At a regular monthly meeting of the Buckingham County Board of Supervisors held on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Peter Francisco Auditorium of the Buckingham County Administration Complex, the following members were present: Donald E. Bryan, Chairman; Harry W. Bryant, Jr., Vice Chairman; Robert C. Jones; Don Matthews; E. Morgan Dunnavant; Joe N. Chambers, Jr.; and Danny R. Allen. Also present were Rebecca S. Carter, County Administrator; Karl Carter, Asst. County Administrator and Nicci Edmondston, Zoning Administrator. E.M. Wright, County Attorney was absent.

Re: Call to Order
Chairman Bryan called the meeting to order.

Re: Establishment of a Quorum
Chairman Bryan certified there was a quorum. Six of seven members were present and the meeting could continue. Supervisor Matthews came later.

Re: Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance
Supervisor Chambers gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was said by all who were in attendance.

Re: Announcements
There were none.

Re: Approval of Agenda

_**Supervisor Allen moved, Supervisor Chambers seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to approve the agenda as amended.**_

Re: Approval of Minutes

_**Vice Chairman Bryant moved, Supervisor Allen seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2019 and September 16, 2019 meetings as presented.**_
Re: Approval of Claims

Supervisor Dunnivant moved, Supervisor Allen seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to approve the claims as presented.

Re: Public Comments

Nelson Bailey, District 5: Hello and thank you for allowing me to address the Board. American economics as well as local policies are based on the free enterprise system. This means that the people are free to own and operate businesses as they see fit without interference from the government beyond that necessary to protect the economy and public interest. These are very serious duties you perform. Public interest along with due diligence and moral imperative enter the mix. Each have an equal importance to you the Board and the citizens. Let’s focus for a moment on public interest. Public interest is important to Buckingham County in that does it benefit a few or benefit all. Questions by the elected or appointed officials and citizens of our fair, beautiful home need answers. One must ask, have, and get answers. Has public interest, due diligence, and moral imperative been satisfied by you? Here are some points of many that must be analyzed carefully. I and others on behalf of the public interest request and require a full accountability of actions, transparency of all businesses doing business here, and the security that we have competent decisions makers. Do you as a board assure us that you are doing the best job possible for our protection? The questions of why is there no original signed, notarized and dated documents in the Special Use Permit (SUP) of the Planning Commission portfolio? Documents such as copies of NHN, Inc.’s Virginia State Corporation Commission business license? Summations and minutes of meetings by officers of who is NHN, Inc.? Where is NHN, Inc.? A Dun & Bradstreet business report? Where is their credit report? Who are the listed principals of this corporation? Are they solvent? Are they responsible and do they have a history of good corporate business practices in the county, if not here, where? Why has the SUP gone unabated or unreviewed s to for now, having 7 employees to the originally proposed 12?

Bryan: Thank you Mr. Bailey.

Bailey: Thank you.

David Ball, District 3: Good evening, David Ball, District 3. I want to talk about all these committee meetings that are held in private, not publicized. Their notes, reports, everything that comes forward in those meetings are kept from the public. The supervisors, particularly my supervisor, he prepares reports and does things that he presents at these meetings. I don’t think just because there are two supervisors as opposed to seven is an excuse. The State Code as well as the Sunshine Laws in this state, and in this country require that all public meetings, that means those that are held of the supervisors be committee, special committees, subcommittees, all of these are required to be public. To be announced so the public will have the opportunity to attend. So the public may be informed as to what actually occurs behind closed doors. I believe that is a serious violation of the public trust to have meetings that are held in secret in private out of the purview of the public. Thank you.
Quinn Robinson, District 4: Good evening, Quinn Robinson, District 4. I live out in Andersonville. I have a couple things I’ll try to get through for you. The first is as always the Atlantic Coast Pipeline. We don’t need it and now they are proposing a 2 part construction plan because of all the legal problems they’ve encountered. They said they know what they are doing yet they can’t get it through the courts. They are proposing that they may start south of the James coming through Buckingham before the final approval is granted. I think that is a bad idea and I think this county should oppose it. I also think that all those permits that were approved that stated they are in compliance with state, federal and local laws should be revoked and reheard because they are not in compliance with federal law and the courts have said it repeatedly. It’s already been so disruptive. I came here to retire and watch over the family cemetery. It’s like Dominion has stolen 5 or 6 years of my life and time. It’s not fun. Another item is the broadband question. It’s vital to this county and I fully support it however when we were going through discussions with Dominion fiber optics they were uninterested in any way of accommodating the county but now by good fortune we have a better solution and I notice that Mr. Wood the representative of the Coop is here. That’s great. I’m glad you support it and most of the citizens do but right now that will only cover a fraction of the county. I don’t know if it’s 2/5 or ½ or what. But that leaves a bunch of people without connectivity and that’s really awkward, unfortunate and unfair and I’d like to see if it can be worked out that our representatives from the county and the coop request to buy the rights to service the rest of the county from Dominion and maybe offer them a $1. I’d be glad to fund it. Just so that everybody gets a chance. Dominion has stated in their meetings that telecommunication is outside their area of work and expertise and they weren’t going to do it. As Mr. Wood can tell you, they had to start a separate corporation to do that. I support that. Comp Plan. The Comp Plan, I suggest you just put a new date on it and send it on. Don’t get hooked into this thing with the CRC updating it. Whatever they do, the Planning Commission would go out and do whatever they want. Thank you.

Re: VDOT Road Matters, Scott Fredrick, VDOT Resident Engineer

Fredrick: Good evening gentlemen, Mrs. Carter. I’ll keep it kind of brief tonight. You may have noticed we’ve been doing some work on Red Road and River Ridge Road. We’ve got the brush cut back and I believe we are just about starting to prepare the drainage ditches and doing some drainage work on those two roads. On 662, Midland Road, there was a pipe that failed on that road and we fixed the pipe but we are not all the way finished fixing the roadway so we will be working on that the rest of this week and maybe the beginning of next week if we don’t get it done this week. 602, Howardsville Road, you guys brought a bump to our attention. It is what I would call a dip. But there was a pipe failing where that was occurring. We got the pipe fixed there and we had some asphalt put back in but we are going to surface treat that kind of seal it back together.

Bryant: Good job.

Fredrick: Thank you for bringing it to our attention. Next week we are going to start mowing our primary routes again. It should be the last cutting for the year. The secondaries are completed with a few exceptions. We are going to finish those up. Some upcoming work that
we have is on Rt. 640, we are going to be crack sealing that road. It’s a plant mix asphalt road so we are sealing those back to get some more life out of it. Then 648 we are going to be placing some leveling trying to get that road…we’ve got some settled areas so we are going to be doing that where it needs to be. It’s going to be on the surface treatment schedule next year. So trying to get in front of that to get it where it needs to be. Some other stuff you will see us doing in the next few weeks, there is some dead trees mainly on 15 and then a couple secondary routes off 15 that we’ve identified as dead hazardous trees. We are going to be taking those down. There will be some minor impact to traffic. We will flag traffic and drop the tree and let traffic go. Very minor inconvenience to the traveling public. It will be a lot safer. That about wraps up the updates. Do you have anything to bring to my attention?

Dunnivant: I want to thank you for getting me the traffic information for Rt. 60, 35 mph zone in the village. I will share that with the group and see what comes about.

Fredrick: Thank you for staying on me. We worked together on that. Mr. Matthews, do you have anything? I didn’t get a chance to talk to you.

Matthews: I do. First thing is with the little amount of rain that we’ve had, I haven’t seen any calcium chloride put on these gravel roads. Is that something we need to request as a citizen or where do we need to go with that?

Fredrick: When it is requested we go look at those areas and treat them. We should be doing it proactively and I can’t say that we are. There is a method to our madness when we do treat, we try to do it 1000 feet before a residence and 1000 feet after. We don’t treat the entire road. Just where people live.

Matthews: There’s one road I know, 769 which is High View Road. They haven’t had any all summer. We haven’t had any rain since August. I know that road but there’s been several others too. I think Apple Blossom Road is off of 636, I’ve had complaints from that. I have another questions too. That’s just two. I’m sure there are several others but I haven’t heard from other people. Does it look there are going to be any funds left over from some of the projects we’re doing with surface treatment to do some of the roads on the six year plan ahead of schedule?

Fredrick: I think next year we are going to have a lot of money next year. We’ve actually done some housekeeping and closed out some of the roads that we finished the last two or three years. So any funds that weren’t used will be available next year.

Matthews: I’ve got one I need you to put on the list, State Road 801 which is Hope Road which is below Shephards between Bates Market and Shephards going south would be on the left hand side as you pass Old Shephards Road.

Fredrick: I’m just getting up to speed now I’ve been here 6 months, the rural rustic program with our Six Year Plan, how that works, it has to be put in what I call a pipeline for projects. It goes in 6 years out and it will work its way up.
Matthews: Just make a record of that.

Fredrick: I wrote that down. That’s something we should be starting to think about is next year’s projects we want to work into that pipeline.

Matthews: This isn’t but about 200-300 feet of road surface that needs to work done. I didn’t know if you had something that you could think about doing that at some point in time. It’s such a minute amount.

Fredrick: It may be put in…we’ll look at it. We will figure something out hopefully.

Bryan: All I’ve got is just email me with what we talked about for the signs. How often do you repave the secondary roads? Is it by the damage to the road or is there a set every 15-20 years?

Fredrick: We reassess them. We ride our primaries every year and our secondaries every four years. 25% of them a year. They ride it with a machine that measures the cracks and rutting and all that stuff. We use that information to put a schedule together. We are trying to keep our primaries above 82% and secondaries 75% if I’m not mistaken. We are trying to provide an overall network of those standards. We treat those that score the lowest score and bring them back up to the highest score.

Bryan: You also take care of Cumberland County? Salem Church Road. If I had false teeth they would come out sometimes riding that road. It’s rough. You said you are going to take care of some trees. There is a dead one right at the corner of 711 and 632. That’s probably going to be one of those joint things with the Dominion because it’s like right there. It will probably fall on them and take down the power lines.

Fredrick: We’ve been doing that recently working with Dominion a pretty good bit. I think they are just as happy as we are.

Bryan: It’s not leaning, it’s just dead. A good storm it may come down.

Fredrick: We’d much rather take it down in the nice weather and day time then at night during a storm. You say right at the corner of 711 and 632?

Bryan: yes, sir.

Fredrick: We’ll reach out to them.

Bryan: Thanks Scott.
Re: Public Hearing: Proposed Transfer of County Property and Incentive Package for a Fifty-Five room Choice Hotel Sleep Inn Hotel with Conference Room

Carter: This evening is the public hearing for a proposed Sleep Inn Hotel and Conference Room.

This is an idea of what it will look like on the outside.

Choice Hotels International.
Proposed Sleep Inn Hotel and Conference Room

The County has been working with the President of NHN, Inc., Raj Patel regarding the location of a hotel in Buckingham County since about June of 2018.

• This endeavor started out as a prospective twenty-five (25) bedroom motel with the possibility of extending to fifty (50) rooms, with an initial investment of $1,500,000.00 to $2,000,000.00.

• When I initially presented this proposal to the Board of Supervisors in closed session around July 2018, the Board of Supervisors agreed to consider certain incentives in order to further encourage this business to locate in our county.
• After months of discussions and conversations with NHN, Inc. I was notified that NHN, Inc. is interested in building in Buckingham County a fifty-five (55) room Sleep Inn Hotel with a conference room.

We’ve had many discussions about the need for a nice conference room in our county.

This Hotel Design that will be used is the new Sleep Inn Prototype. This will be a three (3) Story Hotel

• The initial proposed investment from NHN, Inc. is proposed to be $6,200,000.00 instead of the original proposal of about $1,500,000.00 to $2,000,000.00.

Initially the Board of Supervisors, in closed session discussed an incentive package based on a $1,500,000.00 to $2,000,000.00 investment.

This is all money from them, not from the county. Initially the Board of Supervisors, in closed session, again under business and prospective industry, discussed an incentive package based on a $1.5 to $2 million investment.
Since that time the Proposal has been changed

• Now a 55 room hotel with a conference room is being proposed using the new prototype design. Here are some pictures of the new prototype.

There you can see the outside of the hotel. Its three stories.

This is your entrance or lobby room.
Here’s where you can sit and have your coffee.
This is what the rooms will look like.
• The proposed incentive package is adjusted by the same percentage for the proposed investment as previously discussed for a motel of 25 rooms.

Proposed Incentive Proposal and Cost Recovery Schedule

• The Board of Supervisors is considering transferring 3.5 acres of property to NHN, Inc. for the purpose of developing, constructing and operating at least a $6,200,000.00 investment Sleep Inn Hotel with a Conference Center that will provide at least seven (7) jobs.

I don’t think we’ve ever talked about 12 jobs. But anyway the proposal is for 7 jobs.
• The land is county owned property and is located beside the Dillwyn Waste Site on State Route 750, Wingo Road, known as part of Tax Map Number 138-16.

• The Board also discussed a percentage of Tax Abatement over a four year period.
• The County will recover all incentives and the cost of the land by year 6.

Based on a $6,200,000.00 Investment

• The anticipated real estate taxes at the current rate would generate approximately $35,960.00 a year.
• The Board has discussed an offer that will grant the following real estate tax abatements for a four year period:

Proposed Incentive Cost and Cost Recovery Schedule
(This is all contingent upon the actual total investment and property values)
• Based on Tax Base of $6,200,000.00
• With a proposed abatement as follows:
• Year 1: 100% RE Tax Abatement
• Year 2: 75% RE Tax Abatement
• Year 3: 50% RE Tax Abatement
• Year 4: 25% RE Tax Abatement
• Year 5 and Up: No Abatement
Tax Abatement Cost Recovery Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTY Abatements</th>
<th>NHN, Inc. Pays</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1: -$35,960</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2: -$27,970</td>
<td>$8,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3: -$17,980</td>
<td>$17,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4: -$8,990</td>
<td>$26,970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5: -0</td>
<td>$35,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Abatements: $89,900</td>
<td>Total Paid by NHN: $89,900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Land Value and Cost Recovery Schedule

The proposed 3.5 Acres is valued at $35,000.00.
The Annual Real Estate Taxes on a $6,200,000.00 investment is anticipated to be $35,960.00.

The sixth (6th) year, the county will recover the cost of the land which will result in cost recovery of all incentives and abatements.

•** It is important to understand these are estimated numbers and the actual numbers will be dependent upon the actual tax rates at the time and the actual assessed values of the land and Hotel Building.
Utilities

• The Utilities Department will bring the water and sewer to the property line and the business will be responsible for the cost and installation of the pumping station for the sewer lines and anything else needed to provide the utilities to their building. The cost to the business is unsure because it will depend on the size of the line needed and the ability to gravity feed.

The estimated cost to bring the water and sewer line to the property line was not expected to exceed $40,000.00, however our Public Utilities Manager has been meeting with the site developer for this project and it appears we gave this estimate based on the size of lines needed for about a twenty five (25) room hotel. We will need to negotiate further depending on the cost and size of larger lines. We are also looking at the feasibility of a design to allow for possible further development in this area.

The Business will pay a $1,000.00 per unit facility fee for the utilities totaling $55,000.00.

The Utilities Department will also receive revenue from the business for the sale of the water and sewer with charging a minimum per unit plus cost for any usage above the minimum.

Total Proposed Incentive Package and Recovery Period

• The total proposed incentive package being considered for taxes and property is approximately $124,900.00.

• The cost recovery time to recover all of this cost is six years.

• ****The land is not presently on the tax books so we are not presently receiving any revenue from this land
Transient Occupancy Tax / Business Personal Property Tax

• The business will pay the Transient Occupancy Tax according to the county ordinance at a rate of 2% of the amount charged for lodging and a business personal property tax on the contents of the building. At this point and time we are not sure how much tax revenue this will bring but it will be taxed at personal property rate. These revenues are not considered in the tax abatement concept. Only real estate is considered.

Stipulations

• The business must construct and operate an at least 55 bed Sleep in Hotel with a conference room with an estimated investment of approximately $6,200,000.00.
• The business must employ at least 7 employees

• If the Hotel is not successful, the use of the facility and property cannot be changed without the approval of the Board of Supervisors, if the Hotel is not built according to the stipulations, NNH, Inc. will pay to Buckingham County for the cost of the land.

ZONING

This property in this park is Zoned Neighborhood Commercial, however this particular 3.5 acre lot is zoned Light Industrial. A Hotel and Restaurant is permitted in this Zone and does not need a Special Use Permit. However apartment houses are not permitted.
This may be why we do not have a special use permit file in our office because it is a permitted use.

NHN, Inc. NHN, Inc. has secured financing for this project.

- They have secured a Franchise from Choice Hotels to for a Sleep Inn Hotel in Buckingham County at the proposed site.
- The President of NHN, Inc. is present to address any questions the board members may have.
- Mr. Chairman, Please open the public hearing to hear any public comments regarding this matter.

This shows they are financially secure. They have secured this loan with no assistance from the county.

They have secured a franchise from Choice Hotels who I also met with, the representative from Choice Hotels from D.C. I met with them for a Sleep Inn Hotel in the county. So they have secured financing and they have secured the franchise.

Bryan: The public hearing is now open. Anyone signed up to speak?

Lann: Nelson Bailey

Bryan: Mr. Bailey already spoke about this. He addressed it in his public comment section. He addressed NHN particularly. So, no he will not speak now.

Marie Flowers, District 3: Hello y'all. Marie Flowers, 3rd District. I don’t come here to irritate you. But I think a 55 room hotel is unrealistic here. I can see the logic of a conference center. I don’t know. The first proposal of 25 rooms sounds ok. I just don’t see where people will…there’s going to be a conference center on Rt. 20 I think, isn’t there?

Bryan: That’s private.

Flowers: Ok. Well I just think, I told a few people about this and they said oh, we don’t need this and I said to come to the meeting and tell the Board and they said no, you do it. But I just think a 55 room hotel is just unrealistic. The 25 room property sounds more realistic and I can see the logic of having a conference center because it will draw people from other areas but anyway that’s my opinion. I hope you will take that into consideration. Thank you.
Matthews: Mrs. Flowers, there is no hotel between Lexington and almost to Richmond for you to stay in. That’s almost 100 miles on Rt. 60. These gentlemen are business men so it’s not just the county. We are not spending our money. These are business men and we would love to see them come to Buckingham County.

Flowers: Ok. I just wanted to express my opinion on that.

David Ball, District 3: David Ball, District 3. First off, that’s kind of absurd taking Rt. 60 from Lexington to Richmond. We are talking about something that is right off 15 that has a motel on 15. Farmville is a lot closer and they sure have a lot of hotels there. I don’t know how you can make that comparison.

Matthews: We are going to have one in Buckingham too.

Ball: You are taking up my time. Another question is if this was unacceptable for the library because of sight distance of the entrance as well the soils, how’s this no acceptable for the hotel which is a larger structure.

Dunnavant: I’m not aware of any issues with the library.

Ball: It’s in the soil report.

Carter: That is another site.

Ball: The soils report that was in the folder shows there were issues with some of the borings. So, I just going by what’s in the record. Another thing, I have a question. Why are we giving a business that didn’t exist until July 26th of this year, all this consideration? They have no track record. No history. We know nothing about them. Do we have a surety bond that says they are going to perform? Will Choice Hotels step in if they fail? Where do they come from? How do we know what their track record is? Is there a provision to kick back the property to the county instead of making them pay for the property and then having it tied up in case the county wants to develop it for a better site? There are a lot of questions that should be asked and a lot of things that kind of raise red flags and say this is a little irresponsible. The jobs, most of those jobs are low paying housekeeping jobs. They are not good paying jobs. We can use jobs but we need really high paying jobs. We need really good jobs. We need jobs that are going to keep people here in the county. These are the important things. I know the main interest behind this is STAS because they tend to bring a lot of people to the county for their conventions and activities. For right now let’s look at this as what’s in the best interest of the county. Here’s another thing. Time value of money. In economics when we defer money like that into the future. You have to calculate back the time value to find the net present value. If you just take that straight tax and put it into the future and carry it to the present you are actually getting less money than if you had collected it today. That’s an economic fact. So there’s a lot of things that need to be considered and looked at and addressed. You should take a little more time and think this out. Otherwise, there is a little irresponsibility here.
Bryan: Thank you Mr. Ball.

Chambers: These men have a good track record. I met with them and brought them to the county and carried them through the county. They came highly recommended. They have a good track record. They are business men. They are not new. They have other businesses here. They are not new.

Ball: Their business that they are proposing here is something they can bury as easy as anything since it just started a couple months ago. It can easily go like that.

Chambers: That’s what I’m saying. These men have been in business along time.

Ball: I know business. Business is that you walk away from things that aren’t good.

Bryan: Mr. Ball, nothing is guaranteed.

Ball: I know that.

Bryan: To say that we are being irresponsible is accusing us and I take issue to that. I do. The state got swindled as well in Appomattox. Ok. That’s the State government. For you to sit here and accuse this man of trying to swindle the county…

Ball: I’m not saying he’s trying to swindle the county, I’m saying the county needs to look a little bit closer to make sure.

Bryan: We’ve already looked at it.

Ball: The thing is when you look at the record and I came and asked to look at the file except a couple emails and some samples of what the thing could look at. So there is nothing for the public to go on.

Carter: They are working files. We didn’t have to have it zoned.

Bryan: No. He didn’t have to look at it. Next.

Lann: That’s all.

Bryan: Thank you. Public hearing is now closed. Mr. Bailey, one more time and I will ask you to leave. Ok.

Chambers: Mr. Chairman, I make a motion that the property be transferred to NHN Inc.

Carter: You need to read it.

Bryan: Read the statement here Joe.
Carter: Mr. Wright will provide a contract that we will meet with them and go over all the stipulations.

Chambers: I move that Buckingham County sell to NHN, Inc. or its assigns, a 3.5 acre tract on Virginia Secondary Route 750 (Wingo Road), in Buckingham County, Virginia and which is described on a plat of survey by Watson and Duggan, PLC, part of the real estate owned by the County and identified as part of tax parcel 138-15 (the Property) for the construction of a fifty-five (55) room hotel with a conference room and other ancillary facilities, including but not limited to a restaurant, for the sum of $35,000. The deed shall be a special warranty deed and shall restrict the use of the Property to a hotel with a conference room and other ancillary facilities, including but not limited to a restaurant. The purchase price may be paid by a non-negotiable note carrying interest of 2% and secured by deferred purchase money deed of trust. The note and any accrued interest shall be paid in five annual installments. However, each installment shall be deemed paid and satisfied in full as it comes due, and Payers shall be under no obligation to pay that installment payment to the County if the Payers are not in material breach or default of an agreed schedule of construction, completion and operation of a fifty-five (55) room hotel with an conference room employing at least 7 employees.

Bryan: Do you agree with everything that was just read, Mr. Patel?

Carter: I had sent this to them.

Bryan: Call for the vote. 7 yes.

Supervisor Chambers moved, Supervisor Allen seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board that Buckingham County sell to NHN, Inc. or its assigns, a 3.5 acre tract on Virginia Secondary Route 750 (Wingo Road), in Buckingham County, Virginia and which is described on a plat of survey by Watson and Duggan, PLC, part of the real estate owned by the County and identified as part of tax parcel 138-15 (the Property) for the construction of a fifty-five (55) room hotel with a conference room and other ancillary facilities, including but not limited to a restaurant, for the sum of $35,000. The deed shall be a special warranty deed and shall restrict the use of the Property to a hotel with a conference room and other ancillary facilities, including but not limited to a restaurant. The purchase price may be paid by a non-negotiable note carrying interest of 2% and secured by deferred purchase money deed of trust. The note and any accrued interest shall be paid in five annual installments. However, each installment shall be deemed paid and satisfied in full as it comes due, and Payers shall be under no obligation to pay that installment payment to the County if the Payers are not in material breach or default of an agreed schedule of construction, completion and operation of a fifty-five (55) room hotel with an conference room employing at least 7 employees.

Re: Consider recommendation to the IDA for approval of the incentive package

Carter: Yes, the Industrial Development Authority will have to implement the incentive package as far as the abatement. So I ask you all to approve the recommendation to them to accept the recommendation.
Allen: So moved to send the recommendation.

Chambers: Second.

Bryan: A motion and seconded to send to the IDA for approval of the incentive package for the 55 room Choice Hotel Sleep Inn with Conference Room. Any discussion? Call for the vote. 7 yes.

*Supervisor Allen moved, Supervisor Chambers seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to send to the IDA for approval of the incentive package for the 55 room Choice Hotel Sleep Inn with Conference Room.*

Re: Gary Wood, Central Virginia Electric Cooperative: Update on progress and prospective plans for the broadband in Buckingham

Wood: I apologize, I came to talk about internet and I brought low cut visual aids. This is a map of the county which you are probably familiar with and I apologize to the public for not having it but I’m only going to use this a little bit. I’m going to talk about what we’ve been doing this past year and give you an update on the overall project and what’s going on specific to Buckingham County. When we started the project I came in and told you that we were going to build about 38,000 locations in 14 counties in five years. That’s still our plan. We are running probably 2 months or a little better behind where we’d like to be at this point. That’s not bad for a company that just started up a huge project they’ve never done before. We’ve learned a lot in that first year. In that learning we have found some ways we think we can speed up a couple things so that we can complete everything by year five on the Coop side. I’ll talk to you later about what might happen off of the Coop. In Buckingham County in particular, last year we put in an application for the RUS Community Connect Grant that would have covered Pamplin Substation and Curdsville Substation. We thought we had a really good shot at that and we were encouraged in working with RUS the local RUS representative in putting it in. We put that in, it was graded out and we scored 3 points below the lowest score of the 7 grants that were awarded out of 56 people who applied. It’s not very good to come in just that far short. Because we came in and really thought we had a good chance at it we had Pamplin and Curdsville planned and had to set it on the backburner because when we go to the lowest cost to serve areas the areas in Buckingham were a little higher cost due to several things, density, location, network and a few other things. So we took another bite of the apple going back for Virginia Telecommunications Grant for Gladstone substation which would have served a little bit around the edge of James River and done some other things. We had a local wireless provider that said they already had everything covered in that part of the county. So the Virginia Telecommunications people denied us that grant because someone said they already had it covered. By the way that challenge process had changed now because we don’t believe that they do have coverage in that area. The grant program last year didn’t have a way to contest a challenge. The rules said if the competing provider puts in an affidavit saying they have it covered then you won’t get the grant. Someone put it in and we didn’t get the grant. We learned for that. This year we went back to the Tobacco Commission again and asked for Pamplin a grant and were awarded that. Pamplin
is on the schedule. After that we will be building Curdsville. We have put in another large grant application that includes parts of our Curdsville Substation, Mt. Rush and Centenary which is a major part of the public we would have in this county. We have not heard back from that application. We put it in in June. We are hoping to hear anytime. Regardless of what we hear we are going to build Curdsville next year at least. Depending on what comes out of that we may be back in again looking for some grants for Centenary and Mt. Rush to help drive the cost down so we can move those up a little bit and get to them a little quicker. So, we are doing things and looking for ways to help get the cost down and still building in the lowest cost to serve areas. So far we have built about 500 miles of fiber total. We’ve got over 4,000 to build but again, we kind of thought we’d be on the pace of 700-800 miles per year. It’s actually a little under 4,000. 700-800 a year would get us there. Over the last couple weeks it has been about 25 miles a week which is about the pace, we need to be about 20 miles but we are starting to pick up speed and we think we’ve learned a few things to help us. We also built in a really rocky territory up in Nelson County. That’s expensive as well. We’ve learned some things there as well. It’s been a big learning year. We do have several forces of grants and Connect America Funds. We are on a really good track as far as our business plan. We have no concerns about whether this is going to be successful. We were estimated to be in our feasibility study to be about 35% average over the first two years. We are seeing 40-50% in the very first year. We’ve expected our numbers to be a little conservative but everywhere we’ve gone the need is so clear. That is another sign that we would be successful. So we are coming. We will be here some this year. We will be here to get everything finished by year five. The colors on the map that I handed out. Down at Pamplin it starts at the southernmost part of the county and I think there are 66 customers at Pamplin. But we need to build the Pamplin line to get to Curdsville because the fiber needs to be built from station to station. Curdsville has 922 customers in it. You can’t see Curdsville very good on your map. It’s a really light green but it runs up 15 out of Farmville towards Sprouse’s Corner and stops just short of Sprouse’s Corner, goes over into Andersonville and that area. That will happen this year. We have a few customers up from Cartersville, that Upper East Side there’s a yellow line comes in. There’s about 80 customers there and Cartersville will be built this year. We will pick up some folks coming from that side. Centenary and Mt. Rush is too largest. They each have about 1400 customers and those are the one’s again depending on RUS Connect grant. We will have to go back and see where they fit in. This year we’ve already been doing make ready work. The way this project works in a specific area, I’ll take Pamplin as an example, we first go in and send out letters telling people they are going to have Make Ready Engineering and we have people drive to each pole and review what’s on there to make sure there’s room for the fiber at the top of the pole then they mark up anything that needs to be changed. Change the pole out, new guide wires, move transformers around. They do that. Couple months later we bring in a Make Ready construction crew. We’ve already done that at Pamplin. All the Make Ready work has been complete. Both electric construction crews have moved stuff on the pole, changed the polls out, did everything for the fiber to be ready to be placed. The next thing is for the fiber folks to come in and put in the backbone of the main fiber. When they do that you will see loops of fiber optic cable hanging down on poles because they go through and put the fiber in but the same crews don’t do the slicing and put the fiber up so a crew will come back and put the boxes on, splice the stuff up. They have trailers to do the splices in, put a little meter on the pole and finally they have a drop crew that come in put in the drops and hook up the fiber to the home. It’s a multistep
process. We’ve got about 175 contract people working at the Coop everyday right now for this project. If we didn’t have this project we only have 105 employees at the Coop. Those are still working but we’ve got not quite double that number working on this project. So we’ve made good progress. We are not going as fast as I’d like. We are going to be in Buckingham this year building some and we are still planning on having everybody connected by year five. Then I’ll touch on one other thing then take questions. We have thought since we started I told you I think when I was here, that we want to focus on our members first. With the Coop that’s important to us. But we are willing to go outside of there. Our territory is not restricted in terms of internet. The electric is but Fire Fly Fiber Broadband, our subsidiary can build fiber and put internet anywhere it wants in the State of Virginia and outside the State of Virginia. It get expensive when you build off grid. When we build, we build up what’s called the Power Space which is up above the communications space. We can build closer to our wires without as much clearance between them because we have people qualified to work up in that area. They are trained to do that electric work. Since we are using some of the fiber for our own use that keeps us from changing out as many poles and gives us more clearance. When we build off system we can’t build up that high. We build like every other telecommunications provider which requires a 40” separation between the lowest electric wire and telecommunication then it gets more expensive because a lot more poles need to be changed out. The second thing that happens, we have easements to run electric wires to operate our electric system so since the fiber is going in it will help operate that. We have a right to be there. When you go off system, we don’t have those rights so we have to get easements. So, we’ve talked to other utilities neighboring Southside Electric, Dominion, and Appalachian Electric, all around us about their building fiber and leasing to us, Fire Fly, our subsidiary and we will provide the internet service because they have the right to build like Central Virginia Coop does. It’s taking a while to get any traction with those discussion. I will tell you discussions are ongoing and are generally more positive today. There are a lot of nondisclosure agreements that I’ve signed, I can’t tell you anything specific about any particular provider but I can tell you that at this point none of them have closed the door completely. Some are more open than others and we will continue to work. If we can find the opportunities for them to build, then they may build while we are building and that will speed up construction. None of the four I mentioned have any interest in being an internet service provider. But last year when I first started, none of them were interested in building fiber. I’m getting closer. I think part of that is we’ve been able to show some success, a couple other companies have shown success and I feel a little more comfortable. When nobody’s done it it’s a tough ask. I think they are feeling a little more comfortable and we are going to continue to work on that. I can’t guarantee anything other than we are going to keep trying. If we can’t get an agreement to build them there territories, we are going to look for places we can to make it work financially. It may be a little more expensive. We might have to look again for more grants and more support but we will do that. If we have to build it entirely by ourselves, it’s going to take a little longer because we are going to focus on the Coop first and encourage them to build some and speed up the process. So, that’s where we are. We’ve got a lot of things going on. I’ve been in meetings the last two weeks with 3 out of 4 of those other folks that have power territory next to ours. In addition to that, we’ve got all our construction going on every day. It’s a huge project. It takes a lot of help. The VDOT gentleman may be gone but we’ve had a good relationship with them. We’ve crossed the road what seems like every other driveway. We have a lot of permits. We that $400,000 in bonding for right of ways that will cover us for a year on
this project. Next year we can spend up to $7 million in bonding authority. We’ll have so many areas and so many crossings we have to have those bonds available for everywhere you work. When I talk about that long process, the bond has to be available from beginning to end. When we go in to change a couple poles, we go in, bonds up, move on to the next one so it will go on a little longer. Those types of things we’ve learned a lot about and we’ve gotten better. That held us up for a little while. We ran out of bonding authority. We’d gone through a million dollars and thought that would be plenty. All of sudden we couldn’t get road crossing permit because we were out of bonding authority. Long story, we are working and still plan on being here getting everybody done on the Coop in Five years. I’ll be glad to answer any questions.

Dunnavant: Two questions. Reiterate, I know you told us one time before. What is the anticipated cost for a citizen that’s on your basic service that’s a member of the Coop?

Wood: 49.99 per month for 100 megabits service and 79.99 for gigabit service. Phone is 29.99 if you have one of those services and if you don’t and just want a phone I think its $5 a month.

Dunnavant: Do you have an anticipated price if you…there’s a lot on this map that’s not covered? If you do your build out into some of Dominion’s territory or Southside’s territory, what would you…some of those other costs you were talking about, if they don’t play ball nice with yall, what do you anticipate that customers cost will be?

Wood: If it gets very high, economics fall apart because then you don’t get people taking the service and if you don’t get people taking the service you go in the wrong direction in those areas. So it’s a really hard question to answer. I would not, at this point, I wouldn’t be comfortable going to a place knowing the demographics in our service area and assume it’s similar outside of our service area, I wouldn’t be comfortable going anywhere that I had to charge more than $10 more a month. All of sudden my pay grade is going from 60-70% down to 30-40% and now I’m not going to be able to make the mortgage payments on my fiber. What I would do instead, we will look at that model as we build out there and we know what our costs are to build, we know what revenue we think we can get and we will look for other support whether it be federal level, state level or local level. If necessary, I’ll come back to you and say this is where we stand and here are all the numbers and I’ve got this much from grants and this is how close I am, I need a little more. I’m not planning on coming back. We think we will get enough on the state and federal level. I would ask for you to support anything the state’s doing to help that. This year I understand the Governor is requesting $50-100 million in the Virginia Telecommunications Program. Last year there was $21 million total. Two years ago it was $1 million for the whole state. So, I encourage you to support that because that’s money that will be available to someone else who wants to build or us. If somebody else wants to build, that's great. They are still not running out to the country to build. So it’s a long winded way, we would look for a way to get that price down no more than $59.99. It’s a lot easier to me to keep everybody’s price the same. That would be what my goal would be.

Matthews: I have a couple questions. I think I initiated the question originally with the customers in my district which is District 3, the Curdsville District on Dominion, Southside, you trying to work with those guys two years ago when we first started this program and we stepped
up to the plate as a county with tax incentives for Central Virginia. We would probably be willing to do that for Dominion and Southside and I hope you can relay that information if you talk to those people since you see them more than we are. But I’ve got some citizens in the county in my district within 100 feet of the Central Virginia line. If they wanted to provide or give me a cost of what it would cost them for you to run it to their house, what could they possibly do?

Wood: Well, don’t hold me to this because I haven’t run any numbers but, I asked our board of directors recently to look at a program short term this next year if I can get it laid out and make sure the economics work where we can connect anybody in a certain distance. I don’t know what that distance would be. My first thought is 1000 feet. But we may be about to do 2000 feet. My guess is I could probably go 1000 feet without charging them extra. We may charge per foot if you want to go beyond that but I’ve got to stop somewhere. The day I stop somebody is going to come 10 foot further and say why can’t you come here. So we are looking at a way we can do that now with the capacity in the fiber to do that. I ask our Board who originally said lets concentrate on the Coop members and get them on first. This will not slow us down. That’s the first thing they need to know. You are not going to slow us down getting the last Coop customer on. If we have drop crews already in the area and we are running through and we can add one more a little further off, we’ve gone in some small subdivisions and serve two lots there or more. That should be an easy one we should be able to drop it in the ground. We are looking at ways in the short term to pick those up. We won’t do any significant build off system. I did ask our Board if we can go get a grant, do you want us to look at that now, and that’s where the Board pulled me back. I don’t mind you doing small things but somebody is going to spend a lot of time off system in these next couple years and it needs to be one of those other providers. We can connect them but they are concerned about slowing the speed to our customers.

Matthews: I’ve got your numbers on Mt. Rush and Centenary but I didn’t catch the numbers for the clientele in Curdsville.

Wood: Curdsville is 922 accounts. That’s 922 electric accounts. Some of those are going to be barns or electric fences. You can assume 90% of the numbers we have are residential and the rest of them…we term business but business includes water trough. Out of 922 there’s probably going to be 810 residents as a rough guess. We also have Schuyler has about 350 in Buckingham County. That’s in the red coming from Nelson County and Tower Hill coming down to the Southwest across from Appomattox has 86. There may be a few more off a couple other substations. I think it’s about 4200 if I remember right total in Buckingham. I will tell you also, if we get the RUS Reconnect Grant, part of the way you get extra points on that grant. That’s graded on a very objected point scale that says make service available to these types of businesses and community areas that you get extra points. So I said Fire Fly will be building down Rt. 60 and hit high school, primary school, all county…making it available, it doesn’t mean you have to serve, but make it available, as well as some of the Buckingham Courthouse. If we get that grant, we are going to be committed to extend to other areas. We have 6 years to build out that grant. If we get it we will come and talk a little more about what that looks like and when that will be.
Matthews: What about the citizens that are on the fringe there that will not be able to participate with Central Virginia, who would they need to call to squeeze? You know who to call.

Wood: I’ve been trying the right people to squeeze for a year.

Matthews: They are going to ask me so…

Wood: Dominion is so large, and it’s a little like the old bean bag chairs, if you squeeze one area it just pops in another. I haven’t figured that out yet. I would tell you Southside Electric who also serves some of this area, they know the needs. They have reasons they can’t justify building it because their entire system…they are trying to figure out a way for the folks they know need it. The management down there know it. We are talking with all of those folks, again they are more open today than they were. So, we’ll keep pecking away. If you want to call anybody you know, call them. The main one’s to call is State folks. That money will help. Let your representative know you support them funding in our case we are only asking for 25-30% of our costs. We are not asking for the 80%. It will fund that much. First off, we think we can be more competitive and second off, we are very comfortable that we are going to be able to do this and it will fund some of the off system construction. That’s where we are.

Matthews: I appreciate your diligence.

Wood: I apologize for not having my graphics for the screen but we will do that next time. If you have any questions, we are willing to answer them anytime. Mrs. Carter checks with me regularly and we try to keep her up to date on what we are doing. We do have a lot of irons in the fire and as we hear things we will let you know if they change, good or bad with our plans.

Re: Dr. Daisy Hicks, Superintendent, Buckingham County Public Schools: FY20 Budget update

Hicks: Good evening. We are requesting approval of the Fiscal Year 20 budget update. As you know this is routine for us. We make our projections and we get the actual amounts from the state in late September. So the revenues for the projections are what we are asking you to adjust based on the actual amounts being requested. Also we would like to reappropriate the facilities fund balance at the end of 2019, Fiscal Year 2019 so we can complete the Middle School HVAC, Chiller controls project that we started on in the spring.
### Regular Operations Funds

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### State Revenues

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**Total State Revenues** $14,768,246.00

**$404.00**

**Total State Revenues** $14,768,750.00
### OTHER STATE REVENUES

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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### FEDERAL FUNDS

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<td>Title I Part A - School Improvement</td>
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### LOCAL COUNTY APPROPRIATIONS

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## CAFETERIA FUND

### LOCAL REVENUES

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### STATE REVENUES

#### CATEGORICAL PROGRAMS

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#### LOTTERY FUNDED PROGRAMS

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### FEDERAL FUNDS

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### Total Cafeteria Fund Revenues

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### Grand Total Revenues

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Bryan: That’s just one chiller right?

Hicks: Yes.

Bryan: The other one we hope continues.

Chambers: I move we grant the request.

Allen: Second.

Bryan: Motion made and seconded to grant the appropriation request as presented by Dr. Hicks. Any discussion on the matter? Call for the vote. 7 yes.

**Supervisor Chambers moved, Supervisor Allen seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to approve the appropriation request as presented by Dr. Hicks.**

Re: Zoning Matters: Update on status of the Comprehensive Plan Review

Edmondston: Good evening Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. The Planning Commission has been diligently reviewing our current Comprehensive Plan. For an update we have worked through Chapters 3 and 4 and making the necessary revisions and I’m drafting those currently. Chapter 5 is where we will begin at our work session which will be held next
Monday the 21st. We invite you to join us if you feel so inclined. Chapter 5 is going to address land use. Specifically rural agricultural, forestry areas, areas of high growth, growth corridors, village centers and industry and mining, recreation parks and wildlife, and water shed overlay district. I know it’s a busy time for each and every one of you. We will enjoy your oversight and direction or overview rather if you’d like.

Matthews: When is that meeting?

Edmondston: Monday the 21st 7:00 p.m. here in this room. It’s a work session but we are extending an invitation to you.

Re: Consider adoption of TransTech DBA VGA ByLaws and Resolution and Acceptance Agreement

Edmondston: The next area of business that you have the recommendation to adopt the TransTech DBA VGA ByLaws and Resolution and Acceptance of the Agreement. These are actually voted on in the July and August VGA Board meetings. The proposed ordinance would amend the requirement to become a member and requirements to withdraw as a member which would require any County that no longer wants to participate 6 months’ notice to the VGA Board. There were some other technical amendments as well. This is for your consideration to adopt and action is required prior to December 30th.

Allen: So moved to adopt.

Matthews: Should we table this thing and actually look at it before we adopt. I still have some questions about the VGA and I’d like to get with Mrs. Carter, I know she goes regular to the meetings and things.

Carter: Mrs. Edmondston has been going too. This is 6 months. The other one was a year. I think you have to give notice a year, budget year so now you can get out in 6 months.

Matthews: What about the dues?

Carter: Per capita is $17,000. 17 thousand and some odd dollars.

Dunnavant: $1 a head for this. This is a supposed to be economic development that’s supposed to funnel business towards us.

Carter: That’s what Mrs. Edmondston gets leads from.

Dunnavant: Have they funneled anything towards us?

Matthews: They’ve tried.

Dunnavant: Have they had any successes? I don’t think they have.
Matthews: We’ve had a couple people look at the Gold Hill School and couple other things. We are rural.

Bryan: We had one that wanted financing and wanted us to finance it for them. That’s when we waived good bye.

Matthews: The regional airport over there, the regional situation.

Dunnavant: I’ve done some talking about the regionalization of the airport but the recent shakeup in Cumberland. I don’t know if that’s going to go anywhere or not. How much have we invested in this VGA roughly? How long have we been playing or should I say participating with them?

Matthews: Four years I think.

Dunnavant: Four or five years?

Carter: Yes, about $17,000 a year. I know you all have had discussions about making a decision about staying or not but we wanted to wait until Mrs. Edmondston had a chance to go to some of the meetings and give us her take on it.

Bryan: We have until December to pass the resolution right?

Edmondston: Yes, December 30th.

Carter: Then you can consider it at budget time next year.

Bryan: We can actually wait and see what you find out between now and December. He only holds meetings quarterly.

Edmondston: We have another meeting November or early December. He’s traveling now for the month of November.

Dunnavant: That’s one of the ideas behind Mrs. Edmondson’s doing as economic development coordinator and one of her titles.

Matthews: She can only do so much. You have to have a bigger situation and that’s what VGA provides for us to give her input.

Bryan: You wanted more time to look at it right?

Matthews: Yeah I do.

Carter: Is that a problem Nicci? Is there a time limit? I had some questions on it too.
Edmondston: If they choose to adopt this, by the end of December.

Matthews: Have you had much input from Jeff and the rest of the...as far as giving you leads or anything.

Edmondston: We should be receiving a report. It was under nondisclosure from the last board meeting with regards to our approved sites and what that looks like because the survey with regards with where we fall for work ready. Whether it is shovel ready or ready for the business prospect to come in. I have not received anything as of yet and I anticipated receiving it last week per Jeff at our last meeting. I don’t have that information. I know a lot of our sites we have ready are also privately owned so there would need to be conversations with those particular owners. As soon as I get that information the other projects or business prospects that have been discussed, none of them at that particular time at the last meeting, had any interest in Buckingham as of yet. They’ve adopted a new consultant company to help us move forward with the VMR, Virginia Manufacturing Region, there is a website for that. It’s not completely up at 100% but it is ready to prevue that and take a look at their next initiative which would be a manufacturing initiative for all the counties involved in VGA.

Bryan: I don’t want to put you on the spot. Do you recommend waiting?

Edmondston: I think it would be wise for each of you to take a look at this and gather your thoughts. The ByLaws are being adopted now only because after auditors came through and realized the counties have always had the VGA Board meetings, it was voted on and of course with your county representative it was accepted and moved forward. The auditors state that each county needs to sign the ByLaws and resolution. It’s really no different than what our participants, I believe Mr. Chairman and Mr. Matthews have been on the Board through VGA so you’ve been present and put your vote in to do exactly this. It’s no different. It’s just that the counties are now required to sign ByLaws. Nothing has changed other than the documentation that you have presented before you. You still have plenty of time to look at this before you adopt.

Bryan: Mr. Allen, would you like to withdraw your motion.

Allen: I guess we can.

Bryan: Mr. Chambers?

Chambers: ok

Carter: We can bring it back next month.

Re: Consider appointment for District 5 for the Industrial Development Authority

Carter: Yes this is to replace the seat Mrs. Edmondston held before her employment here.
**Bryant:** I’ve got a guy that said he’s take it. Pat Huffman. He’s a realtor. He’s agreed to take the job. He’s be a good man for the Board. He’s in the real estate business. A lot of people contact him if they want to come to Buckingham. It would be good for him to make some money and good for the county also. I make a motion.

**Bryan:** Motion made and seconded to appoint Pat Huffman to the IDA. Any discussion? Call for the vote. 6 yes, 1 abstain. Supervisor Jones abstained.

*Vice Chairman Bryan moved, Supervisor Matthews seconded to appoint Pat Huffman to the Industrial Development Authority for District 5. This motion was passed with a 6-1 vote. Supervisor Jones abstained.*

**Re: Health Department: Consider carry over of $3,121.40 of approximately $9,000 in unspent money**

**K. Carter:** Yes, sir Mr. Chairman. There should be a letter in your packets from the Health Department. What they are requesting is, they want $3121.40 in carryover money. The end of the fiscal year they usually have money left over. In this case they expect to have $9,000 left. So I’d like for that $3,121.40 come from the line they are going to give us back. They call it an end of the year settlement and that’s when they give us an actual check for the approximately $9,000. They are asking out of that $9,000 can they have $3121.40 of it back. My recommendation is if you want to give this money back to them, make it dependent upon receiving the $9,000 settlement first before giving the carryover.

Bryan: You are going to give me $9,000 and I’ll give you $3,121.40.

Carter: Since that money is from last year, it needs to be carried over to this year for those reasons they gave you.

Bryan: Is there a motion?

Matthews: So moved.

Allen: Second.

Bryan: Motion made and seconded to approve the carryover money as presented by Mr. Carter. Any further discussion? Call for the vote.

*Supervisor Matthews moved, Supervisor Allen seconded to approve the carryover of $3121.40 to the Health department to be taken from the $9,000 returned to the County by the Health Department. This motion passed with a 6-1 vote. Supervisor Jones abstaining.*
Re: Code Davis, Emergency Services Manager: Awarding of $12,000 Grant for repairs of the burn building

Davis: Good evening Mr. Chairman and Board. Really quickly I just wanted to make you guys aware of a recent grant the County received from the State, the Department of Fire Programs to make some repairs to the fire training facility up there at Duck’s Corner. Every five years the state comes and sends an engineer in and they pick it apart pretty extensively and they find little issues with things. I have the report if you want to see it. We take the report and meet with the engineer, myself and Daniel Queen, work with them to figure out what we can do in-house and what we need to outsource. Long story short we got it down to the $12,000 figure to make the necessary repairs and applied for the grant and were awarded the grant. We’ve got til September of 2020 to make those repairs and get the grant awarded to us so we can keep the training facility being used by out of county and in county resources up to par and keep our fireman trained for the good of the public.

Matthews & Bryan: Good job.

Allen: So moved to award the $12,000 grant.

Bryan: Is there any matching money for that, Cody or is that just straight up?

Davis: Straight up.

Bryan: Motion made and seconded to approve the award of $12,000 grant for the burn building. Any discussion? Call for the vote. 7 yes.

Supervisor Allen moved, Supervisor Matthews seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to approve the award of the $12,000 from the Department of Fire Programs for the repairs to the burn building.

Re: Consider a burn ban

Davis: As you are aware of the drought that we are in and also probably well aware of what our neighbors are doing with regards to imposing a local burn ban to ban all open air burning. With that said, it is not similar to the state burn ban that happens in the spring, the Department of Forestry enforces. This is something that we take it on as a county. Our sheriff’s office will have to enforce. In spite of the rain in the forecast for tomorrow, after talking with some of our fire department chiefs and other people, I still feel it’s a good idea to move forward with it. I think E.M. is reviewing some of the specifics on it. We are asking for your blessing to impose the burn ban which would restrict all open air burning until you all feel we’ve had an adequate amount of precipitation and conditions are less favorable to be dangerous to our citizens, the property, and our first responders.
PRESS RELEASE

The Board of Supervisors for Buckingham County, at its meeting on October 15, 2019, adopted an emergency ordinance prohibiting/regulating open air burning on public and private property.

This ordinance was adopted in response to the extremely dry conditions.

Following the adoption of the emergency ordinance, the Director of Emergency Services declared a local emergency to address the response to those dry conditions.

During this time all outdoor burning and all outdoor fires on both public and private property, including camp fires, trash barrels and the like, are prohibited, except within a grill or stove designed and used for food preparation which contain fuel and fire within a metal or masonry container and except those open-air fires authorized by the County of Buckingham.

The ordinance will remain in effect for the next sixty (60) days, unless the Board modifies or rescinds or re-adopts the ordinance.

The emergency declaration will remain in effect until rescinded.

For more information please contact Cody Davis, the Emergency Service Manager for Buckingham County, at 434.969.4242

Matthews: How are we going to advertise this?

Davis: It usually comes in form of a press release. We would have to do something like that and get it out to local media.

Dunnavant: Press release and county website. Mr. Davis, is there any, I realize that it would be up to us to break the ban and I think we are in favor of it, several of us have been talking about it. Is there any set criteria to lift the ban? Will we get a recommendation from you or a recommendation from the fire chiefs? How will that come about? We are not experts on that.

Davis: I think that would be a great question for E.M. If he were here. Mrs. Carter and I were looking at what some of our neighbors have done and it just says the ban will be done when the board feels adequate precipitation has occurred. So, I do think it would be a collaborative discussion with the fire officials, you guys and myself. I think E.M. would be able to answer a little better.

Bryan: Like Prince Edward passed one too.

Bryant: It’s a common sense thing. I think that we lift the ban when the fire department agrees there’s enough moisture in the ground to not have a fire hazard.
Davis: Right. I’ll make sure to stay in touch with those guys.

Matthews: We’ve got hunting season coming up. What about these guys camping or something like that? What’s classified as an open air fire? What are you talking about on that?

Dunnavant: I remember one year they postponed or closed hunting season, for the muzzle blast because it was so dry.

Jones: That was a long time ago.

Dunnavant: But I do remember it happened.

Davis: I was in communication with the Department of Forestry Rep this morning and he doesn’t feel the State will move forward with anything like that. I don’t think we need to encompass something that extensive in our ban either.

Matthews: They talked about it for 25 years we were a game checking station and it never occurred in those 25 years. Over 30 now.

Bryant: This is the season the leaves are starting to fall and the tradition in Buckingham County is to burn them and that’s going to start…

Matthews: I’m just curious about some of the sites and stuff like that if you guys are out there camping and if there is some fires started from stuff like that.

Davis: Are you trying to leave that possibility open for those campers?

Matthews: Well, just trying to get ahead of the process.

Carter: Most of the parks establish their own regulations on open fires. The parks, maybe not all the campers, like James River State Park or Holiday Lake. They regulate theirs.

Bryan: Will you check with the radio stations? Sometimes they do free advertising. Thank you. What is your motion Mr. Bryant?

Bryant: Put a burn ban on in Buckingham County.

Bryan: Motion made and seconded for the approval of the burn ban in the county until conditions improve. Any further discussion? Call for the vote. 7 yes.

Vice Chairman Bryant moved, Supervisor Dunnavant seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to Adopt a Burn Ban for Buckingham County.
Re: Library/Community Center Committee: Update on Project

Carter: They’ve actually started to take out the asbestos now. Once that’s done we’ll be able to issue a permit. It’s running a little late because of some of the changes our committee has implemented into the design and that had to be reviewed.

Bryan: I see they took a tree down too. They took a tree down. Are you aware of that?

Carter: No.

Bryan: There was a dead tree if you are looking at the school to the right hand side, there was a huge oak tree that has died. They took that out and have their trailer in now.

Carter: They are starting.

Bryan: One question I do have, I guess it’s up to the seven of us here, since they are going to be working there should we close that road off? It is going to be a construction site. Currently we have people that park there.

Carter: Buses do. I think we have talked about having to clear it.

Bryan: I remember we talked about it briefly. We may want to look into putting a cable up and you know, Do Not Enter Signs. Dr. Hicks, I know we have a school bus that parks there. We may want to let them know that we are to be closing the old Dillwyn Primary off so the only people to be going in there are the contractors. That’s for their safety and the contractor’s liability as well.

Re: Solid Waste Committee: Update on Gravel Hill and Dillwyn Site

Carter: Yes, we are at the point of negotiations with the property owner down there for the site distance and easements. I think now we’ve made an offer of $500 that the committee suggested. We are waiting on that. The committee has drawn up a design that we are looking at. As soon as we get that all ready we will bring that back to the board with a recommendation from the committee to move forward. Dillwyn, we are also working on that looking at a design to really make that site better. It definitely needs it. The committee is working on the best way of moving things around up there a little bit to make it more convenient to the public. Those are the last two actually. You are getting your plan moving forward.

Dunnavant: The comment I make on Dillwyn is what we are looking at is the traffic flow. Right now the way it is, it’s haphazard. People running around every which way. When we get it instituted it will pretty much be a flow. It will be a one way loop.

Bryan: Yeah, one way in and one way out.
Allen: Before you all do anymore, I would like to be involved with the gravel hill site a little more. I think I have views that you wouldn’t have had to have bought that extra land. But anyway.

Dunnavant: It’s a VDOT issue on that land.

Allen: VDOT issue had already been settled a long time ago.

Dunnavant: It should have. It shouldn’t have come up but it did.

Bryan: It did.

Re: Animal Control Facility Committee: Consider recommendation to renovate the Gold Hill School for the New Animal Control Facility

Jones: We got the report that we’ve been anxiously waiting for. After reading that report, I don’t see why in the world we could ever go through what we want to do with that report as it is. We’re talking about money that’s absolutely ridiculous. To me, what we need to do is to agree to go ahead and get an architect or engineer to sit down with our building inspector and somebody else in the county to go over what we’ve gone over before and what we thought that it ought to be done and then get them to go ahead and give us a report on what needs to be done. Structurally there isn’t anything we have to do in that building. So, this is just my idea.

Dunnavant: I pretty much agree with you Mr. Jones. The proposal we got from the one party we solicited to get an idea from, their figures for architectural and engineering fees, I believe are just exorbitant. $135,700 to make a plan for a building that’s already basically there. I think we need to sit back down and don’t invite these people back to the party. Sit down and talk, and maybe fill out a RFP with some other architectural firms to come in and give us a price. Very similar what we did with the library. That price did very well and very frugally and is moving forward.

Carter: I think that’s what Mr. Markley and the committee wants to know, the board’s never taken official action to renovate the Gold Hill School for a new animal control facility. So I guess what they want to know is are we moving in the right direction. I agree 100% with what you want to do but I want to make sure that is what you all want to do too.

Jones: I think we are moving in the right direction.

Chambers: Shouldn’t the State be involved in it.

Dunnavant: The request for the for the architectural engineering community is to coordinate with the state veterinarian’s office to coordinate that. It seems that every time our people talk to them or they talk to our people it’s something different.
Carter: It’s always something different. I’m really surprised at some of these numbers. I think we all have.

Dunnavant: I think once we sit down and get the committee back together around the table we can get it moving forward.

Bryan: So I guess what we need is a motion from the Board stating that we are designating the Gold Hill School for the purpose of renovating it for the new Animal Control Facility.

Dunnavant: I don’t know with the pricing we’ve got that we definitely want to say we want to do it there. We want the Board’s concurrence that we can look and extend some funding to look at the liability of that.

I request the board’s permission to expense some funding to get a Request for Proposal out for an architect and engineering firm to give us a proposal for the renovations to the Gold Hill Elementary School.

Jones: I second.

Dunnavant: Give us a not to exceed figure Mr. Chambers. I don’t know. We should be able to advertise it for $3,000.

Carter: I’m not sure what the cost would be to advertise but it would be under that.

Dunnavant: Advertise it and evaluate the proposals we get back. I would say not to exceed $3000 for advertising costs.

Carter: Is this a proposal to study renovating that building or to study whether you should renovate or build a new building? What direction? Yall want to renovate the Gold Hill School. Yall want a proposal for that?

Dunnavant: I’m not talking about a study. I’m talking a Request for Proposal for an Architect and Engineering Firm to draw the plans to renovate the building per the State Veterinarian’s requirements.

Matthews: That’s not what we did last time. We put it out to bid for several firms to bid on that.

Dunnavant: We chose the firm that was the cheapest and we liked their proposal the best. Then we presented it to the Board. That’s the same thing I’m proposing here.

Matthews: Yeah but we hadn’t decided on it yet. We are going to look at the proposal to renovate it not to renovate it.
**Dunnavant:** It’s a proposal to renovate it and then it’s going to come back to all of us if we want to pursue that value or not or if that value to renovate it from all the firms that respond are higher than our budget then we’ve got to drop back and punt.

**Chambers:** So what are you saying? Repeat your motion again.

**Dunnavant:** My motion is to advertise for architectural and engineering firms to provide us with a proposal to provide the renovations necessary to the Gold Hill School to meet the criteria of the State Veterinarians Office and upon receiving those proposals we will evaluate further.

**Bryan:** Any further discussion? Motion made and seconded as presented by Supervisor Dunnavant. Call for the vote. 7 yes.

Supervisor Dunnavant moved, Supervisor Jones seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to advertise for architectural and engineering firms to provide us with a proposal to provide the renovations necessary to the Gold Hill School to meet the criteria of the State Veterinarians Office and upon receiving those proposals we will evaluate further.

Re: Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center: Consider Resolution Supporting the Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center, Inc. with their quest for funding from the Commonwealth of Virginia for essential capital safety improvement projects.

**Carter:** Yes, the Holiday Lake 4-H Education Center is asking for your support not financially but your support in their application for additional money to take care of some much needed capital improvements at the park for the 4-H Center rather. This would be no money from the County. Just a letter of support.

**Allen:** So moved.

**Jones:** The item there says funding.

**Carter:** They are asking for funding from the State.

**Bryan:** Yeah, the sample resolution says they are requesting funds for essential safety improvement from the Virginia General Assembly. Motion made and seconded to support the Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center request for funding from the State of Virginia General Assembly. Any further discussion? Call for the vote. 7 yes

Supervisor Allen moved, Supervisor Dunnavant seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to approve to support the Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center’s quest for funding from the Virginia General Assembly for much needed capital improvements.
Re: Supervisor Jones: Update on Amish Buggy Safety Committee

Jones: Alright, thank you Mr. Chairman. I think all of you on the Board remember that we formed a committee a couple months ago. Tried to look at the safety of the Amish and their transportation of families and all. We did have a meeting last week of the committee and Cody Davis is Chairman of it. What I have given yall there is a map made by Bill Roland of all the main routes that they have families on. Bill Roland made this up. He is the person that is in charge of all of this is the Bishop. Unfortunately when we had the committee meeting, everybody was present but the bishop. The bishop has talked to Bill Roland quite extensively. They are not asking our county to do anything. They feel that their belief in God will take care of them regardless of what goes on. We realize that. The problem is how about the Lord looking after the people that’s going to run into these buggies. I don’t think that we are getting ahead as far as safety goes. Other states have made recommendations and done things. Some of them have even made places in the highway they can go. There is a lot of people, Amish, still coming to our area. He stated this. What I would like to do, we are going to have another committee meeting in a month or so depending on how Cody looks at, but I would ask you to look into your community, your district, that you are responsible for, and if you see any bad curves, you see any high hills, things that are covered up where a truck or car can pull up real quick on the buggy, make a note of it so when we get the committee going again we can discuss it. The state idea on this is the more signs you put up, the less the people are going to look for it. I disagree. In fact each of you has gotten a letter from a lady in Richmond today that’s telling us that she ran up behind one of these and she thinks that we need to put more signs up. That still remains. The state has put in more new signs like we asked for earlier. To me they are not big enough and we need to have more. We don’t have to have signs on the road. All the signs on will do now, we have all had letters coming to us about various things from businesses that gives you a little sticker there that has your name and address on it. As soon as I find the company that makes those, what I’d like to do is find out what I can do as far as getting stickers made. Look at this county map that Bill Roland has, you see that sign there with the horse and buggy and all, it’s about the size of a quarter. I would like to have a page of these stickers to give to each person in the county. You take that sticker and put it on your dashboard, put it anywhere you want to. Put it on your head if you want to but you know it will remind you constantly. That’s what we need to do. If we constantly remind ourselves that they are out there and we need to be careful. If yall would help me on this I’d appreciate it very much.

Re: Consider an appropriation of $3,000 to the Buckingham County JROTC Raiders to assist with expenses as they travel to compete in the National Competition

Bryan: Remember last month we had a presentation by Mr. Bersch. Motion made and seconded to approve the money for the JRTOC Raider team. Any discussion?

Allen: The question did come up with the school board about getting them $1,000. I don’t know if they gave them anything or not but I know they were talking about giving different committees, different groups like this money to add to it. I don’t have any trouble giving them the money. I’m just saying.
Jones: A lot of times they go a long ways. It costs plenty.

Allen: I don’t have a problem giving the $3,000 I’m just saying the school board at one of their meetings said something about giving them money too. I wanted to see if they had gone back to them for the money. It doesn’t matter.

Hicks: The school board did give them money too.

Bryan: If there is no further discussion, call for the vote. 7 yes. Good luck to the Raiders.

*Supervisor Chambers moved, Vice-Chairman Bryant seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to approve to give $3,000 to the Buckingham County JROTC Raiders for expenses for the National Competition.*

Re: Consider authorization to participate in the School Internship, Apprenticeship, Job Shadowing and other work related experiences programs for the students

Carter: Yes, Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Edmondston expresses interest in working with this program of students and I think it’s a good idea. If you all would give authority, we can have some students come in and shadow what we do. A lot of people don’t know what we do in government offices.

Bryan: I think it’s great. It’s like a work experience program.

Chambers: I think it’s a good idea.

Bryan: Absolutely. It’s for high school. Motion made and seconded to authorize for participation in the school internship. Any further discussion? Call for the vote.

*Supervisor Chambers moved, Supervisor Allen seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to authorize for participation in the school internship program.*

Re: Consider designation of representative to cast the County’s vote at the annual business meeting of the Virginia Association of Counties

Chambers: Would you do it Mr. Chairman?

Bryan: Yes, sir. I plan on attending. I’m still on the Education Steering Committee.

Chambers: I make a motion that you do it.

Bryan: Thank you. Motion made and seconded for the current chairman to cast the County’s vote at the annual Virginia Association of Counties meeting.
Supervisor Chambers moved, Supervisor Allen seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to appoint Chairman Bryan as the representative to cast the County’s vote at the Virginia Association of Counties Annual Business Meeting.

Re: Consider Drought Designation in Buckingham County

Bryan: As we know Cody presented that we are rain deficient.

Allen: So moved.

Dunnavant: Second.

Bryan: Motion made and seconded to consider drought designation in Buckingham County. How does that impact us, Mrs. Carter?

Carter: It will help the farmers in the county if they file claims for loss of pasture or hay. The extension service sent this letter asking you to designate it. It will help the farmers a lot.

Bryan: Call for the vote. 7 yes.

Supervisor Allen moved, Supervisor Dunnavant seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to designate Buckingham County to be in drought conditions.

Re: Consider acknowledgement of and letter of appreciation to Jason Meeks for use of his property during the construction of the new Bates Solid Waste Management Center

Carter: Yes, Mr. Meeks allowed the county to place containers over on his property while we built the new Bates site. I ask for official appreciation because not many people would do that, putting trash containers on their property.

Bryan: Absolutely.

Matthews: So moved.

Bryan: Motion made and seconded for a letter of appreciation to Jason Meeks for allowing us to use his property during our reconstruction of the Bates Site. Any further discussion? Call for the vote. 7 yes.

Supervisor Matthews moved, Supervisor Bryant seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to send a letter of appreciation to Jason Meeks for the use of his property for trash containers during the reconstruction of the Bates Site.

Re: County Attorney Matters

There were none.
Re: County Administrator’s Report

Carter: Yes, the first matter is the reassessment schedule date. Just to let you know where we are with the reassessment. For Buckingham, the cutoff date is November 4th of this year. Notices for proof will be done November 11th. Notices will be mailed out to the taxpayers and property owners November 18th. The hearings will begin December 2nd and end December 13th. This is to just make you aware of where we are with that. It’s all coming up in the next month.

Personnel Committee Recommendation has been provided to you under separate cover. If you do not have a problem with that, it will move forward.

Solid Waste Ordinance update: With our new solid waste system, we are seeing a lot of things in our ordinance that needs to be updated. Especially of who gets these permits to get into the site that do not have county decals. We need to change some things in that ordinance and I wanted you to know we are working on that and we will come back to the solid waste committee with some of it. But we need to update our ordinance.

Notice from DEQ regarding the Buckingham Compressor Station Air Quality Permit: This is a letter that I will read, from Patrick Corbett with Office of Air Permit Programs says:

I work for the Department of Environmental Quality. We met a couple of times during the public comment process on the air permit action for the Buckingham Compressor Station. I’m reaching out to you to let you know that during the State Air Pollution Control Board’s consideration of that permit, they requested the Department of Health review the air impacts of the facility. VDH has completed their review and determined there are no health hazards from the station. I have attached the letter. You can also retrieve the letter from https://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Air/BuckinghamCompressorStationAirPermit.pdf.

I could not find an email address for Mr. Bryan so I’ll ask if you could forward this information to him and anyone else you feel is appropriate.

Thank you for all of your help.
Patrick Corbett
Office of Air Permit Programs
(804)698-4016
patrick.corbett@deq.virginia.gov

This was based on the recommendation of those that were there that opposed the compressor station. So they did do that. I wanted to let you know that that did come back as not a problem for the air quality.
2019 Fall Transportation Meeting schedule: The other matter is to just let you know about the 2019 Fall Transportation Meeting schedule is up in Lynchburg.

I do have one other thing that’s not on here but we did have discussions regarding the Amish Safety Committee. Mr. Jones, you may be interested in it. Cody has advised me that Mr. Roland has asked to be removed from the committee and asked that Mr. John O’Bryant be put in its place. You all took action to form that committee so you will have to take action as to who is on that committee. You will have to take action to appoint John O’Bryant and a letter of appreciation for Mr. Roland for the work he’s done.

Jones: Recommend who?

Carter: He recommended John O’Bryant. He has agreed to serve on the committee. If you have someone else you may do that.

Davis: He and John met briefly this morning and he gave him the same information he’s given us and explained the situation to him and he feels John is a good fit because Mr. O’Bryant has a relationship with the Amish. He felt that he would be able to provide adequate representation of that community. I’ve yet to have much of a dialogue about his resignation. I just received the email today and I’ve yet to reply to it.

Jones: I don’t have a problem with it. I make a motion we accept this recommendation.

Bryan: Motion made and seconded to accept John O’Bryant on the Amish Safety Committee. Any discussion? Call for the vote. 7 yes.

Supervisor Jones moved, Vice-Chairman Bryant seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to accept John O’Bryant to the Amish Safety Committee in place of Bill Roland.

Re: Executive Closed Session

Carter: Mr. Wright is not here. I believe he was held up in court earlier and I assume that’s where he still is. He wanted to go in…and I think I know what this is about. But I don’t think we should go in without the County Attorney.

Bryan: Let’s take a brief recess. We will recess for ten minutes and then play it by ear. We will reopen from a short recess. At the present time we are going to skip the Executive Closed Session because the County Attorney is not present.

Re: Other Board Matters

Allen: Ms. Brown was just talking about the dogs are making a lot of noise in here area and she can’t sleep. What can we do to help her?
**Bryan:** When she gives us a letter, I would like to get a copy of the letter and forward it to Danny Shumaker our Dog Warden and also address it with Sheriff Kidd.

**Jones:** Doesn’t our noise ordinance go by decibels?

**Allen:** Certain distances I think.

**Chambers:** It’s from 11 to 7.

**Bryan:** Hearing no other board matters, we are adjourned to Wednesday, November 13, 2019. Make a note of that, Wednesday, November 13.

There being no further business, Chairman Bryan declared the meeting adjourned.

**ATTEST:**

______________________________  ________________________________  
Rebecca S. Carter      Donald E. Bryan  
County Administrator     Chairman