

**Buckingham County
Board of Supervisors
March 29, 2010
VDOT Work Session
Budget Work Session**

The Buckingham County Board of Supervisors reconvened from the March 8, 2010 Board meeting on Monday, March 29, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the Buckingham County Agricultural Center for the purpose of a VDOT Six Year Plan Work Session and the 2010/11 Operating Budget Work Session. The following members were present: I. Monroe Snoddy, Chairman; Joe N. Chambers, Jr., Vice-Chairman; E.A. "Bill" Talbert; Dr. Brian D. Bates; Danny R. Allen; and John D. Kitchen, Jr. F.D. "Danny" LeSueur was absent. Also present were Rebecca S. Carter, County Administrator; Karl Carter, Assistant County Administrator; and E.M. Wright, Jr., County Attorney.

Those present from Virginia Department of Transportation were Kevin Wright, Keith Halbohn, and Mark McKissick.

Re: Quorum Present

Chairman Snoddy certified there was a quorum-six members present and one absent and that the meeting could continue.

Re: Call to Order, Invocation, and Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Snoddy called the meeting to order. Supervisor Chambers gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was said by all who were in attendance.

Re: Approval of Agenda

Supervisor Talbert moved, Supervisor Chambers seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to approve the agenda as presented.

Re: VDOT Six Year Plan Work Session

Kevin Wright: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the opportunity to come and work with you on your Secondary Six Year Plan. I do believe you have some information in front of you. I believe you have three pieces of information. You have a Secondary Six Year Plan for Fiscal Year 2011-2016, you also have a package of priority listing of projects that you would like to add to the six year plan if funds are available, and also a listing of projects administered that we have completed.

What I would like to do is go over the current six year plan with you and kind of discuss where we are. Of course funding wise, there are absolutely no funds available for programming right now. Any funds that are available will be programmed by our Transportation Board for our projects. Essentially we only have the \$56,000 Tele Fee which is a fee that telephone companies pay to us for having their facilities on our right of ways. Those are dollars that we can program into any project.

The second page, page 2 of 3, in the lower left hand corner is regular construction projects in Buckingham County. Priority #1 is Route 1001 in the Town of Dillwyn. That is fully funded and is all set. The second priority is Route 629, Rosney Road, that goes from 60 to Dillwyn town limits, that project is currently funded for about, a little less than \$700,000, with no future funds appearing on it. One of the questions I would raise to the Board is given that that project is currently estimated at \$6.2 million to build, that there is no opportunity to have that road constructed, not only in the foreseeable future but in the future. We do have \$700,000 that is currently in the bank for that project that is not being used for anything and what I ask the Board is do you have any suggestions for small projects that we can build in lieu of leaving that \$700,000 just sitting there. One of my concerns is that if we leave \$700,000 sitting on a project that will never be built, is that money will be taken away and applied to another project that is closer to being built. We kind of lose control of our funding. If you have a need for \$700,000 whether it be a turn lane project, intersection improvement where you have site distance problems, I encourage the Board if you know of somewhere that you can get some use out of that money, that you can let the citizens of Buckingham County know so that we can at least do something with the money that we do have. At least get something done. That's my recommendation there.

Supervisor Kitchen: We can't use that money to pave a road, right?

Kevin Wright: Any federal funds that are on that project now can not be used for that, any state funds could. We would have to go back and look at the funding, but most likely not. Most likely there are federal funds on that project and would have to be used on federal, secondary or high traffic secondary roads.

Mrs. Carter: What was the cost of that if we could use it?

Kevin Wright: The current estimate is \$6.2 million. Even if times were good, Buckingham County would probably get \$200-300,000 a year. Until something happens again with funding, that project is not buildable.

Mrs. Carter: What does it mean by “State funds-AC for future federal conversion”?

Kevin Wright: That means that originally that project had state funding on it, whether there was any federal funds available, most likely they have already been converted. We can double check on that.

It’s something that we’ve done in other counties, is take that money that we’ve got and use it for something that will benefit the County.

Supervisor Bates: Let me ask you this since you are in the business and I’m not; are there places in the County where you see the allocation of this money would be well spent?

Kevin Wright: I have not yet had an opportunity to go out and seek those places. We’ve just kind of, Keith and myself, have just started looking at this plan last week. That was the first opportunity I’ve got to really look at everything here. Right now I do not have a list of potential projects.

Supervisor Bates: Since this money could not be used to pave a road, which is the thing that most folks want to talk to us about, they want to have a gravel road turned into a hard top road, since we can not use it for that purpose, would it be possible between now and the time we do the public hearing, I assume we still have to do that, that you all could generate a list of recommendations that we could consider. Then I guess at the public hearing, we can take this money out of this project and apply it to recommended projects.

Kevin Wright: Yes sir. You certainly may. Again, if you know of any projects that you would like for us to consider, we’d be more than happy to kind of evaluate those and come up with an estimate and see if its doable with the money we’ve got.

Your #3 priority there is Route 679 which is a bridge replacement on Paynes Pond Road. One year they did get the residency some dedicated bridge money and it can only be used for structures, and we have applied that to this road project. That project is now under the control of our district bridge section. Essentially that was money that this was the only place we could put it. It’s there and our district bridge section is prioritizing that based on need.

Page 3 of 3 is your updated road projects. This is where I do have some good news for you. The Route 613 project is being advertised now. That will be starting construction within the next 3 months. We will get that one built. Keith and myself did have an opportunity to go out and look at Rt. 697 and Dr. Bates; I believe this is in your area. What we would like to do, I apologize I haven’t had an opportunity to speak to you, but one of the things that the residency recommends is, we looked at that road and we’ve got for the most part plenty of width on that road, the curves

are good, your alignment is good, we've got one spot where it narrows down a little bit with some pine trees. What we would like to recommend is that we convert that project to a Rural Rustic road, we widen that one narrow place through there in front of a couple of houses, and we can pave that road, we can shoot it with tar and gravel, and cut the project off, instead of going all the way to 697, is we take it from 646 about a mile and a half...

Supervisor Bates: So you want to go from 646 there at the church, west to 815 just past Community Center Road?

Kevin Wright: Just past that is where the last house is.

Supervisor Bates: Where Barry Leonard lives, up there on the left.

Keith Halbohn: Past 815, last house on the left, where we are going to stop is right down below his, come down into a bottom, we will stop it there. From there on out to 636 is basically all we are going to do. That will encompass everything from where the subdivision is to where people are living now.

Supervisor Bates: Seems like Rural Rustic is a thing we were shying away from in this area.

Kevin Wright: I understand that and from where I'm from in Amherst and Nelson County, we have used it very extensively. Basically you take a road that has a decent width to it and for the most part you've got 15-18' of width through there, it meets all your standards for a low volume road and we have used this now, we've converted almost everything in Amherst and Nelson County to Rural Rustic and have been very pleased with it and have had great results. The public has been happy. We get it done for a 1/3 of the price of rebuilding a paved road.

Supervisor Bates: Is that going to come from a different pot?

Kevin Wright: No, it comes out of the same pot... basically it changes the surface type from gravel to surface treated. We don't go down and build the shoulders or cut the ditches. We do reshape the ditches where we need to improve drainage. If it needs pipe, we will replace it. But otherwise it changes the surface type to get away from the dust which is why the General Assembly started this program to begin with, which was to get people out of the dust. We have found it to be very successful and not had any problems with it at all. I highly recommend it too.

Supervisor Bates: I think it's great because we've been talking about it for years and all the time I've been on the Board we've talked about it.

Where the subdivision is there, is the width of the road sufficient?

Kevin Wright: There is one place and I can't tell you exactly where it is, the road has pine trees on the right as we went through and it narrows down there and if we can just get an easement through there to cut some of those trees back and kick the road back a few more feet, you've got a great rural rustic road there.

Supervisor Bates: Suits me, I'm sure it will suit people on that road.

Kevin Wright: The only, and of course, to qualify as a rural rustic road, the Board will need to have a public hearing to convert that to a rural rustic road. Once you have had the public hearing, then a resolution from the Board designating that as such, then I will be the one who approves it. It is a very doable thing. Now by doing that, if we convert that 697 and let me run through our entire proposal, the money that we have on 697 is \$472,000, by cutting that project essentially in half, we would have enough money to do 697, we would have enough, switch over if you would to your priority list of unpaved roads, your first priority of unpaved roads is Rt. 636, we can do that road as a rural rustic road, and we can do priority #2 which is Rt. 700. Now Rt. 700, we can not do completely as rural rustic road because we need to realign it on Rt. 20 to gain some site distance. But what we'd like to do is split that Rt. 700 project where there is a regular construction project to realign the intersection and then the rest could be rural rustic. If we do anything different, Rt. 697 would be built in about 15 years. Or we can take that money and we could build that shorter section of 697, we can do 636 and we can do 700. We believe we can do them all with that money that we have on 697 plus the funds we have on other projects that are finished up.

Supervisor Bates: I tell you what, that's about as good as news I've heard on paving roads in a long time. I wish we had been doing this rural rustic stuff a long time ago.

Supervisor Allen: What do you change on a road when you change it to rural rustic?

Kevin Wright: Just changes whether or not we completely rebuilt the road or whether we just change it from a gravel road to a surface treated road.

Supervisor Allen: As far as taking care of it, you take care of it the same way.

Kevin Wright: Yes, the main thing will be exactly the same. There are no limitations on it. The resolution that the board will be asked to pass simply says that, I don't have it with me; basically it says you won't encourage any development on that road. If development happens, that's fine, there won't be any problem, it's just says that the Board will not encourage any development on that road.

Supervisor Kitchen: Development on that road that you are talking about it already there. I think they've got the right of way already there.

Supervisor Bates: So, so we will understand what we are doing, tonight after we work on this thing, then we are going to advertise the public hearing like we've done in the past?

Kevin Wright: Yes, sir. You are still required to have a public hearing.

Supervisor Bates: Right and when will that public hearing need to be done?

Kevin Wright: You can set the date for that I believe as long as you have 2 weeks notice is the only thing that is required on your public hearing. You can combine, that is what we are doing in other counties, we are combining the public hearing for the six year plan with the designation for Rural Rustic Roads. You can do all that in one joint session and not have to have 2 separate public hearings.

Supervisor Bates: And when does the VDOT restructuring take effect?

Kevin Wright: April 26th.

Supervisor Bates: So we want to have it done before then. It would make sense to talk to the same people we've been talking to tonight.

Kevin Wright: It would be very wise, yes. I don't know exactly what's going to happen on April 25th. I do not know if there will be somebody else that is going to show up at these Board meetings, whether it will be myself, or whether it will be whoever takes my place in a permanent capacity. There are still a lot of unknowns. But as long as I'm around VDOT, and I plan to be, I'm sure that I will be continuing to work with you on the six year plan.

Supervisor Kitchen: Why can't we do it in April?

Supervisor Bates: I was going to say, our regular Board meeting is in two weeks from tonight. Does that work? Would that comply with the advertising that we need done?

Mrs. Carter: I believed we talked about it at our last meeting, that we would have a public hearing on the 19th when we come back to adopt the budget.

Supervisor Bates: That will work. We still get ahead of this...we don't know what's going to happen on that day.

Kevin Wright: We are going to have a lot of fun that day. Yes, if you all could do that it would be great. We will get you all the information, like I said 697 and 636 are very easily converted to rural rustic. Rt. 700, we do need to get you some money. We can not do a rural rustic for the part that needs to be relocated up at the intersection. We have talked to the property owner and the property owner is agreeable to donate right of ways for that intersection. So we feel comfortable adding both 636 and 700 to the six year plan, give us this year to develop the contract and by next spring you can have these three roads under construction.

Supervisor Bates: Once the Board takes action, is that money locked in or can Richmond raid it next time around?

Kevin Wright: I don't see any reason why they would raid that as long as the projects were progressing. The only thing that concerns me is that if you see a project sitting there with funds there and it can't be built, then I see where they can say, "Look, we need to do something with it".

Supervisor Bates: Like 697, if we let that \$472,000 just sit there waiting, that's the kind of money that can be taken. This way we can make use of it. That's common sense.

Supervisor Kitchen: How much of 636 did you say you can do?

Kevin Wright: 3 miles

Supervisor Kitchen: 3 miles would be from 60 over to 697.

Kevin Wright: From 60...the same thing we were looking at on 697, from 60 to the last house there on the road.

Supervisor Kitchen: There are 19 houses from 60 up to where he's talking about.

Kevin Wright: We drove up and looked at. That is a real nice rural rustic road.

Supervisor Kitchen: This was from Brian's district, I had a gentleman come to me, he said that he talked to Mr. Bates but he says we were cousins, but we are not cousins, but anyhow, they have 19 houses on that road too. If you convert some of this money over to that, you got the same amount of houses on that road in 1.9 miles than you have on 636 in 3 miles. So if we can put some of this rural rustic money there, you won't have a right of way problem or anything there, you will only have to straighten out one curve. You won't have to do anything else other than that. Widen it, put the tar and gravel on it. That's from 607 to 662.

Supervisor Bates: That's #24 on your list.

Supervisor Talbert: I want to address #4. Let's talk about #4 for a while.

Kevin Wright: We've been looking at the priority listing that you all approved last year, certainly if you want to reorder something,...

Supervisor Kitchen: I'd like for you, if you would, take a look at that. I think that would fit right in to your rural rustic. Subdivision is already done. Right of ways are granted to the state when it was done. You are not going to have no problem with anyone there. It's a beautiful road.

Kevin Wright: From what I've seen, most of the roads I've ridden in the County, I don't think you would have a lot of problem with them being considered rural rustic roads. It's just going to be a matter of if the General Assembly can get some transportation funding and they are beginning to talk about it in the session before that. If they begin to do that, then you can start going down through this list of projects, hopefully next year and add several of them to your list.

Supervisor Talbert: What about 748?

Kevin Wright: According to the priority list, you've got that you approved last year, which is really isn't a part of the six year plan, it gets a little confusing, and this year the six year plan will be just that, we'll keep our priority listing separate as we have here. But if we are able to build the three that we talked about, do you know how long the 664 is?

Supervisor Bates: From 604 to 737, it's got to be the better part of 4 miles. It's a right good stretch.

Kevin Wright: You are looking at about \$150,000 a mile for a rural rustic road.

Keith Halbohn: That is about 1.3.

Kevin Wright: That's not bad. With a reasonable amount of funding you could do that easily in about a year. If they can come up with the funding then, 748 could be added next year.

Supervisor Talbert: I think all I need is surface treat. It only has one curve in it. Any time you want it they would deed it over to the state.

Kevin Wright: With the rural rustic, we wouldn't even need that, all we would need is an easement.

Supervisor Talbert: They won't have any problem with that.

Kevin Wright: Yeah, 748, I've definitely been on that one and that wouldn't be any problem, that little dead end road, being rural rustic.

Supervisor Talbert: I'm not going to sit here and ask for my colleagues to go...because I've been on that 636 and it definitely needs it. But you know what the problem is? People coming here buying land and building houses knowing... the road has been on the six year plan for 35 years, and they come here and you've got your subdivisions come along with the state, and you forget the ones that have been on there for 35 years. That's what bothers me. They should come first. Just like 636, that should have been done years ago. It's a no win situation, really. I just hope that we could get that 748 done in the next year or so, after next year, I won't have to worry about it.

Kevin Wright: It is very possible. Right now you are looking at \$60,000 to take two years to get 664 done based on the funding that we've got now. If we can get through the special session and another year of the General Assembly, within two shots, maybe there will be a chance we can get more transportation funding.

Keith Halbohn: Also depends on 613, how the bids come in. If they come in like they have been coming in for the last several years, they've been coming in under what we had funded, then that money could be available.

Supervisor Talbert: I'm really sorry you are leaving, Keith. You've really helped me, you've assisted the County, and you're a great guy. I'm sorry that you don't have but 8 more days. You're a good man.

Kevin Wright: He is that. We certainly hate to lose all that expertise. I've tried to talk him into coming back in another job, but he gives me that same grin every time I try to get him to come back.

Supervisor Allen: While we are still looking at roads, I'd like for you to look at 617, Stanton Town Road. If we can add ½ mile to go down in front of the houses and over to the Discovery School.

Supervisor Bates: Is that #12 Danny?

Supervisor Allen: Yeah, that's #12. That has a lot more traffic count than a lot of these other roads. It has increased a lot. Not counting the traffic created through the chip mill.

Kevin Wright: What my recommendation to the Board would be is to go ahead and take care of the first two priorities plus the other one that is already on the six year plan, do 697, 636 and 700 and then next year go back in and look at these other roads, evaluate them, whether or not they are suitable for rural rustic. We have not looked at those. We have just tried to go down the priority list approved last year and if you want to reorder them and add them to the plan next year, I think that would be a wise idea. Take some time to look at them and evaluate them against the rural rustic criteria. If you take a look at the rest of your priority listing, come up with which one is applicable for rural rustic, then you can come back and make an informed decision based on what you know then.

Supervisor Bates: If you want to ride down 662 some time, we can go down there and take a look at it and see what we can do.

Supervisor Kitchen: There is only place that is really bad.

Kevin Wright: That is typically the way... the width in a straight away, as long as you have plenty of site distance is not usually a deciding factor. You can have a narrow road in straight away, as long as when it comes to a curve you are not meeting somebody in a blind curve with 10 feet of space. We've been very happy and most boards in counties that I've been in have been very pleased with this.

Supervisor Talbert: How is this fourth county coming in going to affect us?

Kevin Wright: Not at all. All the construction money is separate by county. They will not be competing for any of your secondary dollars.

Supervisor Kitchen: Will you do me a favor and see if you can figure out approximately how much money you will have to do these rural rustic projects with? How much money you will have after switching from one thing to another?

Kevin Wright: We are estimating \$150,000 per mile for rural rustic. A full hard surface project on an unpaved road, we will know a lot more about it in a month when we get the bid back on 613, but you are looking at probably \$5-700,000 a mile. So you are saving \$350,000.

Supervisor Kitchen: I know how much we save, because I've been through that.

Kevin Wright: You are not really saving it because you are not spending.

Supervisor Kitchen: What I'm saying is, if you can figure out how much money you have to do this with?

Supervisor Bates: That the \$472,000.

Kevin Wright: The \$472,000 plus the... we have several other hundred thousand on other projects that are completed. The pool of money that we have should be able to get 697, 636, and 700 finished.

Supervisor Kitchen: See if you've got anymore that we can work with.

Kevin Wright: Sure. I think at this point the only thing...we've looked at it well enough to say we've had these three projects in this plan without any worry this year of not having enough money. Then we come back next year and say "we've got this much money left and we can do this".

Supervisor Kitchen: I've got one I'd like to come down and get with yall about. Inez Road off of 20, it's just a little loop around there next to the church. If you could do that rural rustic, it will save a world of money. They are all the time out there raising hell if you want to know the plain language of it. So if we can get together and see if that we could maybe shoot that.

Kevin Wright: Sure, and by the end of next month I should know more about who will be handling the six year plan for you and I'll be working with them as we start moving forward. Then I can come back and let you know maybe by the next meeting what our plans look like and we can start working on looking at these other roads.

Supervisor Kitchen: I'll call Mark and make an appointment. Will that be alright, Mark, to go out there and look at that?

Mark McKissick: Certainly.

Supervisor Allen: What do have to do to use the money from Rosney Road?

Kevin Wright: The only thing you have to do, we do need to look to see if there is any state money there, what we need to do on Rosney Road is just go back and see what we can bring back to you at the public hearing. We can have a work shop afterwards to let you know what we've got, what we've converted, what you have from your citizens, and then we can make a proposal as to what will be the best use of that money.

Supervisor Bates: For the motion to do this advertising, do we have to do rural rustic for 697, 636, and 700?

Kevin Wright: Yes. You can do that as one, you can say this public hearing will be for designating these three routes as rural rustic and we will give you the description on it and the language.

Supervisor Bates moved, Supervisor Kitchen seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to hold a public hearing on April 19, 2010 for the purpose of converting Routes 697, 636, and 700 to Rural Rustic.

Supervisor Kitchen: I'd like to add a little something to that. I'd like to add whatever roads the highway department finds the money to do.

Supervisor Bates: Can we do an open one like that?

Kevin Wright: You have to specify the roads.

Supervisor Kitchen: We can add that if they find any money, we can add that to the public hearing.

Kevin Wright: No, you would have to advertise it. The only thing we will be able to designate as rural rustic is the three that we announced in the public hearing. What I would suggest you do, that is why I say, then we can be looking at the rest of them and evaluating them. Any time during the year, you can designate those as rural rustic. We need to go ahead and get the six year

plan done right now and then we can start designating other roads during the year. That is not a problem at all and then they can be added into the six year plan.

Supervisor Bates moved, Supervisor Kitchen seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to hold a public hearing on the Six Year Plan on April 19, 2010 at 7:15 p.m.

Supervisor Kitchen: Mark, I thought we had put 630 on the six year plan?

Mark McKissick: I can tell you if we did or not. No sir, it's not on there.

Supervisor Kitchen: Well maybe some rural rustic money will come up and we can take a look at that.

Supervisor Talbert: Hold on now. 748 has to be looked at. I've been through enough. That woman has been to the state, to the President and everything.

Kevin Wright: Well good news is if we can make this happen, then within a year, you will be gone from essentially #6 up to #2.

Supervisor Talbert: 689, I've given up on that road. Two people on that road won't sign right of way. Why should I fight it if two people are going to hold up 20 houses on that road, what do you do?

Kevin Wright: It could be a good candidate for rural rustic. I'm not sure, I haven't looked at it. We can evaluate all that and come back to you and next year you can ask for whatever projects you feel appropriate at the time. But the good news is we can get something done. We've got the money just sitting there in the bank, we can get something done.

Mr. Allen, I believe you have a list of things there. If there is any way I can get that from you, I'd be glad to take a look at all those concerns that you have.

Budget Work Session:

Mrs. Carter: I have provided you all with a guidebook to the proposed budget, so if you would like, I can go through each page like we usually do.

Supervisor Kitchen: In order to save time, unless somebody knows of any way to improve the recommendation, I don't see where any changes need to be made.

Supervisor Talbert: Only thing I'd like to see done on budget, is the request of the school board for the three months only.

Supervisor Kitchen: That's coming up later, but I say on this budget, to save time, if everyone has looked at it, go ahead and advertise it for public hearing.

Supervisor Bates: Mr. Chairman, I agree with John, Becky's done a fantastic job with the budget and Karl as well, but given our neighbors in other counties are in pretty desperate straits and this budget reflects that we are not in such a bad position, maybe if Becky could at least give some highlights so that between now and the public hearing it could make it in the paper that we are not a sinking ship here, it may be useful. If they could cover the first couple pages in that executive summary it will give a good synopsis.

Mrs. Carter: I do respectfully submit this proposed recommendation for your consideration for a public hearing.

The proposed recommended budget does not include a tax rate or fee increases.

The proposed recommended operating budget is contingent upon all anticipated state, federal and local revenue.

The total budget is \$45,078,672. Of this budget \$5,000,000 is beginning year balance; \$681,385 beginning year balance of the sale of Industrial Park Property; and \$39,397,287 is expenditures if all reserves are expended.

The proposed recommended budget provides for no elimination of full time positions except those submitted by the School Board. This proposed recommended budget does not provide for any salary increases for any employees. The health insurance increase for those on the county health insurance plan will increase 6.7% so those employees on the health insurance plan will actually see a decrease in their take home pay.

It is my responsibility to provide you with a balance budget (revenues vs. reoccurring expenses). This proposed budget satisfies that responsibility with a reserve for contingency in the amount of \$164,509 if all reserves are spent and a reserve for contingency of \$354,509 if the reserves are not spent. If it is your desire to provide additional funding to any department or agency it will need to be appropriated from the unrestricted \$164,509 reserve or reductions or in the proposed expenditures of other departments or agencies. The uncertainty of the economy, I have recommended that you all save as much of this reserve as you can as you go into the next fiscal year and also in the event that the revenues do not come in as expected or if we could, like we did this past year, have additional state reductions.

You will notice that many departments' operations costs have been lowered. I ask that if any departments during the year have a need for additional money that you all may look at a one time appropriation instead of adding to their budget.

The bottom line is the general operational expenditures with the exception of schools, water/sewer and social services, is an overall reduction of \$44,189 in operational costs for the

total budget of state and local and an increase of local money of \$55,811. This includes restoring \$40,392 of the \$106,001 state reductions to the constitutional offices and absorbs the \$44,747 health insurance increase and also restores \$14,600 back into the rescue squad. If you look at each one, you will see where some have increased a little bit and some was lowered. I really do appreciate the work that all the agencies and departments, on what was really difficult decision to be made. So when you really look at this, and we had to add \$100,000 into the expenditure line items for the Gene Dixon Park Expansion, we received a \$50,000 grant. You do see that there was a lot of lowering and in order to absorb that \$100,000 expenditure and still have a decrease overall.

The beginning year balance is proposed to be \$5,000,000. It ended last year with \$5,700,000 but this year we have taken out of that the sale of property in the Industrial Park. So that needs to be separated because that is not going to be reoccurring revenue and we don't want that to get caught up into the expenditures and all of a sudden short that \$700,000. That is why I recommended that we move that out of there.

It is anticipated that the new school debt service will require an additional \$1.2 million. The financial plan to make that happen is derived from expected increase in revenues particularly from the Bear Garden Power Plant. However we must consider that need now because in this fiscal year we will start realizing additional revenue from the power plant so this budget does include \$1 million for that debt service. My recommendation is that for this coming year and the next year, that million dollars be used for the County/Social Services/Health Department expansion project along with the \$1.7 million reserved from the Courthouse Project so that probably we can do this project without a debt service if we do it won't be no more than what will be paid for through the social services and health department rent. Then the school debt service will kick in and we won't have to all of sudden say oh my goodness, we need to come up with \$1.2 million. So I think this is good planning for the future. We know we will have that payment and we need that capital now so instead of sitting it in a reserve, we can put it to use without going into debt on this property.

Supervisor Kitchen: By the time this kicks in, your high school debt service will be off.

Mrs. Carter: I believe that is 2012. But I think that we have to realize that our portion of the power plant this coming year and then more the next year. I'm trying to look down the road a couple years, because we see the economy decline and we see reductions in state funding and then as we talk about the schools, you will see what kind of reduction they have received. We will also see they are operating on some stimulus money that may not, most likely won't come back, so we have to look down the road so we don't find ourselves in a bad situation in a couple years.

Supervisor Kitchen: When is the election? The money will be back in that time.

Mrs. Carter: The school budget is proposed as recommended by the school board with level local funding. The total school budget is proposed at \$24,903,630. This represents a total reduction of \$784,678. I do commend the school administration and the school board for their careful consideration to the budget because they to know that next year we could be facing further difficulties. It has been a very good working relationship with this and also call your attention to the fact that there is \$969,189 in stimulus money that will most likely not be reoccurring.

The total local money again is \$3,755,241 for instruction, 92,147 for admin/health, 386,906 for transportation, 651,652 in operations, high school dept service is 309,401 and the middle school debt service is 965,725 and the technology is 45,020 for a total of \$6,206,092. You will see on the right there I have the plus and minuses of how they have changed that.

They have proposed and it is my recommendation that the \$6,001 savings from the debt service of the high school and the \$19,595 from the middle school be put in instruction and transportation. They have just moved that money around. Given the reductions that they've had, I have recommended that you all do approve that. You will see on this sheet the reductions they have made all the way down.

The total social services local increase is \$670 and that is part of the portion of the counties part of the health insurance. They did get some reductions from the state and they have moved some stuff around.

Supervisor Bates moved, Supervisors Chambers and Kitchen seconded and was unanimously carried by the board to accept the County Administrator's recommended budget for advertisement for April 12, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

Supervisor Bates moved, Supervisor Chambers seconded and was unanimously carried by the board to advertise the following tax rates for the 2010/11 budget:

<i>Real Estate:</i>	<i>\$0.44</i>
<i>Public Service:</i>	<i>\$0.44</i>
<i>Personal Property:</i>	<i>\$4.05</i>
<i>Machinery & Tools:</i>	<i>\$2.90</i>
<i>Merchants Capital:</i>	<i>\$1.00</i>
<i>Air Craft:</i>	<i>\$0.55</i>

Re: Other Board matters

We have a request from Mr. Blair on behalf of the School Board asking the Board to approve lump sum funding for the last quarter of 2010 which would be April, May and June. They have listed the issues that they would have and what they want to purchase. They will give us a report of how this money is spent. I do recommend this approval. This will certainly help them meet their goals in the next fiscal year.

From the Mr. Blair's letter:

“The School Board also voted to recommend lump sum funding for the school division for the months of April, May and June 2010. As you know, that is the remainder of our fiscal year. The School Board is requesting this exception to the categorical funding due to our budget constraints and having the authority to make necessary purchases a the end of the fiscal year. By being able to do this, we will defray some expenses for the 2010-2011 school year. For example, we hope to have ample funds toward the end of the year to be able to replace three school buses and to pay for our HVAC Honeywell contract. Our concern is the turn around time for pre-approval to transfer funds. We anticipate that we will be considering these purchases late in our fiscal year in order to validate that we have the sufficient funds. For example, if the School Board approves a transfer of funds in the June meeting then we normally would not have approval from the Board of Supervisors before our fiscal year ends due to normal meeting dates.

If the Board of Supervisors approves this request, I do wish to maintain our continued excellent communication patterns; therefore, prior to making these specific purchases, I will share the information with you so that we may discuss any issues that you may have.”

Supervisor Kitchen moved, Supervisor Talbert seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to approve the request for lump sum funding for the last quarter of FY 2010 to the School Board as a one time shot.

Supervisor Bates: I have a question, I'm going to vote for it because I think it makes sense in this instance, we are categorically funding the next fiscal year and I value the good relationship we have between the two boards.....

Supervisor Kitchen: This is a one time shot.

Supervisor Bates: That is what I was thinking.

Re: Disposal of Sewing Machines from Industrial Building

I have sought bids to dispose of those sewing machines in the Industrial Building, we need to get those out of there, J & J Recycling has provided a bid of \$800 to get those machines out of there. Mr. Elder has someone that was interested in them and he left me a message late this evening saying that their bid was only \$500. So, I ask for the authority to contract with J & J in the amount of \$800. They are going to pay us.

Supervisor Bates moved, Supervisor Talbert seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to authorize the County Administrator to contract with J & J Recycling in the amount of \$800 for the disposal of the sewing machines left at the Industrial Building.

Re: Rural Development Letter of Intent for New Water Treatment Plant Funding

The next issue is one of the biggest grant announcements that Buckingham County has ever been able to make. I'd like to ask you all to mark your calendars for April 20th at 11:00, the federal government and Rural Development and State representatives will be in Buckingham County to make this presentation. This is on the New Water Plant. Now we are still going through some permitting process and still have some things to do, but we do have a letter of intent here for a grant in the amount of \$5,822,000 and a loan amount of \$5,000,000 at a rate of 2.3750% interest. I have signed this request for obligation, it really doesn't bind you, you can get out of this if you would like, but in order to get that interest rate, Mr. Art Powers came to Buckingham after business hours to bring these papers for me to sign. This is a big deal.

Supervisor Kitchen: Somehow or another...we've raised all kinds of kaine and fuss with Warner, Webb, Perriello for voting on this thing and now we are going to do the same thing.

Mrs. Carter: Let me address that. This is indirectly...this is not stimulus money. This is grant money through Rural Development, however, Mr. Powers did say that Rural Development has gotten enough stimulus money to fund other projects that is has freed up the grant money for this project. We are going after the stimulus money on the sewer project. But this has more chance of qualification because of the number of people served. But, regardless, if its stimulus money, someone is going to take it so we might as well.

Supervisor Kitchen: I say, you are exactly right but its kind of like the pot calling the kettle black.

Mrs. Carter: It's April 20th at 11:00 a.m.. Invitations will be going out but we are trying to get the word out as soon as possible.

Supervisor Bates: You don't need any action from us at this point, do you?

Mrs. Carter: No action is needed.

Re: County Attorney Matters

Mr. Wright: Members of the Board, if you remember in October we brought before you some changes for your consideration pertaining to the fire arms ordinance. It's the time of year to put that back on the front burner if you want to adopt those changes concerning the rifle hunting and bear hunting and otherwise. If you care to do that, we need to set a public hearing some time in April because we have to have those changes adopted in time to let the Game and Inland Fisheries know of the changes. It was in your Board packages in October, we decided to table it

at that time until we got closer so we wouldn't confuse the hunters. I think we need to do it by April so we can let them know by May. I'm not sure what the deadline is.

Supervisor Bates: The 19th will be our short meeting because that is just going to be to vote on the budget and then the public hearing on the road stuff probably won't take long.

Mr. Wright: That's probably going to be your best bet.

Supervisor Chambers moved, Supervisor Bates seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to hold a public hearing on the changes to the Firearms Ordinance on April 19, 2010 immediately following the VDOT public hearing.

Supervisor Chambers: I've been getting complaints from the older hunters have to get up a tree 10 feet to shoot a rifle.

Mr. Wright: That's not what they advertised Mr. Chambers. This is an entirely different thing. If you want to direct me to look into that, that is a different matter. That is not what is advertised. I don't want you to think that is what's in this because it's not. This deals with adjusting for bear to bring us in line with what the state's doing.

Supervisor Chambers: We can do it later. No problem.

Mrs. Carter: If I can add one more thing about the grant proposal. I'd like to commend Mike Markley and Jennifer Lann for putting a whole lot of work into that application and we still have a lot of things to do to meet that letter of intent but Jennifer and Mike did a lot of work on that grant application.

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Snoddy declared the meeting adjourned.

Attest:

Rebecca S. Carter
County Administrator

I. Monroe Snoddy
Chairman