

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF  
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
August 25, 2020**

**WHILE THE THREAT OF TRANSMISSION OF COVID-19 CONTINUES, BOARD MEMBERS HAVE RESUMED THE OPTION OF IN-PERSON MEETINGS OR REMOTE PARTICIPATION. THE BOARD ROOM CONTINUES TO BE LIMITED IN CAPACITY TO OBTAIN PHYSICAL DISTANCING MEASURES**

**Members of the Board participated in a guided tour of the new Sheriff's Facility, located at 810 N. Main Street, Woodstock, VA at 5:00 p.m. today prior to the beginning of the Board Meeting.**

A virtual and in-person meeting of the Board of Supervisors was held beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room, 600 North Main Street, Woodstock, Virginia on August 25, 2020. The following board members and staff members were physically in attendance: Chairman Dick Neese, Vice Chairman Steve Baker, Dennis Morris, Tim Taylor, Brad Pollack, County Administrator Evan Vass, and Deputy Clerk Chris Sherman.

Board Members and Staff participating remotely included Karl Roulston, Deputy County Administrator Mandy Belyea and County Attorney Jason Ham.

Chairman Neese called the meeting to order.

Supervisor Roulston introduced Retired Lt. General Ben Freakley a graduate of Central High School and West Point Military Academy and resident of Woodstock, who provided the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OR AMENDMENT OF AGENDA – August 25, 2020**

**Supervisor Baker made a Motion, seconded by Supervisor Morris to approve the agenda as presented. The Motion passed by a roll call vote of 6-0 as follows:**

Taylor	aye	Roulston	aye
Pollack	absent	Morris	aye
Baker	aye	Neese	aye

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS**

Tim Williams, Fire Chief thanked and acknowledged first responders in the County for their service during the pandemic. He provided information sharing the status of the current volunteer systems and the challenges and needs that are necessary to provide service to the citizens. He announced the receipt of a grant that will help recruit volunteers and stated the department has recruited over 60 new volunteers in the past year as well as another grant that will pay for educating citizens with Fire and Home Safety. Chief Williams also said the Virginia Department of Emergency Management partnered with our Department to provide 10,000 face masks and hand sanitizers for the at risk county citizens to help prevent the spread of Coronavirus. The Chief stated that the volunteer agreements are being renewed from 2006 as part of the Strategic Plan and that FFI and FFII training classes are scheduled through the winter. He continued his presentation by reporting an urgent circumstance to the board that Conicville and Mt Jackson stations have requested 24/7 career staffing as they no longer can keep up with

call volume. Chief Williams provided data and graphs to help the board understand the geographic layout of the departments and their call volumes. He expressed the extreme urgency to hire 14 firefighters to assist with the shortages in the system including the peak volume unit based in Woodstock. Mt. Jackson Rescue and Fire Department Chief Aaron Painter and Conicville Fire and Rescue Department President Tarinda Showman spoke in support of their departments' requests for additional career staffing resources.

#### CONSIDERATION OF NON-ACTION ITEMS

1. Discussion regarding the carry-over Capital Improvement Projects and Grants from FY2020 to FY2021.

Mandy Belyea, explained that this is an annual request necessary at the beginning of each fiscal year for the purpose of carrying over funding for long term capital projects and grants. She said descriptions of projects are included on page two of the packet excluding the top line for CARES Act Funding which has already been included in an amended budget resolution approved in early August.

2. Discussion of CARES Act Fund Distribution.

Mr. Vass reminded the board that this is an additional allocation of funding for \$3.8 million dollars based on the county population of 43,616. He reviewed a list of proposed allocations for discussion proposes related to this second round of funding which included \$750,000 for small businesses, \$2,000,000 for distance learning including homeschool and private school students, \$50,000 for marketing efforts leaving a balance of \$1 million dollars to be shared with Towns, Health and Human Services, Volunteer Fire and Rescue Agencies, KidzRec after school program, Non Profit Agencies, IT Equipment and Enhancements and waiver of Credit Card Fees for tax payments.

Supervisor Roulston said this is not set in stone and amounts can be adjusted.

Supervisor Taylor said he met with the Social Services board last week and there was concern for citizens who have returned to work, however they still cannot make ends meet. He also liked IT enhancements in the Board Room to accommodate virtual meetings.

Mr. Vass said he and Carla Taylor have communicated about future reimbursements and how to screen potential requests.

Supervisor Taylor supported assistance to the distance learning population that need upgraded IT and WiFi services.

Mr. Vass stated that the auditing firm Robinson, Farmer and Cox have determined proper use of the disbursements and asked if these recommendations meet the board's expectations, he will bring a Resolution to the September 8 meeting for further discussion.

Supervisor Pollack commented that the \$2,000,000 in distance learning would not be necessary if schools were in session.

Mr. Vass noted that the CARES Act committee agreed that \$400 per family could be distributed to citizens for distance learning costs.

Supervisor Pollack agreed it is a great concept but he said he preferred to distribute money to the unemployed citizens in the county using the Virginia Employment Commission to verify their status.

Supervisor Taylor disclosed that he is an employee of the Shenandoah County Public School Division.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dan Utley of 1249 White Rock Lane, Woodstock requested the board speak to the court system regarding his ongoing custody case for his two children.

Tim King of 266 Stephens Lane, Mt. Jackson shared concern about 14 new Fire and Rescue personnel asking what needs the Sheriff’s office will need.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

**Supervisor Baker made a Motion, seconded by Supervisor Morris to approve the consent agenda. The Motion passed by a roll call vote of 6-0 as follows:**

Roulston	aye	Pollack	aye
Taylor	aye	Morris	aye
Baker	aye	Neese	aye

1. Approval of Minutes - July 28, 2020 and August 11, 2020 regular meetings.
2. Consideration to approve a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$15,000 as part of a Consumer Product Safety Commission Grant.
3. Consideration of the reappointment of Ms. Abby Walters to serve on the Shenandoah County Industrial Development Authority.
4. Consideration of the reappointment of Mr. Bruce Alger to serve on the Shenandoah County Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.
5. Consideration of the appointment of Ms. Beverley Butterfield to serve on the Shenandoah County Industrial Development Authority.
6. Consideration of the reappointment of Mr. Gerald Funkhouser to serve on the Shenandoah County Board of Zoning Appeals.
7. Consideration of the reappointment of Mr. Jonathan Fainter to serve on the Shenandoah County Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.

PUBLIC HEARING – No public hearings were scheduled.

OLD BUSINESS – No old business was scheduled.

CONSIDERATION OF PLANNING COMMISSION ITEMS

1. Consideration of a Special Use Permit for a Level II Home Business consisting of a therapy and wellness business at 3153 Junction Rd., Strasburg, VA

**Supervisor Morris made a Motion seconded by Supervisor Taylor to approve the SUP for a wellness business with conditions. The Motion passed by a roll call vote of 6-0 as follows:**

Roulston	aye	Pollack	aye
Taylor	aye	Morris	aye
Baker	aye	Neese	aye

2. Consideration of a Special Use Permit for Agritourism Related Activities involving a short term rental at 1593 Hockman Rd., Strasburg, VA

**Supervisor Morris made a Motion seconded by Supervisor Taylor to approve the SUP for Agri-Tourism with conditions. The Motion passed by a roll call vote of 6-0 as follows:**

Roulston	aye	Pollack	aye
Taylor	aye	Morris	aye
Baker	aye	Neese	aye

3. Consideration of a Special Use Permit for a Level II Home Business consisting of the sale of firearms and related accessories at 11096 Senedo Rd., Mount Jackson Va.

**Supervisor Baker made a Motion seconded by Supervisor Roulston to approve the SUP for a firearms business with conditions. The Motion passed by a roll call vote of 6-0 as follows:**

Roulston	aye	Pollack	aye
Taylor	aye	Morris	aye
Baker	aye	Neese	aye

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. Consideration of a resolution in opposition to the distribution of state recordation taxes.

Evan explained that Virginia previously sent \$40 million to localities and as a result of changes to state law the amount has be cut in half with an increase in funding sent to the Hampton Roads Area Transit Fund.

**Supervisor Pollack made a Motion, seconded by Supervisor Taylor to approve the Resolution opposing the distribution. The Motion passed by a roll call vote of 6-0 as follows:**

Roulston	aye	Pollack	aye
Taylor	aye	Morris	aye
Baker	aye	Neese	aye

#### COUNTY ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Mr. Ham reminded the board that public notice of financing for the landfill project will be posted in the local paper in the coming weeks.

#### BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Supervisor Pollack read a list of potential violations the school division is committing by not allowing the students back into the schools. He said more harm is coming to the students by not getting them back into school.

#### COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S COMMENTS

Evan Vass confirmed with Mr. Ham that a public notice is being prepared for public borrowing and informed the board that he is looking at refunding of existing debt for a possible savings of \$120,000 over the remaining life of the loan.

Mr. Ham confirmed that the Virginia Resource Authority due date is September 25, therefore the board will need to take action at their September 22 Meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS – No other business was discussed.

#### CLOSED SESSIONS(S)

Supervisor Baker made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Morris to enter into Closed Session at 8:36 p.m. to discuss the assignment and appointment of specific public officers, appointees, or employees, as authorized by section 2.2-3711 (A) (1) of the state code. The subject matter of the meeting are appointments to: Industrial Development Authority (IDA), Planning Commission and the Shenandoah Area Agency on Aging.

The motion passed by a roll call vote as follows:

Morris	aye	Roulston	aye
Taylor	aye	Pollack	aye
Baker	aye	Neese	aye

**At 8:44 p.m. Supervisor Taylor made a Motion, seconded by Supervisor Morris to return to regular session. The Motion passed by a roll call vote of 6-0 as follows:**

Morris	aye	Roulston	aye
Taylor	aye	Pollack	aye
Baker	aye	Neese	aye

Mr. Vass read the certification that all members must certify that to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirement, under The Virginia Freedom Information Act and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting of the public body.

Members were polled to certify that only those matters identified in the above Code Section was discussed.

Baker	aye	Taylor	aye
Pollack	aye	Roulston	aye
Morris	aye	Neese	aye

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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Dick Neese, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Evan Vass, Clerk of the Board

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