

Patrick County Board of Supervisors

Work Session

Patrick County Veteran's Memorial Building – Third Floor – Boardroom

Monday, April 26, 2010

Present: Karl Weiss, Chairman, Ron Knight, Vice – Chairperson, Crystal P. Harris, Roger Hayden, and Lock Boyce Board Members

Staff Present: Jay Scudder, County Administrator, Tom Rose, Assistant County Administrator, Alan Black, County Attorney, and Geri Hazelwood, Assistant to the County Administrator/Clerk

Media Present: Ms. Nancy Lindsey, The Enterprise; Mr. Richard Rogers, WHEO

Call to Order: Mr. Chairman

Mr. Gary Biggs led the invocation.

Mr. Hayden led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence for the past and present military serving here and abroad.

Presentation: Mr. Ralph Ison, CenturyLink

Mr. Ralph Ison, CenturyLink; gave a presentation to the Board concerning high speed internet for Patrick County. The map was shown with colors representing serving areas for Central Office and Digital Loop Carriers; some locations may be beyond reach of current DSL technology. He stated that by the end of 2010 that 90% of the county will have high speed internet. Mr. Ison stated that Patrick County has more broadband service than any other locality that he serves from Danville to Abingdon.

Mr. Roger Hayden, Chairman of the Broadband Taskforce, referred to the map stating that four years ago when they started working on expanding broadband coverage most of the now green areas were white which represented high speed access. Mr. Hayden stated that we should applaud them for investing so much in Patrick County and rural areas.

According to Mr. Scudder some of the funding has been provided by federal stimulus money and the Virginia Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission. He stated that for a rural area to have 90% coverage when some of the larger areas do not is amazing.

Ms. Harris asked the audience how many of them were in attendance for the presentation from Mr. Ison?

A number of citizens raised their hands and spoke to Mr. Ison. They signed their names, addresses, and phone numbers to be contacted by CenturyLink when high speed becomes available in their areas with Mr. Ison's encouragement or, contact Jay Scudder at 694 – 6094 for information.

The Board had discussion concerning various areas of the county said to receive high speed internet within the 2010 year.

Mr. Ison asked that Ms. Lindsey not publish the map in the local paper.

The Board expressed their gratitude towards Mr. Ison for the work that he and CenturyLink have done for Patrick County.

Mr. Chairman opened the public comment period to receive input from citizens regarding issues of various concerns.

Mr. Jerry Webb, Blue Ridge District, MRRT; He stated that the Taxpayer Watchdog Group had received a petition with 140 signatures in opposition of the MRRT, he gave Mr. Weiss a copy.

Mr. Danny Foley, Mayo River District, APCO; He thanked the Board and the Taxpayer Watchdog Group for their efforts in standing together to see HB 3068 and SB 1416 bills repealed. He presented the Board members with a handout of an article from the Roanoke Times referenced below:

Mr. Charles Vivier, Blue Ridge District, Bicycling in Patrick County, he presented the Board with a map and information pertaining to signage in the county for bicyclists. He referred to VDOT's programs concerning such. To his understanding the signage would have to be requested by the County.

The Board members addressed the citizen's that spoke during public comment and thanked them for their comments.

Mr. Scudder's report consisted of the following:

The amendment to the summary plan description and master plan document for the County of Patrick and Schools (1000 and 2000 plans). He stated that the current policy for worker's compensation pays for an employee's insurance for three months, after that the employee is responsible for the whole amount of the insurance. This amendment will allow an additional three months for a total coverage of six months.

The Board had discussion stating the importance of being able to accommodate a person with light duty if at all possible.

On motion by Lock Boyce to amend the county insurance plan as presented to extend coverage for an additional three months and seconded by Ron Knight and carried 4 to 1.

Voting Aye: Hayden, Boyce, Knight, Weiss

Voting Nay: Harris

Mr. Scudder presented the Board with a resolution concerning APCO rate increases per Mr. Danny Foley and the Taxpayer Watchdog Group's request. Based upon Mr. Armstrong's recommendations that we not say repeal but to say "repeal and or" the resolution was constructed by Mr. Scudder and Ms. Harris.

Mr. Black recommended that the following changes be made to the resolution: to change improve to reduce and to change repeal to repeal or modification.

On motion by Lock Boyce seconded by Ron Knight to adopt the resolution with the noted changes per County Attorney Mr. Black carried unanimous.



COUNTY OF PATRICK
Office of the County Administrator

WHEREAS, The Patrick County Board of Supervisors wishes to express their concern in regards to higher utility rates and,

WHEREAS, information indicates that repeal and or modification of HB 3068 and SB 1416 could reduce utility rates to customers and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Patrick County Board of Supervisors supports the repeal or modification to above mentioned House and Senate bills.

On motion by Lock Boyce seconded by Ron Knight to adopt the resolution with Mr. Black's recommendations and carried unanimously.

Voting Aye: Hayden, Boyce, Knight, Harris, Weiss

Voting Nay: None

P. O. Box 466 • 106 Rucker Street • Stuart, Virginia 24171
Telephone: (276) 694-6094 • Fax: (276) 694-2160
<http://www.co.patrick.va.us>

Voting Aye: Hayden, Boyce, Knight, Harris, Weiss

April 26, 2010

Page 4

Voting Nay: None

Mr. Foley requested that the Board ask other counties to support the resolution.

Mr. Weiss stated that he and Mr. Hayden serve on VACO committees and thought they could help assist them in supporting the resolution. Mr. Hayden stated that he would contact VACO.

Mr. Weiss reminded the Board of the Fire and Rescue Appreciation day on Saturday, May 1, 2010 at 5:00 pm at the Patrick County High School.

Mr. Weiss asked the Board members if they would like for him to pursue getting information from the "Go Green Virginia" initiative. The Board had discussion and asked Mr. Weiss to get information and bring it back to the next Board meeting.

On motion by Ron Knight seconded by Roger Hayden and carried unanimously the Board adjourned until May 10, 2010.