENCY
ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

VDOT Assistant Resident Engineer Phillip Frazer reviewed the monthly report indicating a variety of work throughout the County including pothole/asphalt repair, shoulder/driveway

repair, grading, erosion repair, pipe cleaning, tree removal/pruning, mowing, sign work, debris removal and trash pickup had been completed. 54 work requests had been received with 39 completed. Six afterhours callouts involving downed trees, deer, high water, emergency road repair and guardrail damage repair were also reported. Pending studies included speed studies on Route 30 (Old Stage Road) and Rt. 1010 (Colony Trail) and traffic studies at Route 1220 (Woodbrook Road) and Rt. 1370 (Patriots Landing Drive). The County's Access Management Waiver request for the new Post Office facility was moving forward. Assistant Residency Administrator Marc Harlow and he entertained questions.

Board members provided the following comments and reported the following concerns:

Mr. Lockwood reported he had been in communication with Maintenance Operations Manager Jeff Allgood and Area Superintendent Joe Tarry regarding drainage issues in the Barhamsville and Eltham areas. He specifically noted a concern at Parks Road and Curtis Road. He also noted several high water areas along Farmers Drive. He reported "High Water" signs had been on Farmers Drive for several years but there had been no progress on clearing the ditches and getting water off the road. He also indicated he would like to see an updated study for the Route 33/Eltham area and stated a speed reduction was needed. He reported numerous accidents and stated this area had the highest traffic flow of all secondary roads in the County. He noted studies had been done in the past and stated the County received the same report every time - the speed limit did not need to be reduced. Mr. Frazer reported VDOT had looked at the 85th percentile which Richmond District Traffic Engineer Rob Vilak had explained to the Board at a meeting earlier in the year. One of the recommendations had been to turn this portion of Route 33 into a "Twiddle" which would take a four-lane and reduce it to one-lane in each direction with a center turn lane. This pattern would "choke" the traffic back and force speeds down. He reported this idea had been brought to the County and was still an option. Mr. Lockwood noted there were many homes and businesses in the area that were already experiencing difficulty with getting onto and off the highway and suggested choking traffic back to a single lane would make this more of an issue. He liked the idea of a turn lane but suggested there was too much traffic in the area to reduce from two-lanes to one. He also reported on another area of concern in the Barhamsville area (Route 30) from Farmers Drive to the Stonehouse community in James City County. A young couple had recently been killed in an accident at Barnes Road (James City County) and he didn't know if speed had been a factor but reported there were numerous close calls and accidents at this intersection. He suggested the fact that a portion of this road was in New Kent and a portion in James City was making it difficult to get the two districts to come together on the issue. He suggested this area should be addressed as one stretch or road and stated a speed reduction was absolutely necessary. He thanked VDOT staff for being present.

Mr. Stiers also thanked VDOT for attending and asked if they had received the report for the County's Transportation Safety Commission (TSC) meeting held on October 14th. Mr. Frazer indicated he had the report. Mr. Stiers noted the report had indicated there had been 50 crashes in the Eltham area. He agreed reducing the traffic to one lane would slow the traffic but suggested it would bring it to a screeching halt. He noted the TSC had requested a traffic signal at Route 249 and Dispatch Road numerous times and asked if there had been any recent studies. Mr. Frazer reported the last study had indicated a traffic signal was not warranted. Mr. Stiers noted that was often VDOT's response and stated that was a concern when the Sheriff, the Fire Chief and the citizens of the County were asking for this. Mr. Frazer reported VDOT had received a letter from the Sheriff which had been forwarded to Chief Deputy Commissioner Rob Carey and District Engineer Shane Mann. He noted the County would be receiving a response to all of the traffic study requests. County

Administrator Rodney Hathaway suggested Route 249 and Dispatch Road should be looked at again given the anticipated increase in traffic related to the new elementary school. He noted he was hopeful VDOT would be proactive and build anticipated traffic into the study results. Mr. Stiers noted that since Mr. Frazer had the TSC list, he would not mention any other items. He urged VDOT to let the TSC know their decision on each of the issues.

Mr. Tiller reported a VDOT study had indicated a traffic signal was warranted at the Market Place Drive and Route 60 intersection. It was his understanding this light would be delayed until VDOT was able to complete a more comprehensive study of the Route 60 corridor. Mr. Frazer indicated this was correct and reported the study at Market Place Drive had been completed in the spring and the Traffic Engineer had recommended a full corridor study from the Star Motel to the County line. A consultant would be hired to conduct the study and a meeting between VDOT and New Kent staff was scheduled for the following Monday to discuss this study. Mr. Tiller noted there had been several projects in recent years to resurface Route 60 through New Kent County. The eastbound lanes through Bottoms Bridge had been completed but work remained to be done on the westbound lanes. He had thought this work was to be completed in 2020. Mr. Frazer reported he knew resurfacing Route 60 had been a priority but he did not know the schedule, would look into this and report back. Mr. Tiller also reported brush and tree limbs hanging into the roadways in Five Lakes. In addition, he noted VDOT had started work on a drainage issue at the corner of Club Drive and Brook Boulevard several months ago. A broken pipe had been found under the road as well as broken concrete in drainage ditches. He reported several residents in the area had put sump pumps under their homes to remove water draining from the road. Mr. Frazer indicated he would have someone look into this. Mr. Tiller also reported crumbling pavement along the sides of Henpeck Road. He thanked VDOT for attending.

Mr. Evelyn thanked VDOT for attending this meeting. He requested the addition of White House and St. Peters Roads to the gravel road grading schedule. He reported receiving numerous complaints about temporary signs in the VDOT right of way and noted the Board had discussed this at a previous meeting. It was his understanding VDOT would do a sweep of signs in the VDOT right of way. He asked Mr. Frazer if he was aware of this. Mr. Frazer indicated Residency Administrator Marshall Winn had reported this request to him. He stated there was a process through which a locality could be granted authority to remove these signs and information on that process would be provided. Mr. Evelyn asked if VDOT could do a sweep in the interim. Ms. Paige reported she had spoken with District Engineer Shane Mann in this regard and had learned there was a \$100 fine for each sign in the right of way. Mr. Mann had indicated VDOT did not want to get into the billing process but could do an initial sweep while the County worked through the process. Mr. Stiers reported he routinely removed these signs and dropped them off at the VDOT office. Mr. Evelyn noted he was hopeful the County could get something in place soon.

Ms. Paige reported receiving seven calls regarding Cooks Mill Road and noted a lot of work had been done on this road as evidenced by many patches. She was hopeful VDOT was planning to resurface these patched areas. She also requested the addition of Clarke Road to the grading schedule. She reported ongoing drainage issues on New Kent Highway across from the Barhamsville Post Office. Some work had been done and the situation had been better but water was again backing up into yards and on the roadway. She noted she would report other concerns by email. She expressed her appreciation to VDOT for being present and noted the Board was looking forward to seeing them on a monthly basis.

Before the Board for consideration was Resolution R-39-20 to amend the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget with the appropriation of \$35,593,691 for the construction of an elementary school. County Administrator Rodney Hathaway reported the loan for \$22,502,284 had closed and was a portion of the total requested appropriation. Other appropriations included \$4,000,000 from the Colonial Downs cash reserve, \$8,353,663 from the school set aside cash reserve and school transfers totaling \$737,744. State Code required a public hearing anytime a budget amendment was greater than 1% of the operating budget. Approving these appropriations would move the school project forward and give the School Board the authority to enter into a contract for construction. He entertained questions.

Ms. Paige opened the public hearing. There being no individuals wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed. Ms. Paige asked if Board members had any comments.

Mr. Stiers noted the Board had saved \$8 million in the last six years for this project and stated he felt this spoke highly of the Board for planning ahead. He further stated \$35 million was a lot of money but reported there had been many negotiations with the School Board and Superintendent to come to this price. He closed by stating what he felt was most important for the public to know was that this school would be built without raising taxes.

Mr. Evelyn noted agreement with Mr. Stiers. He moved to adopt Resolution R-39-20 to amend the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget and appropriate \$35,593,691 for the construction of a new elementary school. The members were polled:

C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
John N. Lockwood	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye

The motion carried.

Ms. Paige stated the Board was looking forward to the new school and reported the School Board had promised to continue looking for cost savings wherever possible. She thanked them in advance for being good stewards of taxpayers' funds.

IN RE: PUBLIC HEARING – FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 EMPLOYEE BONUS –
ORDINANCE O-15-20

Before the Board for consideration was Ordinance O-15-20 to authorize and appropriate funding for an employee bonus for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. County Administrator Rodney Hathaway reported State Code required localities to conduct a public hearing and adopt an ordinance to authorize employee bonuses. Compensation and a show of appreciation were being proposed for County employees who had worked to keep the County operational since the pandemic and declaration of emergency in March. Government operations had not shut down and staff had worked hard to keep operations open during this time. Appreciation had been shown to public safety workers by using CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act funds to approve hazardous duty pay. As per CARES Act guidelines, those receiving hazardous duty pay had included Sheriff's Office, Fire-Rescue, Social Services and Refuse Site workers. This would be an opportunity to show appreciation to employees who had not received hazardous duty pay. The recommendation was for full-time employees to receive \$750 and regular part-time employees to receive \$300. He entertained questions.

Mr. Lockwood stated this was a good idea. He added that the County had a lot of dedicated employees who had gone above and beyond to maintain operations and he felt this was a good opportunity to recognize the above and beyond commitment of those employees. Ms. Paige noted she was grateful the CARES Act had allowed for increased salaries from March to December for Sheriff's Office, Fire-Rescue, Social Services and Refuse Site workers. She expressed appreciation to those departments as well as to staff who had not qualified for hazardous duty pay. She stated the County had never missed a beat, the level of staff commitment spoke volumes and this was an opportunity to show appreciation.

Ms. Paige opened the public hearing. There being no individuals wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed. Ms. Paige asked if Board members had any comments.

Mr. Tiller moved to adopt Ordinance O-15-20 to authorize and appropriate funding for an employee bonus. The members were polled:

Ron Stiers	Aye
John N. Lockwood	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye

The motion carried.

IN RE: ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS

Mr. Lockwood reported the Clean County Committee would be hosting a shredding event on Sunday, November 29th from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. He noted this was a safe and secure way to destroy documents and encouraged residents to take advantage of this opportunity. He also reported Proclaiming Grace Outreach (PGO) would be hosting a Facebook Live sale to kick off the Christmas Season at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, November 13th. PGO had opened its onsite Christmas sale the previous Saturday and it had been their most successful day ever.

Mr. Stiers reported the Forge Foundation would be hosting the Annual Thanksgiving Feast on Thanksgiving day at the Providence Forge Recreation Center on Carriage Road. This event had drawn about 1,000 individuals in past years. Due to COVID-19 regulations, social distancing and wearing of masks would be required. Those participating would be allowed to go through a buffet line to be served their meals and all meals would be carryout. This would be an all you can eat for 99¢ meal.

Mr. Tiller indicated he had nothing to report.

Mr. Evelyn congratulated the New Kent University graduates and thanked them for taking the time to attend these sessions to learn more about the County. He also thanked Executive Assistant to Administration Krista Eutsey, Deputy Board Clerk Wanda Watkins and other staff who had been involved in organizing and planning these sessions. He reported participants frequently shared that they had no idea so much was going on in County government. He also thanked Ms. Paige for the previous week's Board Retreat she, with the aid of County Administrator Rodney Hathaway, had organized. He felt this had been a very successful meeting. He also noted the Board would be hosting a Virtual Broadband Town Hall meeting and Ms. Paige would be sharing more information about this meeting.

Ms. Paige reported on several items.

- She reported staff members were not only working during normal office hours, they were also working at the New Kent Farmers Market on Saturdays. She was excited to announce that from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 14th, in the parking lot at New Kent High School, the Farmers Market would be hosting its annual Holiday Market. There would be an abundance of vendors participating. She reported details on vendors and items to be sold could be found on the County website and she encouraged everyone to attend. She noted this was another area where Executive Assistant to Administration Krista Eutsey, under the supervision of County Administrator Rodney Hathaway, was working hard to coordinate each week's vendors.
- New Elam Baptist Church on Cumberland Road would be hosting another drive through food distribution event on November 14th from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. or until the food ran out. The distribution was being made possible by the USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) and would include fresh vegetables, dairy products and meats. She encouraged everyone to share information on this with anyone in need.
- New Kent Parks and Recreation had received CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act funding to put together Senior Blessing Bags that would be distributed at the Holiday Market on November 14th to New Kent residents 65 and over.
- She congratulated New Kent University graduates and thanked them for their participation. She encouraged them to consider volunteering in the County.
- She thanked the New Kent Sheriff's Department for supplying New Kent County logo masks to Board members. She also thanked them for their efforts on Election Day. She stated they had been "everywhere all day" and no incidents had been reported.
- On behalf of the Board, she wished everyone a happy and blessed Thanksgiving and encouraged them to be safe when spending time with family.

IN RE: STAFF REPORTS

County Administrator Rodney Hathaway noted that recent conversations with Board members had suggested there may not be a November work session. He reported he had several items of business which he wished the Board to consider prior to the December 14th meeting. Those items included:

RIVERSTREET NETWORKS APPROPRIATION – Mr. Hathaway reminded the Board they had approved a contract with RiverStreet Networks in the amount of \$79,995 at a previous meeting. This contract was for the development of a plan for the construction of a fiber optic network in New Kent County. The Board had been provided with a motion to appropriate \$79,995 from Capital Fund Balance for this contract. He entertained questions.

Mr. Lockwood moved to appropriate \$79,995 from Capital Fund Balance for contractual services with RiverStreet Networks to develop a plan for the construction of a fiber optic network in New Kent County. The members were polled:

John N. Lockwood	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye

The motion carried.

DISPATCHER FUNDING APPROPRIATION – This was an item carried forward from the recent Board Retreat where the Sheriff’s Office had presented on staffing needs and had requested five additional Dispatcher positions. The Board had directed staff to see if funding was available to move forward with three positions now. Mr. Hathaway indicated the other two positions would be addressed during the budget process. The Board had been provided with a motion to appropriate up to \$77,972 from General Fund Balance which would fund three new dispatcher positions for the remainder of the fiscal year. He entertained questions.

Mr. Tiller moved to appropriate up to \$77,972 from General Fund Balance to create three new dispatcher positions to be filled during Fiscal Year 2020-2021. The members were polled:

Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
John N. Lockwood	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye

The motion carried.

CLEAN COUNTY SHREDDING EVENT APPROPRIATION – Mr. Hathaway referenced earlier discussions regarding the upcoming shredding event scheduled for November 29th. The Board had been provided with a motion to transfer up to \$250 in additional funding in support of this event. He entertained questions.

Mr. Lockwood expressed his appreciation to Mr. Hathaway for getting this item on today’s agenda. He reported the actual amount needed would be \$107 but the additional funding was being requested in case there were any unforeseen charges. He moved to approve the transfer of up to \$250 from the Reserved for Contingency line item to the New Kent County Litter Grant line item for the November 29, 2020 Clean County Shredding Event. The members were polled:

C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
John N. Lockwood	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye

The motion carried.

COX COMMUNICATIONS BROADBAND EXTENSION APPROPRIATION – Mr. Hathaway reported New Kent had been awarded \$33,055 from Virginia’s Fast-Track Broadband Coronavirus Relief Fund. This funding would extend Cox Communications service in several locations in the County. The Board had been provided with a motion to appropriate this funding so that Cox could move forward with the projects. He entertained questions.

Ms. Paige stated she hoped this was the first of many awards the County would receive and that the County would be able to extend broadband to other residents as well.

Mr. Stiers moved to appropriate \$33,055 received from the Commonwealth of Virginia’s Fast-Track Broadband Coronavirus Relief Fund to extend Broadband service provided by Cox Communications. The members were polled:

Ron Stiers	Aye
John N. Lockwood	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye

The motion carried.

Mr. Lockwood reported the Fast-Track program was state funded and only projects that could be completed prior to the end of the year were considered. The small projects to be addressed with this award were already in the works and had already been engineered.

IN RE: OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

IN RE: APPOINTMENTS – DELEGATED BY DISTRICT

There were no appointments delegated by district.

IN RE: APPOINTMENTS – NOT DELEGATED BY DISTRICT

There were no appointments not delegated by district.

IN RE: CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Evelyn moved to go into closed session pursuant to section 2.2-3711A.1 of the Code of Virginia for discussion and consideration of performance and salaries involving the County Administrator.

Ms. Paige asked County Attorney Brendan Hefty if he would explain for the New Kent University graduates what the Board was about to do. Mr. Hefty announced the Board would be moving the meeting to the back conference room to discuss a personnel matter which should not be discussed in an open meeting. Ms. Paige noted the Board would not be taking any action on the closed session discussion once they returned to the open meeting. She encouraged attendees to feel free to stay for the closing of the meeting.

The members were polled:

John N. Lockwood	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye

The motion carried.

Mr. Evelyn moved to come out of closed session. The members were polled:

Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye

Ron Stiers	Aye
John N. Lockwood	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye

The motion carried.

Mr. Evelyn moved to certify by roll call vote that to the best of each member's knowledge only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of the Freedom of Information Act and identified in the motion to go into closed session were heard, discussed or considered in the closed session. The members were polled:

C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
John N. Lockwood	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye

The motion carried.

IN RE: CANCELATION OF NOVEMBER 25TH WORK SESSION

Mr. Lockwood moved to cancel the November 25, 2020 work session. The members were polled:

Ron Stiers	Aye
John N. Lockwood	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye

The motion carried.

IN RE: ANNOUNCEMENT OF UPCOMING MEETINGS/ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Paige announced the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Supervisors would be held at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, December 14, 2020 in the Boardroom of the County Administration Building. She also announced the Board would be hosting a Virtual Broadband Town Hall meeting on Tuesday, November 17th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. There would be no November work session.

Mr. Tiller moved to adjourn. The members were polled:

John N. Lockwood	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Ron Stiers	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye

The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.