

Patrick County Board of Supervisors

Work Session

Third Floor – Veterans' Memorial Building, Stuart, Virginia

10:00 a.m. – Monday, January 23, 2006

PRESENT: Roger L. Martin, Chairman; David G. Young, Vice Chairman; H. Danny Foley, Sr., Crystal P. Harris, and Jonathan Large, Board Members; Regena H. Handy, County Administrator; Michael Burnette, Assistant County Administrator; Eric Helms Monday, County Attorney; and Mary Beth Roberson, Assistant to the County Administrator.

Call to Order: Chairman Roger L. Martin.

The County Attorney was temporarily absent.

Items for Consideration:

I. Report and Discussion of Road Matters with VDOT Official: This day came Lisa Price Hughes, Resident Engineer, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), to discuss matters pertaining to the primary and secondary road systems in Patrick County.

a. **Bridge Attachments / Guardrail Installations:** Mrs. Hughes advised that VDOT has been installing bridge attachments / guardrails on Routes 8 and 103, which should be completed this week.

b. **Bob White Road (708):** Mrs. Hughes advised that VDOT would be advertising for bids this month for the paving of Bob White Road.

c. **Cherry Creek Road:** Mrs. Hughes stated that VDOT would advertise for Bids in August for the Cherry Creek Road project. She noted that the estimated project cost is \$900,000; however, after meeting with environmental and drainage experts, she believes that the cost would increase.

d. **Pilson Sawmill Road:** Mrs. Harris reported a citizen's concern regarding a sharp curve on Pilson Sawmill Road. Mrs. Hughes advised that she had met with the citizen and Mrs. Harris a few years ago regarding same.

e. **Granny's Lane:** Mrs. Harris advised that the same citizen who had a concern about a curve on Pilson Sawmill Road also reported that she had to clean out debris and leaves from the gullies on Granny's Lane.

f. **Mill House Road:** Mrs. Harris advised that she had received a complaint about debris in the gullies on Mill House Road.

g. **Church Hill Lane:** Mrs. Harris advised that a citizen had inquired about improvements to Church Hill Lane. Mrs. Hughes noted that the County did not set aside any Rural Addition Funds. Mrs. Harris requested that the County Administrator send a letter to the citizen explaining why the improvements have not been done.

h. **Abram Penn Road:** Mr. Foley inquired about installing a guardrail on a section of Abram Penn Road. Mrs. Hughes advised that there is not enough shoulder room in that area to install same.

i. **Route 8 North:** Mrs. Harris asked if Mrs. Hughes had received a letter from the Smith River Fire Department regarding the sharp curve on Route 8 near Shough Lane. Mrs. Hughes advised that she had not received said request.

j. **Curve at Sky View Trail / Friends Mission Road:** Mr. Large inquired about the possibility of installing a guardrail near Sky View Trail and Friends Mission Road. He advised that the property owners reported three accidents in that area, which resulted in damage to their vehicles and home. Mrs. Hughes stated some motorists miss the intersection and that pavement markings should eliminate the problem. She noted that guardrails are used as a last resort.

k. **Meadows of Dan Gateway Signage:** The Assistant County Administrator advised that the Merchants Association of Meadows of Dan had requested that the Board approve the proposed Meadows of Dan Gateway Signs and accept them as County signs. He stated that the Merchant's Association would bear the cost of the signs, installation and maintenance of same.

On motion by Crystal P. Harris, seconded by David G. Young and carried, the Board does hereby approve the Merchants Association of Meadows of Dan's request to purchase, install, and maintain Gateway Signage in the Meadows of Dan Community at no cost to the County and to accept them as County signs.

Voting Aye: Martin, Young, Foley, Harris, and Large

Voting Nay: None

II. National College of Business & Technology: This day came Joan Blankenship, Community Resource Coordinator, to give the Board an update regarding services offered by the National College of Business & Technology. Mrs. Blankenship gave a power point presentation, with a paper copy of the presentation filed with the papers of the Board.

III. American Red Cross Quarterly Update: This day came Sharon Held, Director, Martinsville-Henry-Patrick Chapter of the American Red Cross, to present a quarterly report.

a. *Future Stuart Office*: Ms. Held advised that office space for a Stuart site had been donated and she is hopeful that it will be up and running within the next thirty days. She noted that the two-room office is located across from BB&T in Stuart. Mrs. Harris inquired about future staff. Ms. Held advised that the position would be posted; however, it would probably begin on a volunteer basis and then become a paid position.

b. *Service Delivery*: Ms. Held advised that their organization assisted a Patrick County family after a house fire and offered blood pressure screening during a recent health fair. She noted that they also assisted in relocating a family that was evacuated from their home due to Hurricane Rita. Ms. Held reported that the organization aided in setting up a shelter in Patrick County during the recent power outage.

c. *Emergency Shelter*: The County Administrator inquired about obtaining cots for emergency shelters in Patrick County. Ms. Held advised that Henry County purchased their own cots and that meeting Patrick County's need for same is part of the Chapter's development process. She stated that it is normal for Red Cross Chapters to have a need during an emergency and look to surrounding Chapters for assistance. The Assistant County Administrator noted that the school buildings in the County are shelter-designated sites. Mr. Large stated that the County should "refresh the public" in regards to shelter designations. Mr. Burnette requested a list of recommended supplies and amounts of same for emergency shelters. Ms. Held stated that she would send the list to him via email. The Chairman inquired about the use of Meals Ready to Eat (MRE). Ms. Held advised that the use of MREs is dependent upon the availability of refreshments and each individual situation.

d. *Donations*: Mrs. Harris inquired about previous donations that were made to the Patrick County Chapter. Ms. Held advised that all monies have been combined into one account and that the last donation was unrestricted.

e. *Disaster Trailer*: Ms. Held stated that she would like for Patrick County to acquire a disaster trailer and a vehicle that would be able to transport supplies during a disaster. The County Administrator advised that the Office of Emergency Management had purchased a trailer for that purpose with the use of grant monies and is in the process of purchasing the needed supplies for same. The Assistant County Administrator recommended directing the Emergency Management Coordinator to seek grant funds to purchased shelter items such as cots and blankets. Mr. Large asked if the Henry-Martinsville-Patrick Chapter would be willing to work with the Emergency Service Coordinator during a disaster. Ms. Held advised that they would. On motion by Jonathan Large, seconded by David G. Young and carried, the Board does hereby direct the Emergency Service Coordinator to work in conjunction with the American Red Cross Henry-Martinsville-Patrick Chapter regarding disasters and shelters in Patrick County.

Voting Aye: Martin, Young, Foley, Harris, and Young

Voting Nay: None

IV. Maintenance Department Update: Teddy Doss, staff, in attendance.

a. *Maintenance Shed Doors:* Teddy Doss, Maintenance Director, advised that all renovation expenses have been paid with the exception of the large doors that were not installed correctly. Mr. Doss stated that the company that installed the doors would return to correct the problem and that payment of \$3,700 to same would be held until the problem is fixed.

b. *Maintenance Shed:* Mr. Doss advised that various parts for the Maintenance Shed shelving units should arrive this week and should be completed next week. He noted that the bottom shelves were approximately 15 inches off of the floor to eliminate problems in case of any possible flooding. Mr. Doss stated that the shed's roof still leaks. The County Administrator advised that she would discuss the matter with the County Attorney. Mr. Young advised that the County would create a new entrance for the Maintenance Shed, which would be graveled. He recommended installing a locked gate at the entrance. The Assistant County Administrator recommended seeking an estimate for gravel from J.C. Joyce Trucking and Paving. Mr. Young noted that Sowers Construction is currently doing a project for the County and advised that they could provide a quote as well. Mr. Doss invited the Board to tour the facility at any time.

c. *Flood Channel:* The Assistant County Administrator advised that the flood channel next to United Elastic needs to be cleaned out. He stated that he would be seeking grant money to fund the cleanup and Mr. Doss is in the process of obtaining a quote for same. Mr. Doss advised that his department is no longer able to bush hog the channel because their equipment continuously gets stuck.

d. *Recycling Center:* Mr. Large inquired about the future location of the recycling center. Mr. Young advised that there is a concrete slab near the Maintenance Shed that could be used for the recycling center. He recommended the installation of a closed circuit television monitor at the center and using trustees to sort the recyclables in the bins. The County Administrator asked if Mr. Young's recommendation included the recycling bins' current route through each community to continue. Mr. Young advised that it would unless replacement centers are constructed. Mr. Large asked if the new center would be manned. Mr. Young advised that citizens might be willing to volunteer at the center. Mr. Martin supported the use of trustees.

V. Crooked Road Kiosk Public Hearing: The Chairman opened the hearing for public comment on the proposed purchase of an easement at a sum of \$1.00 from private property owners for construction of a Crooked Road kiosk in the Meadows of Dan area. Jeannie Frisco, Tourism Director, presented the Board with a sketch of the proposed kiosk, a list of suggested materials, a proposed easement, and a maintenance agreement for same. Mrs. Frisco advised that the proposed kiosk is simply a solar powered listening post that would provide information about the area, local musicians, and the Crooked Road on an FM radio station. She noted that the Crooked Road would fund the proposed project and that James and Dreama Stimely have agreed to donate a 10' x 10' lot to locate a kiosk. Mrs. Frisco stated that the kiosk includes information related to JEB Stuart, which is in the Ararat community. She advised that the proposed kiosk would hold five brochures. Mr. Large asked if the brochure box could be expanded. Mrs. Frisco advised that it could be expanded at the County's expense and noted that the kiosk would be located near the visitor's center. She stated that in the future, she would like to see the creation of a "you are here" sign near the kiosk that would outline sites and attractions throughout the County. The Chairman asked for any additional comments; none were made and the public hearing was closed.

On motion by Crystal P. Harris, seconded by David G. Young and carried, the Board does hereby approve the purchase of an easement at a sum of \$1.00 from James and Dreama Stimely for construction of a Crooked Road kiosk in the Meadows of Dan community.

Voting Aye: Martin, Young, Foley, Harris, and Large

Voting Nay: None

On motion by David G. Young, seconded by Crystal P. Harris and carried, the Board does hereby approve the proposed maintenance agreement for the Crooked Road kiosk in the Meadows of Dan community, said agreement to be prepared by the County Attorney.

Voting Aye: Martin, Young, Foley, Harris, and Large

Voting Nay: None

Mrs. Harris thanked Mr. and Mrs. Stimely for the donation of land for the kiosk. The County Administrator noted that she had attended the "Live from the Crooked Road" show that was held last Saturday night at the Star Theater. She advised that the show was very successful and enjoyable and is helping to draw tourists to Patrick County. Mrs. Frisco advised that a gentleman from Montana had attended the show as well.

The County Attorney joined the meeting.

VI. County Ordinances: Update and discussion of amendments to various county ordinances.

a. *Building Permit Fee Schedule:* The County Attorney advised that Mr. Young had proposed a new fee schedule for building permits at the January 9th meeting. Mrs. Harris stated that she does not agree with the proposed fee schedule. Mr. Young advised that Patrick County's building permit fee schedule is much less than those in surrounding counties. He stated that the proposed fee increases should allow the Building Inspection Office to "break even". The Chairman advised that any action taken regarding amendments to the building permit fee schedule should be taken at the February 13th meeting. The Board directed the County Attorney to compile a list of building permit fee schedules from surrounding localities and to draft language for a fee schedule amendment.

b. *Transient Occupancy Tax:* The County Attorney advised that he has not yet received any information from Bethel Campground in regards to their request to be exempt from the Transient Occupancy Tax.

VII. Proposed 2006-2007 County Budget: The County Administrator presented the Board with a proposed budget calendar and asked if the Board has any guidelines that they would like to include in the 2006-2007 county budget. Mr. Young advised that he would like to use the same line-item format that was used in the 2005-2006 budget. The Chairman stated that he would like to know the amount of money that the State will contribute to the school system. Mr. Young noted that the State is proposing a 3.5% pay increase for the school system. He advised that the Budget Committee needs a general idea of what each Board member wants in regard to the upcoming budget. Mr. Foley advised that he would like to see a projection of the County's extra revenue. Mrs. Harris advised that she does not wish to see any new positions created. The Chairman advised that tax rates should be relative to the rate of inflation. The Board advised that the proposed budget schedule is acceptable contingent upon any needed refinements.

The Board recessed for seven minutes.

The Board reconvened into regular session.

VIII. Meeting with former Recreation Commission members: The County Administrator advised that the Board had previously agreed to meet with the former Recreation Commission at this meeting. In attendance at the meeting were former Recreation Commission members Richard Conner, Carol Taylor, Mica Williams, Andrew Kahle, Max Lawson, Roy Rusmisl, and Parks and Recreation Director Clyde Crissman. Mrs. Harris advised that she and Richard Conner had a conversation several months ago regarding the meeting schedule conflict between the Board and the Commission. She said that she had also talked with Clyde

Crissman, Recreation Director, about changing the meeting date of the Commission so that a Board member could attend; however, she did not receive a response from him. She said that Carol Taylor had called her regarding the meeting schedule and she told Mrs. Taylor that the Board had not heard from anyone. Mr. Crissman advised that letters were sent out advising that the meeting date had been changed; however, Mr. Cockerham still did not attend the meetings. Mrs. Harris stated that the Board was not informed of the date change. Mickey Williams asked where Mr. Cockerham got the information that the Commission met and did absolutely nothing, when he only attended two meetings in four years. Mrs. Harris stated that she did not know and that Mr. Williams would have to ask Mr. Cockerham. Mr. Williams stated that he has asked Mr. Cockerham but cannot get an answer. Mr. Crissman said, "I would like us to start working together instead of back and forth and I would like to see the Recreation Commission reinstated with one of the Supervisors put on it that will attend the meetings and if things aren't working at the end of the year we can make some changes." The Chairman advised that comments would be taken and then the Board would have a meeting to discuss the issue. Andrew Kahle advised that the article in The Enterprise stated that the Board voted unanimously to abolish the Commission because the rules were not changed; however, the rules had already been changed and the girl's season had just finished under the new rules and Mr. Cockerham knew that. Mrs. Harris stated that she did not know that the rules had been changed. She advised that a copy of the minutes from each meeting should be sent to the County Administrator. Mrs. Harris stated that she intended to call Mr. Kahle to tell him that she would attend the coaches' meeting; however, last Sunday evening she assisted in opening a shelter for those who did not have electricity. Mr. Crissman noted that he had received a call Sunday at 4:30a.m. in regards to opening a shelter in Stuart. Carol Taylor stated that it is hard for her understand how one issue caused the Board to take such a drastic measure. Mr. Foley asked why money for a park in the Mayo River District was not set aside when funds were given out to establish parks in the County. He stated that he was told that Fred Martin had tried to locate land in the Mayo River District, but was unsuccessful in doing so. Mr. Conner advised that the Recreation Commission had met with Mr. Martin and tried to assist him in locating a site. Max Lawson advised that they had visited a site with Mr. Martin; however, it required a great deal of development. Mr. Lawson advised that the Patrick Springs Park originally received \$7,000 or \$8,000. Mrs. Harris asked if Dwight Shelor still served on the Recreation Commission and why some districts had more than one representative on same. Mr. Williams advised that the Commission was comprised of a member from each park, an at-large citizen, and a member from the Parks and Recreation Association. He stated that he is an original member of the Commission, which began in 1970 or 1971. Mr. Williams advised that Roy Rusmiser filled Mr. Shelor's set on the former Commission. Mr. Large stated that the Dan River Parks and Recreation Board is in the process of being reorganized with the assistance of Mr. Crissman and asked how the parks are insured. Mr. Crissman advised that the parks fall under the County's umbrella in regards to liability and that the land is titled under Patrick County Parks and Recreation Association. Mr. Williams advised that the land was titled under that name so that when the time came to apply for a grant, the Association could use the land as matching funds and then donate the property to the County. Mr. Large asked if there are currently any efforts underway to establish a park in the Mayo River District. Mr. Williams advised that the Commission had met several times with residents from that district; however, there has never been anyone to spearhead the project. He noted that the Commission offers assistance and advice to park boards and groups interested in creating same. Mr. Crissman advised that the first step is to find a citizen that is willing to donate usable land. He noted that Fred Martin had searched for usable land; however, he could not find any. Mr. Large stated that the Board needs to "put out a call to the media" to assist in finding a landowner in the Mayo River District that would be willing to donate usable land. Mr. Crissman stated that the Association met on a monthly basis to discuss the progress and future plans of each park. Mr. Lawson noted that each park has its own governing body. He stated that reinstatement of the Recreation Commission is the reason they were attending the meeting. Mr. Conner stated, "there would probably be two hundred years of service are sitting right here, you just going to throw it away?" Mr. Williams stated that it is his opinion that if a Board of Supervisors member, who is interested in recreation, would attend the meetings, there would be less confusion. Mrs. Taylor stated that

the Commission was a vital organization and respectfully requested the Board reinstate the Commission. Mr. Rusmisl noted that the Commission did not expend County funds. Mrs. Harris stated that there was a lack of communication, plain and simple. Mr. Rusmisl asked if the communication system were updated, would the Board consider reinstating the Commission. Mrs. Harris stated, "we consider everything." Mr. Rusmisl noted that he was not aware of any problems in relation to the former Commission until it had been abolished.

Mr. Large was absent for the remainder of the meeting due to the impending birth of his child.

Mr. Williams stated, "don't you think that if Mr. Cockerham would have come to some of the meetings over the years, that you all would have been better informed about what went on?" He noted that there were some meetings that Mr. Cockerham could not attend because of scheduling conflicts with the Board's meetings. The Chairman advised that the Board is taking comments today and that any action by the Board would be done at a regular board meeting. Mrs. Harris stated that the Board does not want to take any action without Mr. Large's input. Mr. Kahle stated that it is his opinion that there was not enough input when the decision to abolish the Commission was made and that someone should have contacted the Commission to see if the rules had been changed. Mrs. Taylor stated that the Commission could have been asked to attend a work session when the problem arose. Mrs. Harris stated, "Since Clyde didn't get back to me, we didn't find out that there was a change in rules." Mr. Foley thanked each former Commission member that was in attendance and all who are involved in parks and recreation in Patrick County. He stated that, hopefully, land in the Mayo River District could be located to construct a park. Mr. Williams noted that a Mayo River District citizen served on the former Commission. Mr. Foley stated that he has tried to contact that representative. Mrs. Harris noted that Mr. Foley had advised the Board that he could not get his representative to get back in touch with him. Mr. Williams advised that Bob Reynolds has always been very responsive to him. Mr. Conner stated that the Board could contact him at anytime. No further comments or questions were made and the Chairman thanked the former Commission for attending the work session.

IX. Consideration of Eminent Domain Resolution: The Chairman presented the Board with a proposed resolution addressing the Virginia Association of Counties' intent in its legislative agenda regarding eminent domain. He stated that VACo should protect the rights of property owners. Mr. Young recommended sending the proposed resolution, if adopted, to the Virginia Legislature. The Board directed the County Attorney to formalize the proposed resolution and to forward it to the Virginia Legislature.

X. Bills Payment Proposal: The Chairman advised that bills should be submitted to the County on a timely basis and proposed a policy addressing same.

On motion by H. Danny Foley, Sr., seconded by David G. Young and carried, the Board does hereby adopt the following submittal of bills policy: (1) bills for personal expenses including mileage, travel, etc., shall be required to be submitted in the fiscal year that they were incurred with the final bills for personal expenses for a fiscal year submitted no later than the end of the second month of the new fiscal year; (2) costs being incurred on an ongoing basis from the prior year through the above deadline will be excepted but shall be submitted in a timely manner upon termination of the travel or other expense activity; (3) a prior contract shall be required for any work done by a member of the Board of Supervisors and/or a family member; (4) the County Attorney shall review all such contractual arrangements to prevent conflicts of interest and other problems; and further, (5) no taxpayer funds will be expended for volunteer work.

Voting Aye: Martin, Young, Foley, and Harris

Voting Nay: None

Temporarily Absent: Large

XI. Public Input Policies Proposal: Mr. Martin continued discussion of the proposed public input policies. He stated that the reason for the proposal was to add structure to the current policies for public comment sessions and public hearings, which would prevent “contentious hollering” and provide more organization. Mr. Martin proposed, “the Board may answer appropriate questions at present time or at a future time”, and stated that this policy would prevent the Board from being bound to answer questions. He stated that there are a lot of questions that would benefit greatly from further deliberation. Mr. Young commented on the, “need to wait until you’re not doing something in the heat of the moment from an emotional standpoint.” Mr. Martin proposed, “angry, contentious or argumentative commentary will be halted immediately and may constitute cause for terminating the comment period.” Mrs. Harris stated that those in attendance should not be punished because of one angry person. Mr. Martin advised that Board meetings must be run in a respective way. Mr. Young noted that the Chairman of the Board has the option of calling for a recess until “everything can be settled down.” Mr. Martin proposed, “all seating is reserved for persons eighteen years of age or older unless there are extra seats.” He noted that there have been a lot of cases where children were brought to a Board meeting and were sitting on the floor. He noted that the room occupancy standard had been addressed with the Fire Marshal’s edict. He stated, “there may be a bunch of kids sitting in seats in here and a bunch of older people who would have comments or wanted to make comments who no longer can get in the room. Mr. Martin proposed, “applause or other inappropriate disturbances will not be tolerated and may be deemed cause to terminate the comment period.” He advised that applause or other disturbances from a large, adamant group might intimidate a person or a small group of people who want to make opposing comments. Mrs. Harris recommended holding all applause until the last speaker has had an opportunity to speak. Mr. Young stated that the person who interrupts a speaker, that has the floor, should be removed. Mr. Martin proposed, “in case of one or more public hearings or comment periods, seating will be prioritized for attendees of each hearing or comment period.” He noted that there were two comment periods held during a recent meeting and those who were in attendance for the first public comment period stayed during the second as well. He advised that people who wanted to attend the second comment period were unable to come into the Boardroom because there was not enough seating. Mr. Young suggested taking a short recess between comment periods to allow time to clear out the room. The County Administrator advised that normally, the Board does not have two public hearings / public comments sessions back to back. She advised that at the meeting that the Chairman noted, one public hearing was scheduled and advertised. Mrs. Harris noted that only one person had contacted the County Administrator to be placed on the agenda to address the Board regarding the abolishment of the Recreation Commission. Mr. Foley stated that the proposed policies are not intended to prevent a citizen from speaking. Mrs. Harris advised that the Board would like to receive comments from the public “in a calm fashion.” The Chairman advised that the conduct that is required in a courtroom should also apply to Board of Supervisors meetings. Nancy Lindsey, The Enterprise, stated that the Board should not ban applause. She advised that some citizens might be afraid to speak or may want to show support for another speaker by applauding same. She stated that this ban would infringe upon the public’s right to free speech. Mr. Foley suggested asking the supporters in the audience to raise their hands instead of applauding. Mr. Young stated, “the one thing that I do fear is that when you do see a strong, apparent show of support for a particular idea, you do tend to get the people on the other side to stay quiet. They are intimidated very often by the fact that the crowd is opposed to them.” He advised that after a recent meeting, a citizen had told the Board that they are doing a good job, but they would not speak at the public session. The County Attorney advised that from a policy standpoint, the Board could adopt the proposed guidelines. He agreed with the Chairman’s comment that the Board meetings are akin to court hearings. Mr. Monday advised that during public hearings, which are required by law, the Board could not restrict the content of what someone can say; however, it can restrict the manner in which they say it. He stated that the Board is not required to add a public comment period to the meeting agenda, which would entertain comments from citizens. The County Administrator recommended that if the Board adopts the proposed procedures, that the Chairman should explain at the beginning of each public hearing / public input session why applause is limited or delayed. She agreed with Ms. Lindsay’s remark

that some people may be too shy to speak and prefer to use applause as a sign of support. Mr. Martin proposed that anyone wishing to speak at a meeting be required to sign a register as they enter the Boardroom. Mrs. Handy advised that Boards in other localities use a register. Mr. Young stated, "we need public input, but we need it to be logical. If there are two sides to an issue, we definitely want every side." Mrs. Handy stated that she would like to clarify that if citizens would like to speak during the proposed public comment sessions, they should sign a register when they arrive at the meeting; but are not required to call ahead of time or make a request to be included on the agenda. The Chairman directed the County Administrator to incorporate the proposed guidelines, which were discussed and amended at this meeting, into the rules that are read before each public hearing / public comment session.

XII. Strategic Planning Retreat Options: The Assistant County Administrator reminded the Board that at the last Board meeting, he was asked to compile a list of options pertaining to the location and schedule for the proposed strategic planning session. He presented the Board with the following three options: (1) two-day overnight retreat; (2) two-day retreat; and (3) one-day retreat. He advised that Randy Arno, Weldon Cooper Center, has agreed to facilitate the meeting at no charge to the County. The Chairman stated that the last strategic planning session was a good use of the Board's time and asked if the upcoming session could be streamlined. Mr. Young requested that representatives from the Economic Development Authority and the Planning Commission be present during a portion of the proposed session. Mr. Foley advised that members from the Public Service Authority should also be present. Mr. Burnette stated that he envisions the Board of Supervisors laying out the visions of Patrick County during the session and then County departments and various boards would determine how to achieve those goals. He recommended that the Board allot two days for the planning session. Mr. Young stated that the Board appointed the various boards and values their input. Mr. Foley stated that if the Board chose to hold a two-day session, it would be beneficial to conduct the session in the Veterans' Memorial Building because most of the information that the Board may need would be readily available. The Board directed Mr. Burnette to gather further information for a two-day retreat.

The Board recessed for eight minutes.

The Board reconvened into regular session.

XIII. County Bookkeeping Software Package Funding Discussion: Donna Shough, Bookkeeper; Carolyn Tatum, Treasurer; and Janet Rorrer, Commission of the Revenue were in attendance. The County Administrator presented the Board with information regarding the capabilities and deficiencies of the County's current bookkeeping software. Said document was noted and ordered filed with the papers of the Board. Mrs. Handy noted that the Board had allocated approximately \$15,000 in the 2005-2006 County Budget for the purchase of new bookkeeping software. She advised that Mrs. Shough has done extensive research and found that \$15,000 would not cover the entire cost of the needed software. Mrs. Tatum and Mrs. Rorrer advised that their offices would like to be able to network with the bookkeeper and each other in the near future. The Chairman recommended that Mrs. Shough seek advice from a business school as to what software would offer the most benefit to the County. He congratulated Mrs. Shough on the line-item format for the 2005-2006 budget, which she had created. The Board approved the rollover of approximately \$15,000 into the 2006-2007 County Budget to be used for the purchase of new bookkeeping software and directed the County Administrator and the Bookkeeper to continue to research same.

XIV. Discussion of Various Legislative Issues:

a. Senate Bill 38 / Senate Committee of Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources: The County Administrator presented the Board with a letter from Senator Roscoe Reynolds regarding Senate Bill 38. She advised that the letter states that the Bill has been assigned to the Senate Committee of Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources and that the Board may wish to express its support to the other members of the committee.

b. Transportation Issues: The County Administrator stated that it seems that transportation would be a top priority this year in the General Assembly. She presented the Board with an article from VACo's County Connections regarding transportation issues during the upcoming 2006 legislative session.

c. Legislative Day: The County Administrator reminded the Board that Legislative Day will be held on February 9, 2006 in Richmond. She noted that the Rural Caucus meeting and dinner would be held February 8th.

d. Proposed Increase in Social Services Funding: Mr. Foley advised that the Patrick County Department of Social Services' case loads had increase by 185 cases from January 2004 to January 2005. He recommended sending a letter to Senator Reynolds requesting an increase in funding for the Department of Social Services. He noted that the cost of living increase is the only increase that the department has received since the 1980's.

On motion by H. Danny Foley, Sr., seconded by David G. Young and carried, the Board does hereby approve the submittal of a letter to Senator Roscoe Reynolds requesting an increase in funding for the Department of Social Services.

Voting Aye: Martin, Young, Foley, and Harris

Voting Nay: None

Temporarily Absent: Large

e. Franchise Agreement: The County Attorney advised that Verizon Telecommunications had requested that the Legislature introduce a bill that would allow an independent business wishing to provide cable television service be able to communicate directly with subscribers without a franchise agreement with the local government. He advised that the bill is pending. He noted that Patrick County has received a letter from Adelphia requesting that the County oppose this bill and stated that he agrees with same. He advised that there is not a cable television monopoly in Patrick County; however, a cable television operator must receive a franchise from the County. Mr. Monday noted that the County receives franchise fees from the operators, which are deposited into the County's General Fund and are used to support various projects for county citizens.

On motion by Crystal P. Harris, seconded by David G. Young and carried, the Board does hereby direct the County Attorney to communicate the Board's opposition to the Legislative Bill that would allow independent businesses wishing to provide cable television service to communicate directly with subscribers without a franchise agreement with the local government, which was requested by Verizon Telecommunications.

Voting Aye: Martin, Young, Foley, and Harris

Voting Nay: None

Temporarily Absent: Large

XV. Patrick Springs Waterline Extension Discussion: The Assistant County Administrator advised that he has received some preliminary information from Rural Development regarding the Patrick Springs Waterline Extension project; however, he would like to receive confirmation regarding same before they are discussed publicly. He stated that a press release concerning the extension would be issued in the near future. Mr. Burnette advised that the Public Service Authority approved the Board's proposed rate increase. The Chairman requested the potential number of households that are in the proposed service area and number that would subscribe to water and sewer services. He stated that there would have to be an adjustment, possibly by an in lieu of fee. Mr. Burnette noted that the hook up fee for water and sewer is \$600 for each service, which was recommended by the Town of Stuart.

XVI. Proposed Resolution from Charlotte County regarding Roanoke / Staunton River Water Quality Plans: The County Administrator presented the Board with a proposed resolution from the Charlotte County Board of Supervisors regarding the inclusion of the Roanoke / Staunton River in the Commonwealth's plans to improve water quality. She noted that the Charlotte County Board of Supervisors is seeking support of the resolution from other localities. Mr. Young advised that the proposed resolution does not include water from the New River Basin or the Ararat River. He stated that the resolution should be comprehensive and involve the cleanup of all water that leaves Virginia. The Board directed the County Administrator to submit a letter to the Charlotte County Board of Supervisors advising that the proposed resolution should include all waterways in Virginia.

XVII. Fairy Stone State Park ADA Access Improvements: The County Administrator presented the Board with an Environmental Impact Report for ADA Access Improvements at Fairy Stone State Park from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). She advised that DEQ is soliciting the Board's comments of same and noted that no action by the Board is required. The Board directed the County Administrator to "sign off" on the report on the Board's behalf.

XVII. Meeting Schedule: The regular meeting for the month of February is scheduled for Monday, February 13th beginning at 2:00 p.m. and the work session will be held on Monday, February 27th commencing at 10:00 a.m. The County Administrator noted that the Board would hold its first public comment period at the February regular meeting.

XVIII. CSA Transfer of Funds Request: The County Administrator requested the Board's approval to transfer funds from the General County Fund to the Comprehensive Services Act Budget. She noted that there are two cases this month that involve large expenditures and that the requested funds would be reimbursed to the County.

On motion by David G. Young, seconded by H. Danny Foley, Sr. and carried, it is hereby ordered that Carolyn I. Tatum, Treasurer, transfer the sum of Thirty-four Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-three Dollars (\$34,923.00) from the General County Fund to the Comprehensive Services Act (CSA) Fund, contingent upon the definite need for funds and availability of funds in the General County Fund.

Voting Aye: Martin, Young, Foley, and Harris
Voting Nay: None
Temporarily Absent: Large

On motion by David G. Young, seconded by Crystal P. Harris and carried, the Board convened into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters [Section 2.2-3711(A)(1), 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended]; real property [Section 2.2-3711(A)(3), 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended]; prospective business matters [Section 2.2-3711(A)(5), 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended]; legal matters [Section 2.2-3711(A)(7), 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended]; and annexation issues [Section 15.2-2907(D), 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended].

Voting Aye: Martin, Young, Foley, and Harris
Voting Nay: None
Temporarily Absent: Large

On motion by Crystal P. Harris, seconded by H. Danny Foley, Sr. and carried, the Board reconvened into regular session, based upon the following:

WHEREAS, the Patrick County Board of Supervisors has convened an Executive Meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, and

WHEREAS, Section 2.1-344.1 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board that such executive meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Patrick County Board of Supervisors does hereby certify that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the executive meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Board,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Patrick County Board of Supervisors does hereby certify that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the executive meeting to which this certification resolution applies.

Voting Aye: Martin, Young, Foley, and Harris

Voting Nay: None

Temporarily Absent: Large

Ordered that the Board be adjourned until February 13, 2006.

**Work notes prepared and submitted by
Mary Beth Roberson, Assistant to the County Administrator**