

VIRGINIA: At a Work Session of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Patrick, held at the Patrick County Veteran's Memorial Building on Monday, May 22, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: C. Clayton Kendrick, Jr. – Chairman; Denise Stirewalt – Vice-Chair, Brandon Simmons, Clyde DeLoach, Doug Perry Board Members.

STAFF PRESENT: Tim Hall, Interim County Administrator; Amy Walker, Administrative Assistant, Clerk; Donna Shough, Assistant County Administrator/Human Resource Director; Lori Jones, Finance Director.

Others present: Taylor Boyd, The Enterprise and Monique Holland, The Martinsville Bulletin.

Clayton Kendrick called the meeting to order.

Ms. Gabrielle Walker, Stuart Baptist Church and Homestead Community gave the invocation.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Denise Stirewalt, followed by a moment of silence in honor of U.S. military serving here and abroad as well as public safety personnel.

Approval of the meeting agenda

On motion by Doug Perry to approve the agenda as presented seconded by Clyde DeLoach and carried unanimously.

Voting Aye: Simmons, DeLoach, Perry, Stirewalt, Kendrick

Voting Nay: None

Public Comment:

Mr. Chairman opened the public comment period.

Mr. Kurt Bozenmayer spoke regarding accessibility of the budget, audit reports, and other financial documents.

Mr. Chairman closed the public comment period.

The Board thanked the speaker.

Patrick County Board of Supervisors

Public Comment Period

May 22, 2023

Name	District	Topic
KURT BOZENMAYER	SMITH RIVER	BUDGET

Address to the Board of Supervisors of Patrick County, VA 22 May 2023

Good evening. My name is Kurt Bozenmayer, I'm from the Smith River district, and I would like to address the Board about providing the public with more access to the county budget and its planning process.

It is obvious that the Board of Supervisors and the County Administration have expended a significant amount of time and effort in working on the current budget. I would like to thank the Finance Department for ensuring that the recent budget documents are posted on the County website along with recent audit reports.

However, with the proposed fiscal year 2024 budget at 98 pages, and the most recent audit reports from fiscal year 2022 at 26 pages for the presentation and 169 pages for the full report, it becomes financially difficult for the ordinary citizen to print out all this information, due to the cost of paper and ink. For senior citizens with small laptop computers and declining visual acuity, it becomes a challenge to read this information online.

For the budget years 2021 to 2024, the Finance Department shows 16 documents listed on the website, representing hundreds of pages of material. I submit that much of this material would be of interest to many of the taxpayers if it were easier to access.

Mr. Garry Clifton, manager of the Patrick branch of the Blue Ridge Regional Library, and I recently approached Finance Officer Lori Jones and requested that the most recent budget be available, in printed form, at our local library for ease of public access. I would like to expand that request to include the budget documents and audit reports for the last three years.

Recent discussions with a number of attendees of the Board of Supervisors meetings indicate that there is an increasing level of interest in the budget process, at the taxpayer level. I hope that the Supervisors will support this effort to improve access to the budget process.

Thank you.



New Business:

None.

Old Business:

Budget:

Lori Jones emailed the updates to the Board for review prior to the meeting.

Denise Stirewalt asked about the reduction to the CSA appropriation. Lori Jones reported that the CSA funding estimate is on the high side.

Clayton Kendrick asked if the budget was balanced and if there will be additional funds to go to the contingency fund. Lori Jones reported that the budget is currently balanced and there is an additional \$3600 to put into contingency.

The Town of Stuart allocated an additional \$600 for the fireworks.

Flood channel maintenance funds were reduced due to the Maintenance Department taking action.

Lori Jones addressed Mr. Kurt Bozenmayer's public comment and noted that the audit reports and budget information will be provided to the public at the library.

The Tourism Department has requested a vehicle within the budget using reserved funds. Lori Jones asked if the vehicle can be ordered now instead of waiting until the budget is approved. The Board agreed that the vehicle can be ordered now.

On motion by Doug Perry to approve the County budget pending the State budget at the June 12, 2023 meeting, as presented seconded by Clyde DeLoach and carried unanimously.

Voting Aye: Simmons, DeLoach, Perry, Stirewalt, Kendrick

Voting Nay: None

Adjourn:

On motion by Brandon Simmons to adjourn until June 12, 2023 seconded by Clyde DeLoach and carried unanimously.

Voting Aye: Simmons, DeLoach, Perry, Stirewalt, Kendrick

Voting Nay: None



Clayton Kendrick, Jr., Chairman