

At a budget workshop meeting of the Southampton County Board of Supervisors held in the Board Room of the Southampton County Office Center, 26022 Administration Center Drive, Courtland, Virginia on April 13, 2016 at 6:30 PM.

SUPERVISORS PRESENT

Dallas O. Jones, Chairman (Drewryville)
Ronald M. West, Vice Chairman (Berlin-Ivor)
Dr. Alan W. Edwards (Jerusalem)
Carl J. Faison (Boykins-Branchville)
Glenn H. Updike (Newsoms)
Barry T. Porter (Franklin)
S. Bruce Phillips (Capron)

SUPERVISORS ABSENT

OTHERS PRESENT

Michael W. Johnson, County Administrator (Clerk)
Lynette C. Lowe, Deputy County Administrator/ CFO
Amanda N. Smith, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS ABSENT

Julien W. Johnson, Jr. Public Utilities Director
Richard E. Railey, Jr., County Attorney
Beth Lewis, Director of Community Development

Chairman Jones called the budget workshop to order.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Supervisor Faison gave the invocation.

Chairman Jones states good evening everyone. It is nice to see many of you are out tonight. We will start with our speakers tonight. First is Franklin Southampton Economic Development.

Mrs. Amanda Jarratt addressed the board. Thank you Chairman Jones, members of the board, and Mr. Johnson for the opportunity to speak tonight regarding the upcoming fiscal year. I am Amanda Jarratt, President of Franklin Southampton Economic Development. We are a 501C3 uniting the efforts of both Southampton County and the City of Franklin in regards to Economic Development with support and guidance from the private sector. We were established as the key marketing and development organization to work with state and regional partners to market Southampton County and the City of Franklin. Our mission is to diversify the local economic base and eliminate a duplicative marketing effort between the two localities. Most of you are aware of our key initiatives and programs, but here is a quick highlight. We partner with state and regional entities including the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, the Hampton Roads Economic Development Alliance as well as the Port of Virginia to represent Southampton County. We are tasked with developing areas for future businesses and industry to grow and enhance our existing parks targeting our key industry sectors. Since 2011 we have been directly and indirectly responsible for the creation of over 300 new jobs and \$178 million in new investments in our region. Over the past few years we have finally begun seeing results of the community's long-term efforts. Some of the more recent announcements include Enviva which invested \$91 million and currently employs 95 individuals full-time. Hampton Farms which investment has tripled since it was originally announced to \$18 million. They plan to employ 60 individuals at full-time operation; and, Curtis Contracting which their investment was close to \$6 million and they employ on average 50 individuals. That is along the 460 corridor. These projects generate direct tax revenue for the Southampton County budget. The stronger we build our business community the more revenue there is to support services necessary to enhance the quality of life for Southampton County residents. So far, year-to-date, we have worked with six projects; last year, 25 industrial projects and in 2014, 21 industrial projects. We don't only focus on recruitment; we do have an existing industry program and business retention program uniting the efforts of our office, the Franklin Southampton Area Chamber, as well as the Workforce Development Center at Paul D.

April 13, 2016

Camp Community College. We actively meet with local businesses. Provide free training and professional development opportunities to make sure they have the resources they need to be successful. We have started a micro-loan program to inject capital into small and medium size businesses and have made three loan awards to date. Small business growth and development is also a key priority. One main way this is accomplished is through the availability of the Franklin Business Center. The Business Center currently has 24 businesses located in it. Several which are owned and operated by Southampton County citizens with numerous employees from throughout the county. Our organization also pays for a required local match on behalf of both the City and the County to participate in the Small Business Development Center Counseling Program. Once a month a counselor comes to our office and holds office hours to provide existing business owners with advice and guidance. Our funding agencies include Southampton County, City of Franklin, the Franklin Southampton Charities, and the Camp Family Foundations. Private dollars are available to be leverage in support of this initiative only due to the public dollars that are invested. This successful public/private partnership has allowed us to effectively and efficiently market Southampton County as well as the City of Franklin. We have a flat budget request as we have had for the previous three years. As we look forward to the remainder of 2016 and beyond we are excited about the possibilities to grow our local economy. The strategic partnerships that the County is leveraging with the City of Franklin only increase our economic competitiveness. The planning efforts and proactive approach that you all are undertaking really do position ourselves well within the Hampton Roads region and Virginia. Economic Development is a long-term investment. It requires much time, energy, and commitment from all sectors of this community. We need your investment in order to be successful and provide job opportunities for future generations. I do appreciate the working relationship that I have with each of you and I hope that does continue. I will be happy to answer any questions that you may have at this time.

Chairman Jones states does anyone have any questions?

Supervisor Phillips states I would just like to say we do appreciate the work that you do through your office and your continued success.

Mrs. Amanda Jarratt states thank you.

Chairman Jones states anybody else?

Supervisor Porter states I would like to echo that and thank you for the work you and your office do. I think it is vitally important and you hold the key to our success. Without your success, we would be in a bind very soon. Thank you very much.

Mrs. Amanda Jarratt states thank you.

Chairman Jones states on behalf of the board I would like to thank you also.

Mrs. Amanda Jarratt states thank you and I do appreciate you all.

Supervisor West states you are a good messenger for all of us and thank you.

Mrs. Amanda Jarratt states thank you and have a good evening.

Chairman Jones states thank you very much. Next, Western Tidewater Community Service Board.

Mr. Demetrios Peratsakis addressed the board. Good evening Chairman and all the members of the board; Mr. Johnson. You have coming around to your place settings information with regards to services. My name is Demetrios Peratsakis. I represent your Department of Public Mental Health Services, and I thank you for the opportunity to present to you this evening and your continued support. On the left side of your place setting is an updated service bulletin representing some of the efforts of your staff and your citizens in the community that we serve. I would like to quickly walk through the power point presentation and answer any questions that you may have in regards to your department of mental health services.

Western Tidewater Community Services Board

Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Services

for the Cities of Franklin and Suffolk and the
Counties of Isle of Wight and Southampton

Message from the Executive Director

Dear Community Member:

It is with genuine pride that I provide you with the following results, summarizing key outcomes from our ongoing agency revitalization plans.

As you know, Western Tidewater Community Services Board (WTCSB) is your local department of public behavioral health, providing emergency psychiatry, counseling and ongoing treatment and rehabilitation support services to individuals in need of Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Intellectual Disability services.

Each year, Western Tidewater Community Services Board provides almost a half million hours of psychiatry and clinical treatment and support to several thousand citizens of the cities of Franklin and Suffolk and the counties of Isle of Wight and Southampton, Virginia. All services are based on ability to pay and target normative, short-term support needs for brief depression, stress and anxiety, as well as more complicated, mid- and long-term care and support to those with chemical addiction; chronic and complicated mood disorders; HIV and other social contagion diseases; schizophrenia and related thought disorders; or mental retardation and other developmental and spectrum disorder syndromes. In addition, WTCSB provides comprehensive Child and Youth Services and sponsors Youth Partnership Projects and Youth Leadership Institutes in our communities to support character development and anti-gang related initiatives. As a community services board, WTCSB is also responsible for managing patient admission and discharges from local and state inpatient care and for providing Emergency Psychiatry and Crisis Management services, twenty-four hours a day, to the over 140 thousand residents in our communities, across a 1,500 square-mile geographic area.

In 2000, WTCSB began an aggressive revitalization plan to improve and expand its services under three very basic initiatives: Improve Customer Service, Promote Staff Excellence, and Modernize Business Practices.

Today, our Board is privileged to oversee the results of these efforts, including the doubling of the amount of treatment services provided to our communities each year (200 to almost 500 thousand hours), the addition of over 150 new staff member positions (150 to over 350) and a three-fold increase in our annual operating service budget from approximately \$8.5 million dollars in state fiscal year (SFY) 2000 to almost \$23 million dollars in SFY 2010. This stellar accomplishment would not have been possible without the generous support of our distinguished Board of Supervisors and City Council Members and the dedication and compassion of the Board of Directors and Staff of the Western Tidewater Community Services Board. Most especially, we are grateful to those countless families and stakeholders who have entrusted their care and the well being of their loved ones to our services and who remain faithful to our vision that "The Purpose of Life, Is a Life with Purpose".

Thank you for your enduring support!

Warmest regards,

Demetrios N. Peratsakis

Demetrios Peratsakis, PD,MIS, LPC
Executive Director



Suffolk

Total Population: 86,806 (58% of CSB Area Population)
Locality Funding: \$281,152; (51% of Local Funding)
Per Capita Spending by Suffolk: \$3.24

Adults & Children Served: 4,753 In On-going Services (67% of Total Average Annually Served)

Value of Services: \$12,422,608; 58% of WTCSB Expenses
Return of Funding Investment \$1 = \$44.18



Franklin

Total Population 8,526 6% of Total Local Population
Locality Funding \$35,198 6% of Total Local Funding
Per Capita Spending \$4.13

Adults & Children Served: 874 In On-going Services (12% of Total Average Annually Served)

Value of Services \$2,509,287 12% of WTCSB Expenses
Return of Funding Investment \$1 = \$71.29



- WTCSB service population: 149,398 residents
- Total Operating Revenue FY 2015: \$22,071,461
228% Increase from FY 2000 \$9,704,789
- FY 2015 Adults and Children provided treatment: 7,093 (3,297 unduplicated)
- Average return on Local Funding Investment
FY 2015 : local contributions \$1= \$33.95
in delivered services by WTCSB



Southampton County

Total Population 18,059 12% of Total Local Population
Locality Funding \$69,947 13% of Total Local Funding
Per Capita Spending \$3.87

Adults & Children Served: 381 In On-going Services (5% of Total Average Annually Served)

Value of Services \$1,498,559 7% of Total Expenses
Return of Funding Investment \$1 = \$22.07



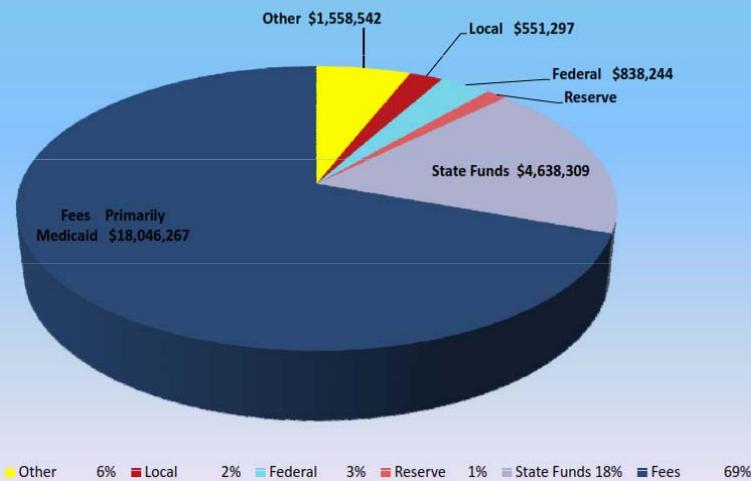
Isle of Wight County

Total Population 36,007 24% of Total Local Population
Locality Funding \$165,000 30% of Total Local Funding
Per Capita Spending \$4.58

Adults & Children Served: 1085 In On-going Services (15% of Total Average Annually Served)

Value of Services \$4,873,989 23% of Total Expenses
Return of Funding Investment \$1 = \$29.74

Revenue Sources 2016 Operating Budget Total Budget \$25,979,654



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WTCSB, Your CSB!

- ▶ Western Tidewater Community Services Board (WTCSB) is your local department of public Mental Health.
- ▶ Under the Code of Virginia, WTCSB is authorized as the public safety net and ongoing treatment agency for individuals and families in our community with mental health, substance abuse and developmental disability related needs.
- ▶ We provide a full range of clinical and psychological treatment supports:
 - ❖ Emergency and Crisis Management services
 - ❖ Psychiatry, Nursing, and Medication Management
 - ❖ Outpatient Mental Health and Substance Abuse Counseling
 - ❖ School-based Counseling and Mentoring services for children and teens
 - ❖ Partnerships with our Health, DSS, Juvenile Justice, Jail, Sheriffs and Police departments, our local School Boards and our Veteran service organizations
 - ❖ Restorative and Rehabilitative Day Support and Residential care programs
 - ❖ Wellness Promotion, and Skill Development Training for community partners and staff
 - ❖ Forensic, PTSD, Spectrum Disorder, HIV, AIDS and Other Specialized Treatment Areas

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How Great is the Need in Our Community?

Overview:

- Almost half (46.5%) of all Americans develop some form of mental health, developmental or substance abuse condition in their lifetime*
 - * Prevalence of psychiatric illness in the general population: 21% for MH, 10.5% SA, and 15% DD/MR. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) estimate that
- At any given time as much as 20% of the community suffers from problems *
 - * These greatly impact on family and friends, and place heavy demands on local government and community supports, such as Health and Social Services (DSS) departments, local Hospitals and Clinics, local Schools, and the Police, Sheriff, Courts and Jail personnel budgets

Hitting Home:

- Our WTCSB service area includes more than 149,398 children and adults living and working in the cities of Franklin and Suffolk and the counties of Isle of Wight and Southampton.
- An estimated 4,912 adults over the age of 18 suffer from a serious mental illness and 1,907 youth, ages 9 to 17, experience serious emotional disturbances.
 - An estimated 1,108, age 6 and older, have an Intellectual or Developmental Disability.
 - An estimated 10,638 persons, just in the past year, age 12 and older, have experienced substance dependence or abuse involving illicit drugs or alcohol.
 - Almost 20,000 of our resident citizens are estimates as in need of services right now!

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2015: Community Need: 20,000 WTCSB Response: Over 7,000 Treated!
 Total Service Hours delivered across all localities 345,403



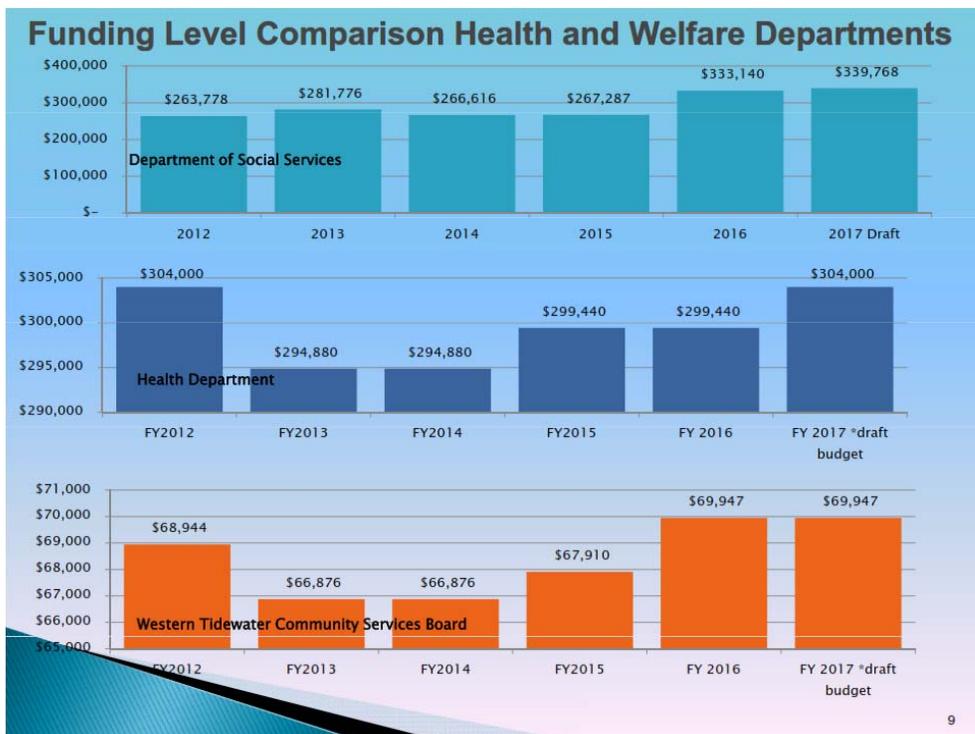



| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------|---------|-------|---------|
| Units of Service All localities | 4,372 | 174,307 | 7,313 | 159,411 |
| Southampton | 288 | 17,609 | 293 | 5,149 |
| Consumers Served | 989 | 3,954 | 1,167 | 983 |
| Southampton | 56 | 236 | 55 | 34 |

| Locality Totals | FY 2015 Consumers Served | FY 2015 Treatment Hours | FY 2016 Local Funding |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Suffolk | 4,753 | 202,650 | \$281,152 (51%) |
| Isle of Wight | 1,085 | 79,020 | \$165,000 (30%) |
| Franklin | 874 | 40,934 | \$35,198 (6%) |
| Southampton County | 381 | 22,799 | \$69,947 (13%) |
| Totals | 7,093 | 345,403 | \$551,297 |

Southampton County Service Demand Increase Examples

| | FYE-14 | FYE-15 | Increase |
|---|--------|--------|----------|
| Outpatient Services and Counseling Mental Health | 252 | 279 | 11% |
| Substance Abuse | 233 | 323 | 39% |
| Mental Health Day Support Services | 9,797 | 14,527 | 48% |
| Mental Health Residential Supports | 947 | 1,155 | 22% |
| Assessment and Evaluation | 188 | 251 | 34% |



Recommendation:

- ▶ Western Tidewater CSB is requesting an increase of 5% in funding contribution from Southampton County. The total amount requested for FY 2017 is \$73,444.
- ▶ This contribution will help preserve the minimum level of quality care and will assist in meeting the estimated increase in projected service demand.

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Mr. Demetrios Peratsakis states none of the less we understand and appreciate the fiscal constraints of the County. We are recommending and requesting an increase of 5% in funding for a total amount for FY 2017 of \$73,444. Any questions?

Chairman Jones states does anyone have any questions? Thank you very much.

Mr. Demetrios Peratsakis states it was my pleasure. Thank you again for your continued support.

Supervisor Edwards states I would like to say something. I deal with these people almost on a daily basis. Speaking from the medical community, it would be almost impossible for us to operate without you and we appreciate it. They are all that is available and we need them. I have never had them turn down seeing a patient. They are very necessary for our community. It would be almost impossible to deal without them. He is right; they are the only psychiatrist you can find in this area. I applaud them and I thank you for your help and we will try to give you all of the help we can.

Mr. Demetrios Peratsakis states my pleasure and we always enjoy your support. I thank you very much for that.

Chairman Jones called on Smart Beginnings.

Ms. Hattie Francis addressed the board. Good evening gentlemen. Chairman and board members thank you for having me. I am Hattie Francis, the Executive Director for Smart Beginnings Western Tidewater. You have a handout coming around and I am not going to read it line by line, but I am going to point out some of the things that I think are most important. I am not going to spend time giving you the statistics on how much it cost this board every time a child is not ready to learn when they enter the school system. We know how important early education is. So, I want to highlight what we have been able to do in the past year with the money you have been giving us for support. We were able to launch a new website for information distribution. That was launched December 22; right before Christmas. In that short time, we have had 458 repeat users that come to our website. I think that is a great number for a very short time. We have also given out print material. We have about 1,300 brochures that have been distributed throughout the fiscal year. That includes anything from how to prepare your child for Kindergarten, how to curve behavior issues, how to help with homework, etc. Then, we have also been able to add scholarships this year. These are all scholarships for Paul D. Camp Community College for Early Education. These scholarships go to your providers to make sure the individuals that are working with children are educated and know the best practices. We have two remaining for the summer and those will be given away probably in the next two weeks. We have also added a parent workshop. We have one in Courtland, we have had two in Franklin, and we hope to have one more in Courtland before the end of June. That will probably be at Southampton Head Start. We have had an increase number in

each workshop. We have gone from 10 to 12 to 25, and we are looking to attract about 50 parents at our next workshop. Last, this is my pride and joy. We had Kindergarten registration week this year. We normally have Kindergarten registration day. So, we worked with Franklin, Southampton, and Isle of Wight to try and obtain as many kindergarteners before August and September get here so the schools can better plan their classes and so forth. I think this year working with the Virginia Department of Health we are going to be better prepared to get as many people as we can. Immunizations will be ready to be given, ads have been ran in the paper, we have gotten great feedback, and with your support we have been able to do a lot of different things this year and I hope that continues into the next year. If you have any questions, I will be happy to answer.

Chairman Jones states does anyone have any questions? Thank you very much. Next, is Clerk of Court.

Honorable Richard "Rick" Francis addressed the board. Good evening Chairman and members of the board. I am Rick Francis your Circuit Court Clerk. I come here to recognize you all have a lot on your plate. A lot of it you cannot necessarily direct. I understand and acknowledge my Circuit Court Clerk is pushing the ball forward regarding the courthouse. That is something no one really has control over other than the judge. As far as my office in particular, I am not asking for any budget adjustments. I can do with what I have. I had suggested in my letter to you that you might wish to use this time before the judges suggestions and ultimately implemented is there anything that I can do to reduce the footprint of the Clerk's Office itself in any facility if a facility is going to cost \$300 a square foot. I would like to reduce any footprint that I can. Back scanning some of the old criminal and civil files might be one area to do that. I have about 100 files in storage, 50 in the office and 50 up the road behind the school board building. That may be a project if funds ever become available on that end. You have already been briefed on the salary study that Springsted presented. Again, recognizing that you all have many demands but I am here tonight advocating that you seriously consider that and hopefully adopt and implement the recommendations of their plan. I was surprised that we were substantially below the neighboring jurisdictions. A few years ago that was brought home to me when I lost an employee of 19 years. She had been there 19 years and I had not so she had predated my experience there in the office and left for greener fields that she could find even with that experience in our office. The Clerk's Office is a constitutional office. We really are not state employees. We miss the state's bonuses that the previous Governor gave and I submit that our employees are not some individuals I can really pull off of the street. I calculate that we have about 8 months of training and experience that needs to be done before an individual comes into my office can really do the job expected of them. I would hope implementing the Springsted salary study would help ensure me that I don't lose that investment that I have in personnel, and the county has in personnel in my office. I thank you and if there is anything I can do in my office to assist you in any of the regards you all have, I am happy to help.

Chairman Jones states alright, any questions? Thank you. Next, Commonwealth Attorney.

Honorable Eric Cooke addressed the board. Good evening Chairman and members of the board. Thank you very much for having me. I echo much of what Mr. Francis just said. I think we do recognize indeed that the size of the pie is limited. You have to figure out how to cut it. We understand and appreciate that very much. I also want to take this time to thank you for your service to this community. I don't come to a lot of the meetings for the very reason that I don't want to interject myself so much in the local politics of things. I just want to be able to prosecute and your assistance in that regards is vital. My staff has stayed steady this year which is something we really haven't seen for more than a twelve month period in a very long time. I am grateful for that. Our case load is constant. We too are feeling the effects of the heroin increase. The other big issue that we have that is current and will continue to be something we have to contend with is the use of body cameras and vehicle cameras that we are seeing. Statistics soon to show that for every 100 cameras in place you will need another prosecutor. We are at about half of that right now is my estimate between the Sheriff's Office and the State Police. The City of Franklin doesn't have very many yet, but I anticipate that is on the horizon. What we are finding is a case that previously may have taken fifteen minutes for one of my prosecutors to prepare it may take as much as four hours. It is a huge increase in the work load. When you have body cameras on for example you may have four officers at a scene of an incident; we have to watch all of them. It is like being there not just once but four times if you understand what I am saying. We are obligated to watch them and we are obligated to copy them and provide them in discovery. That is going to be on the horizon. It is here for us now. It does help us to a certain extent with prosecutions, but it also

makes things more difficult sometimes. Those are some of the issues that we are looking at in the future. With respect to my budget request, there are two issues. One is the pay study and I echo Mr. Francis sentiments in that regards. One of the things I have talked to you about at least the last five years is the issues we have had with retention; particularly for our Attorney I positions which are beginning attorneys. We compete with people all over the state typically for people who are just out of law school. Since I have been here for twelve years as your elected Commonwealth's Attorney, I have had eleven assistants. That kind of turnover is not productive in terms of training people, keeping them, and providing the kind of quality service that we need. The primary reason people have left is because of money. So, when I look at what Springsted has recommended particularly for those two positions I just want to say thank you, and I thank you for considering it. I hope you are able to implement it the way it is proposed. Obviously, that is one of the many things you have to contend with. What I very much want is the investment we have in these people, both time and money, to continue because they do a good job and I would like to be able to keep them. The other thing you may see in the budget request; there is a line item at the bottom for software approximately \$5,700 for next year. That is the software program that I have talked to you about for the last three years. I have procrastinated because I didn't want to make the change. It is a tremendous amount of money and a big expenditure. In the time where the other offices have switched over and have been evaluating these programs, we have certainly gained from that. The other thing that has been tremendous is the price on this software program for our office has gone down \$12,000. That is a big deal for us, but we are going to have to make the change. What I have offered, as we have talked with Mr. Johnson and Mrs. Lowe about it, is to expend a significant portion of my asset forfeiture money towards this, but I am asking for assistance as it is spelled out. We have about \$11,000 worth of federal asset forfeiture money which came from Abbott labs forfeiture. Frankly, I didn't have anything to do with it but the Commonwealth Attorney's group was the beneficiary of a significant portion of that money and they portioned it out amongst the constitutional officers by number of employees. So, I have almost \$11,000 and that money has to be spent this summer. I think now is the time for me to get on with it. I am also offering almost \$10,000 out of my state asset forfeiture. Just so you know, that is several years' worth of typical asset forfeiture for us. We might get a couple hundred dollars a month and that really is not the norm. I am willing to put in that much but I am asking for the county's help with the rest of it. Within three years of that kind of expenditure, we will own that program. There will be some ongoing cost for the maintenance and so forth, but I am asking for your help with that. With that, I will be happy to take any questions if you have them.

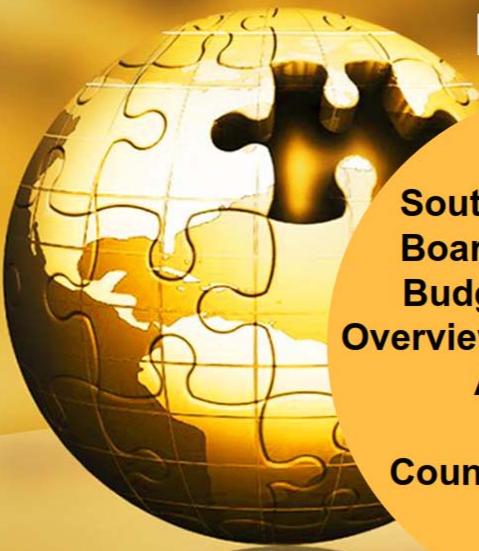
Chairman Jones states does any board member have anything?

Supervisor West states just a curious question, and you used the word heroin. I read everywhere that is becoming much more of an issue. In Southampton County, are you really feeling it, seeing it, or is it a spinoff from Franklin?

Honorable Eric Cooke states I guess the answer to your question is yes. We are seeing a fair amount of heroin and the ramifications of people who are heroin addicts. But, to be fair we have had heroin in the county as long as I have been here and certainly beyond that. I have been here almost twenty years and I have been prosecuting heroin cases that long. We do see a significant increase and the other thing that we are seeing is a lot of people are addicted to opiate pills. We are seeing a lot of that too. Also, in the last couple of years we have had some methamphetamines which we didn't use to have. That has made its way here which we feared it would and there are a fair number of people who know how to manufacture it now. That is a fair portion of the crimes that we prosecute are in some way or another related to drug or alcohol abuse. I don't see that changing.

Chairman Jones states alright, thank you very much. Next, is School Board.

Dr. Alvera Parrish gave a presentation for Southampton County Public Schools.



Southampton County Public Schools

**Southampton County
Board of Supervisors
Budget Work Session
Overview of Budget Request
April 13, 2016
6:30 p.m.
County Administration
Building**

| Summary of Local Funding as Presented in the County's Initial Draft Budget | |
|---|------------------|
| Additional Local Funding | \$427,397 |
| When we deduct the carryover from the school system's current FY2016 Budget to cover the 1 st payment on the energy contract | 184,941 |
| Total New Local Dollars for FY2017 | \$242,456 |
| Estimated Real Estate tax increase for this amount based on \$153,937 per penny | 1.575 cents |
| Debt service savings (largely due to the refinance of Riverdale) | \$124,544 |
| When we deduct the cost to finance 5 new school buses | 67,000 |
| Remaining balance to be used for the operating budget | \$57,544 |
| Total funds available for the operating budget | \$300,000 |




Budget Liaison Committee



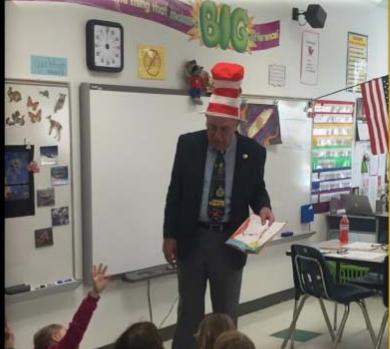





**Southampton School Board
Budget Committee**



The mission of Southampton County Public Schools through the combined efforts of the staff, students, families and the community is to ensure a quality education in a safe environment that will prepare students to be successful learners and productive citizens in an ever-changing society.





**We're Opening Doors to Excellence
For All Our Students!**



Student Achievement is Our Priority!



Fully Accredited



Student Achievement is Our Priority!



Fully Accredited



Student Achievement is Our Priority!



Fully Accredited



Student Achievement is Our Priority!



Partially Accredited



Student Achievement is Our Priority!



Fully Accredited



Student Achievement is Our Priority!



Fully Accredited



Southampton High School

| | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 |
|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| VA Grad & Completion | 81.85% | 86.84% | 91.14% |
| On-time Grad Rate | 80.72% | 85.51% | 89.05% |
| Graduates | 180 | 183 | 177 |
| Drop Out Rate | 12.56% 35 students | 8.41% 18 students | 5.65% 10 students |

Southampton High School

| | 2014-15 |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Norfolk Governor's School | 3 |
| Associates Degrees | 4 |
| Honor Graduates | 77 |



Southampton High School

- 77 students received Advanced Studies Diplomas - 41.24%



Southampton High School

| | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 4 Year College | 41.66% 75 students | 39.34% 72 students | 37.29% 66 students |
| 2 year College | 32.77% 59 students | 34.97% 64 students | 40.11% 71 students |
| Technical Ed/Other | 3.88% 7 students | 4.37% 8 students | 7.9% 14 students |
| TOTAL College/Ed | 78.33% 141 students | 78.68% 144 students | 85.31% 151 students |
| Military | 8.88% 16 students | 8.19% 15 students | 5.65% 10 students |
| Work | 15.55% 28 students | 13.66% 25 students | 9.04% 16 students |



Budget Priorities

- Replace personnel to address student achievement
 - Address equity in salary of teachers as compared to surrounding areas
 - Address equity in the salaries of classified staff compared to surrounding areas
 - Replace instructional programs that were previously cut to balance the budget (Math and Reading -IXL, elementary and secondary Library program)
 - Provide the needed technology resources to enhance student learning & required State Testing (laptop carts, iPad carts)
- Address site improvements and building facility needs



Budget Requests

Revised teacher scale:

Adjust the teacher salary scale to include a step increase starting at step 10 and continuing at steps 15, 20 and 25.

Extend the scale from 21 years to 30 years.

Estimated cost: \$273,144.00



Budget Requests

Provide a \$500 salary increase for all Classified Staff. (bus drivers, custodians, cafeteria workers, secretaries, etc....)

**Estimated Cost:
\$142,276.00**

Provide a salary increase for all Classroom Teacher Assistants.

• Increase the beginning salary to \$12,000.00. (Currently at \$10,700)

Estimated Cost: \$75,069.00



Budget Requests

Average classroom size

Course offerings

New Personnel Positions:

- 1 Elementary teacher
 - 1 Elementary PE teacher
 - 1 Elementary music teacher
 - 1 Business Education teacher
 - 1 History teacher
 - 2 Special Education teachers
 - 1 Middle School Reading teacher
 - 1 Middle School Science teacher
- (9 Teachers)**



Total: \$470,844

Budget Requests

- 1 Elementary Math Specialist
- 1 Elementary Guidance Counselor
- 1 Elementary Librarian
- 1 Middle School Reading Specialist



Total: \$209,264

Budget Requests

- Elementary Special Education paraprofessional
- 2 Custodians

Total: \$49,603

New Personnel Total:

\$729,711



Budget Requests

Technology

Laptop Lease - \$82,500 (Provides 200 laptops for student use)

iPad carts

Smart Boards

Presentation cameras

IT Tech - \$40,000



Budget Requests - Operations

| | |
|--|---------------------------|
| Security Cameras (Riverdale) | \$12,500 (Security Grant) |
| Replace fixtures, sinks, urinals, and commodes (SMS and CES) | \$44,000 |
| Playground Mulch (MES, CES and CTE) | \$20,180 |
| Building Trades Department exhaust System (SHS) | \$15,000 |
| Alarm System (SHS) | \$12,500 (Security Grant) |
| Covered walkway from building to the mobile unit (CES) | \$21,000 |
| Replace gym doors (SMS) | \$4,000 |
| Refinish gym floor (SMS) | \$11,000 |
| Replace carpet in school buildings as needed | \$9,900 |
| Total | \$150,080 |

Budget Requests

5 New School Buses

\$67,000



Budget Request FY2017

| CATEGORY | FY2016 BUDGET | FY2017 RECOMMENDED | DIFFERENCE | % |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Instruction | \$13,251,460 | \$14,461,344 | \$1,209,884 | 9.13% |
| General Support | 7,506,934 | 7,879,632 | 372,698 | 4.96% |
| Transportation | 2,103,120 | 2,136,793 | 33,673 | 1.60% |
| Food Service Health Benefits | 73,363 | 73,363 | 0 | |
| Operations / Maintenance | 2,774,626 | 2,198,373 | (576,253) | -20.77% |
| Facilities | 158,709 | 308,789 | 150,080 | 94.56% |
| Debt Service | 2,302,280 | 2,990,724 | 688,444 | 29.90% |
| Grand Total | \$28,170,492 | \$30,049,018 | \$1,878,526 | 6.67% |

Operating Budget Expenditure Request FY2017

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| FY2016 APPROVED BUDGET | \$28,170,492 |
| FY2017 RECOMMENDED BUDGET | \$30,049,018 |
| RECOMMENDED INCREASE | \$1,878,526 |
| PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN EXPENDITURES | 6.67% |



Summary of Proposed Operating Budget

| REVENUE | |
|---|--------------|
| STATE FUNDS | \$17,563,428 |
| NON-RESIDENT TUITION | 60,000 |
| FEDERAL TO SCHOOL OPERATING (ADULT EDUCATION) | 44,300 |
| PROJECTED LOCAL REQUEST | 12,381,290 |
| TOTAL REVENUE | \$30,049,018 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE REQUEST | \$30,049,018 |
| CURRENT LOCAL FUNDS | \$11,459,346 |
| REQUESTED INCREASE IN LOCAL FUNDS | \$ 921,944 |
| PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN LOCAL FUNDS | 8.05% |

Discussion on Capital Improvements (Planning Commission) Roof Replacements

Source: TREMCO
Preliminary Roof Surveys - August 2015

- Career and Technical Education Center
- Southampton Middle School
- Southampton High School



Questions?



Supervisor West states I am appreciative of your presentation and thank you. I was surprised how you used \$156,000 a year in savings at Riverdale when in fact that is local funding and it does come from the taxpayers in this room. It will be given back to the school system but you were able to pull it back and say it is \$300,000 instead of \$456,000. It is all in the way you look at using money. With that being said, we are limited and I know that your teachers need raises and I feel like I want to be on board with that but we have limited amounts available. We have a farming community that is going to struggle this year, and that is much of the tax base in this county. Thank you for the presentation and at the end of the day we will work it out.

Chairman Jones states does anyone else have anything to say.

Supervisor Cook states it seems like you mentioned, but how long has it been since teachers' salaries have been adjusted; how many years?

Dr. Alvera Parrish states I know it hasn't been within four years because I have been here for four years.

Supervisor Cook states I think it has been considerably longer than that.

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Dr. Alvera Parrish states it has been a long time since there has been a salary adjustment. Even when there has been a raise, because of the budget issues, we had to either give the raise beginning in December rather than July or we had to give a portion of the raise.

Supervisor Cook states I think it is important to retain; we have good teachers. We need to retain those teachers and not have them go to neighboring counties.

Supervisor Edwards states the salary problem I believe has been going on for a long time. It is not just in the last three or four years. It seems like we are having trouble maintaining teachers between the years 10-17. That is when they look around and they can make \$6,000 more in Isle of Wight and they pack up and leave after they have been trained and they are good teachers. I believe as a board we have to keep the quality of education as high as we can and give them everything we can. We need to have these students graduating and being able to compete in college and also compete in jobs or whatever they do. We can't have substandard graduates. That is our primary responsibility as a governing board. I also noticed over the last three or four years I think the school system realize the situation we are in and as far as I can tell has cut everything to the bone. I think they have made every sacrifice that they could. I am in favor with our budget, giving them as much as we can afford. That is our primary duty. I have been over there. All of that equipment is in sorry condition. They need new electronic equipment to keep up with today's standards. I know this is something that we can't correct in one year, but I feel we need to start somewhere.

Dr. Alvera Parrish states thank you Dr. Edwards.

Chairman Jones states Dr. Parrish I would like to thank you for all that you have done and I also thank the School Board for what they do. You are the first people that get cut; the state cut you then we cut you. I remember when my parents used to tell me you have three rooms down a path. We have that in Capron. We have trailers outside and if the kids have to go to the bathroom, they have to do like we did 70 years ago when we had an outhouse with no cover anywhere. They don't have anything covering them to not get wet or cold. It makes us look bad when you have kids out in the cold and in the rain. I just wanted to mention that. It is just my thoughts. We need to do everything we can to make sure the school board has everything they need.

Dr. Alvera Parrish states thank you Mr. Jones.

Supervisor Edwards states looking at the future we want to attract industry. We need jobs and we need that income. That is the first thing they look at when they come here. They look at the school system. What can I get out of the school system? Are these people coming out ready to work for me? Are they educated? We need to think about that.

Supervisor West states it is a double edge sword in preparing and having an area ready for industry. When we have it so available and close to us; next door to you, and I thank you for your support. I am going to tell you right now I am going to have to be onboard for that new industry next to your house by Riverdale. I think it is important and the taxpayer is not the only source. We have to have industry and it can start there. We need your support. We need you vocally and we don't need you tearing us down. It is a tough decision for us to make. With new industry, people can come in here and bring new businesses; that will help you tremendously. That will be money out there available for you.

Dr. Alvera Parrish states you have our support.

Supervisor West states you will see it coming in and you will see it going out; you will like it.

Supervisor Porter states first of all I would like to say thank you for the four years you have given us. You have worked hard and we appreciate that. You have worked with this board and we appreciate that. I want to thank you for the personal relationship that we have had in working together. It hurts me that we don't have enough money to give you everything you really need. It really hurts me. You know I am going to work to give you everything that I can. I can't sit up here and make false promises to you, and I won't. I will do what I can for you and for the school system. I want to echo and thank you for your support of the development next to Riverdale Elementary School. I think you have done the right thing by meeting with the developer and discussing what the alternatives are and what they are trying to do. Expressing your concerns and getting an appropriate response from the developer. I think that is the type of thing we are going to

have to do going forward in the future to provide the funds we need to provide the type of services that all members of the community deserve. You are at the top of my list and you know that. Am I going to promise you everything you asked for? I can't do that and you know I can't, because you know I am going to give it as straight as I can. Thank you again for your service and we are going to miss you next year.

Dr. Alvera Parrish states I am going to miss you too.

Supervisor Faison states I would like to say thank you to Dr. Parrish, all of the people in the school system, and all of the people that are here tonight. We are a county with limited resources but I certainly appreciate what all of you do in trying to do the best job possible with the limited resources. I appreciate your recognition of the situation we are in, but I want to echo what has been said about the support we have for the school system. I think we all recognize the importance of a very good school system in this county. All of us are certainly determined to do the best we can. We not only heard the school system's request, we heard the request of everybody. We know that we have to be a county that works together and recognize everybody. But, certainly the school system has to be a priority, because it is so important to this county and all of the citizens in this county; and thanks again.

Dr. Alvera Parrish states thanks Mr. Faison.

Supervisor Phillips states Dr. Parrish I just wanted to say how much I have enjoyed working with you. We have gotten along really well. Since I have been on the board, there has been a dramatic change on how the School Board and the Board of Supervisors interacts. At least I believe there has been a whole lot of progress. I see where we are going and thank you for what you have done. We have numbers that we have to work with and I am concerned just like with the children at Capron Elementary School. My grandson is there and he is in one of those classrooms. It will get very serious consideration; thank you.

Dr. Alvera Parrish states thank you Mr. Phillips.

Chairman Jones states thank you Dr. Parrish.

Dr. Alvera Parrish states again I just want to echo my thanks again personally and professionally to this board. I want to wish you the best going forward. Even though I won't be here you will still be in my prayers and in my heart. I love the people here in Southampton County and I have come to develop some wonderful relationships with each of you. I am very appreciative to have had this opportunity to work here with the people here. I know you have an awesome job in front of you, but we have worked hard to develop that collaboration. Together each accomplishes more so thank you so much for everything you have done for me as well; thank you.

Chairman Jones states Western Tidewater Free Clinic.

Mr. Robert Fry addressed the board. Good evening; you all have a challenge in front of you and I am here to tell you that we need you too. I am Bob Fry, the Vice-Chairman of the Western Tidewater Free Clinic. You have a sheet of paper there that shows how our patient base has grown over the years. Two years ago we lost our chief physician. Last year when I was here I told you we had just picked up a new chief physician. So, we picked up a little bit at the end of last year and this year we are going strong. We are expected to be closer to 2013 values that you see there. We had 144 patients from Southampton County last year that came to the clinic, and they came almost 2,000 times. Those same patients represented 61 different dental visits so it is not just checking your heart or diabetes. It is also checking your dental care, eye care, and in some cases psychiatric care. They received medications as well. You can see the information about how many medications we have handed out; over \$24 million since 2007. Last year alone, just to the Southampton County residents that came to see us, totaled \$602,000 worth of medications. I think that was pretty impressive. We don't serve everybody. We serve people between the ages of 18 and 65 that don't have insurance; so, they don't have Medicaid or Medicare. They don't have any other type of insurance and many of them do work, but their incomes are less than 200% of the poverty level. For a family of four, you can see that equates to about \$48,000. I would challenge anybody here to try and run a budget on \$48,000 for a family of four. It is very difficult, so we are serving a keen purpose here. It is a privilege to be able to take 144 of the neighbors that are here in Southampton County and be able to help them get the health care that they need. That can't be

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done without help from you. Each year you have faithfully remembered us in your budget process and we thank you for that. The last four years alone you have given \$9,000 each year. Mr. Johnson has our request for this upcoming year. It is more than \$9,000 but we very much appreciate all of the help that you have given us. The other thing I would like to share with you is we have grown to the point that we need to think about how we can serve the outlined areas such as Isle of Wight County, Windsor, Southampton, and Franklin a little better than what we have in the past. We are going to be taking a look at that in the coming years. How do we meet those people? For the people of Southampton County, the struggle is not just getting on the list so you can come see us. It is also getting a ride to the clinic. If we can make that easier for them, then we would be able to serve more. We are going to take a look at do we need to provide transportation, or do we need to take a look at opening up a satellite office where people can find it easier to get to. Our goal between now and 2020 is to double our patient base. If we are successful with doing that, then about half of the people that we could serve in this area will be served. I don't know if we would ever get to 100% but right now we are around 20-25% and we need to double that so we can put a bigger dent in the people that truly needs us in this area. Are there any questions that I can answer for you?

Chairman Jones states does anyone have any questions?

Supervisor Faison states you said you serve people 18 – 65 years old; no children?

Mr. Robert Fry states no children. Children are usually covered through the Medicaid process. The patients we serve are not getting any state help.

Supervisor Porter states so is it true that your average patient comes 25 times a year.

Mr. Robert Fry states well we had 1946 visits...

Supervisor Porter states I was looking at 4,000 patients and 100,000 visits.

Mr. Robert Fry states a visit could be to come and pick up a prescription. It could be to get a heart check or to get a dental exam. So, yes, a little over once a month we see a patient. Our patients are chronically ill. They are not like you and I where if we have some type of problem we go see a doctor on a regular basis and take care of that. Our patients are chronically ill and they have not had care in a long time and the care that they need is persistent.

Chairman Jones states any other questions?

Supervisor Phillips states just thank you for what you do.

Mr. Robert Fry states thank you for your time and support.

Chairman Jones states Fire and Rescue.

Mr. Carl Garner addressed the board. Good evening, my name is Carl Garner and I am the President of the Fire and Rescue Association here in the county. Real quick, some of the highlights that Fire and Rescue are requesting this year and some of the challenges that we face. We have requested which is our number one priority is an increase in our contractual EMS services. As you recall last year, we were denied a request for additional ALS which is Advanced Life Support coverage on Friday nights from the 18:00 hour to 06:00 hour which is a 12 hour shift from 6:00 Friday night to 6:00 Saturday morning. The need has not gone away. In fact, the need for additional Advanced Life Support coverage for all three squads is greater than ever. We have been asking for and emphasizing the need for a number of years and have done everything in our power to ensure EMS coverage to the county is being provided. The strain on EMS providers is starting to take its toll and we need your help. With that said, we are pledging for additional funding to add one additional ALS provider to all three squads Monday night through Friday night to give the citizens of the county 24/7 Advance Life Support coverage they deserve. The cost of these additional Advanced Life Support providers for all three squads is a little over \$360,000. We also are seeking an increase in our capital improvement of \$65,000 a year to go towards Fire and Rescue. This would be an increase for the fire departments from \$12,000 a year to \$18,000 a year rescue from \$7,000 a year to \$12,000 a year. If we use average cost of \$400,000 for a fire engine and finance it for 15 years, and that is basically all that they will finance an engine. Your payments

will be approximately \$37,500 a year. The \$18,000 that we are asking for in capital improvements will take care of half of that payment. The rest of the payment would have to come through BBQs, fundraisers, donations from citizens, etc. to get the equipment we need. The average cost of an EMS ambulance is \$150,000. You can only finance it for 7 years and you are talking about a payment approximately \$23,000 a year. You can expect the life of a fire engine about 20 years and an ambulance about 8-10 years depending on the miles you put on it. They are the major increases that we have asked for. As you realize the EMS system across the states and in this county is becoming more and more less volunteer friendly. It takes approximately 1,000 hours which is a two-year college degree to become certified as a paramedic and provide advanced life support services in the state. A volunteer that works a full-time job does not have the time to gain this training and also provide for his family. The volunteer ALS providers that we do have in the county either work for a municipality, hospital, or transport service. After working their 12 or 24 hour shift at their jobs they have no desire or time to provide the needed EMS services that the state requires. Therefore, adding additional paid ALS providers in the county is the utmost importance. We will still depend on our volunteers to fill in and do administrative duties as well as helping to answer calls. I requested for the Fire and Rescue equivalent to approximately 2.8 cents of the real estate tax rate. With the increase of existing contract services for EMS of approximately \$191,000 which was definitely out of our control, the total request for Fire and Rescue equates to about 4 cents increase in the real estate tax rate. We understand that an increase of 4 cents for EMS in the tax rate is undesired, but we still would like to stress the growing need for this additional service in the future. The proposed budget as it lays on the table now only includes approximately \$273,000 or 1.7 cent increase in the real estate tax rate for Fire and EMS. This amount is not what we need but we will do our best to continue providing the services to the citizens of this county. Just to let you know, we are behind times. Every municipality and county in Western Tidewater has 24/7 coverage for EMS. Brunswick County, Surry County, Sussex County, and Dinwiddie County has paid 24/7 EMS services. We are the only ones in the area that don't and our citizens deserve that same coverage also. We will continue to do our best with what you are able to give us. We understand the challenges that you face and we will be here for you with the volunteer group that we have; thank you.

Chairman Jones states thank you very much Mr. Garner. Are there any questions for Mr. Garner? Alright, Sheriff's Department.

Sheriff John "Jack" Stutts addressed the board. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen good evening. I appreciate the opportunity and if you have questions please stop me as I go along. I will be brief as usual. You have an abbreviated version of what I am going by here. Starting with Law Enforcement, Meherrin Drug Task Force; what was \$500 last year I am asking for \$1500 this year. This number was agreed on by the Task Force Command members. It is to cover our operating expenses to allow purchases of office supplies and equipment by the task force itself rather than individual agencies. It allows for a more even annual expenditure by each agency as opposed to one agency paying more of the cost than another if that makes sense. Do you have any questions? Repair and Maintenance; I have asked for an increase of \$4,000. In talking with Mr. Johnson, it was suggested this is where I could put it. I want to build a pole shed for the two boats and a tractor. We have canvas covers on them now and they are not holding up. We are going to build the sheds ourselves. I have talked to Mr. Johnson about where and my plan is to put it near the dog pound by the school board office on county property. Enhanced 9-1-1 equipment for daily communications; provides an estimate of \$14,000 for three new radios and computers. These are the consoles in the dispatch center. The existing computers are outdated and they are no longer repairable. They can't fix them. I have inquired about replacing the computers one year every three years and I was told all three are tied to a single computer interface and you can't do it that way. I don't entirely understand that but that is what I am being told and I accept it. Under detention is purchase of services from other institutions. I am asking for a \$2,000 increase. Female inmates cannot easily be housed in our facilities. In fact, only a month ago I found out they can't be housed at all. My entire career we have never held a female and that stopped several years before I came on. Recently we had a female with both physical and medical issues/ mental problems. It took about 24 hours to find a jail that would accept her. A female deputy was called to sit with the inmate at the courthouse holding cells until Virginia Beach City Jail agreed to house her. Since that time, the same female was placed at the work release facility but I am keeping females on duty around the clock; I have to do it. Tuesday was five days and we are still doing that waiting for a bed somewhere else. I have talked to Western Tidewater Regional Jail about an annual contract. They drew one up and if I did that I would be asking you for \$68,000 tonight instead of \$2,000. The last line in the contract was, if at any time we decide we don't want to

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house that inmate we can call you and you would have to come get her. So, it was really pointless. At this point I am sort of keeping my fingers crossed but I want to have this money available to pay for some facility to keep these females. We have had as few as five but as many as eleven in the past year that we had to house somewhere. Under ammunition and weapons I am asking for \$1,000 increase there. That is to pay for additional ammunition for weapon transition from revolvers to semi-automatic pistols for the jail division. This would allow for one type of issue handgun for the entire agency. We currently issue revolvers to the jail staff and pistols to law enforcement. Of the 47 member agency at Crater Criminal Justice Academy, Southampton is the only agency still carrying a revolver. This creates problems at firing ranges because the firing line is always composed of multiple agencies and we are slowing things down. It makes sense to have one issue weapon for the entire staff. I have other funds to purchase the weapons. I have to replace leather but I do need this regular line item to increase by \$1,000 to cover the transition for training. I have two more items that total \$4,500. That is office supplies and housekeeping/janitorial supplies. It is based on what the actual annual cost has been over the last three years. Are there any questions at all?

Chairman Jones states does anyone have any questions?

Sheriff John "Jack" Stutts states I will say this; it is \$10,000 less than what I asked you for last year if my math is right.

Supervisor Porter states I have one question and maybe I am missing something, but I am looking at the draft plan. It looks like Mr. Johnson, under the first item, credited you with \$2,000 instead of \$1,500.

Sheriff John "Jack" Stutts states thank you Mr. Johnson. We will spend it wisely.

Mr. Michael Johnson states under Task Force?

Supervisor Porter states yes.

Mr. Michael Johnson states I will look at that.

Supervisor West states as I quickly scan is it \$27,500 or something in that neighborhood as increased needs, and I am sure these are atom needs, no question; thank you. I am impressed and I feel secure in this county and I like your warning services. I think everything is good. The other night when I received a call about a storm and weather it is a little bit like, okay it is a storm but if there is a warning about a bad criminal on Tucker Swamp Road I would have wanted to hear it, so thank you.

Sheriff John "Jack" Stutts states thank you very much for saying so.

Chairman Jones states on behalf of the board we would like to thank you for all that you do. Without you we couldn't be safe.

Sheriff John "Jack" Stutts states thank you. I have a good bunch.

Chairman Jones states thank you and we will see what we can do with your request. We will put it in the pot with the rest of them.

Sheriff John "Jack" Stutts states thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Jones states Mr. Johnson do we have anything else?

Mr. Michael Johnson states no sir, unless you have any questions about anything.

Chairman Jones states does any board member have anything?

Supervisor West states I have one more question. Do we need to meet next week? We are moving forward and the public can come right?

Chairman Jones states the public can always come.

Supervisor West states will it be open for public discussion? Here is my point; I see the needs more than ever. I don't want to add 5 cents to the tax base, but I think the proposal that Mr. Johnson has put out here is worthy of consideration tonight. I think everyone is being reasonable and everyone would like to have more; there are no ifs, ands, or buts about it, but there is a limit. Again, I go back to agriculture which I feel is such a vital part of our economy and our future. Tonight, I am willing to take a stand and say let's advertise this budget as proposed.

Supervisor Phillips states say what?

Chairman Jones states how do the rest of you all feel about this?

Supervisor West states I am willing tonight to move forward and advertise it as it has been proposed.

Supervisor Edwards states I seconded that.

Supervisor Porter states but wait...

Supervisor Phillips states but we are not scheduled to...

Supervisor West states yes, but I want to give direction to Mr. Johnson and whatever we need to do. I am trying to let you know how I feel, okay.

Chairman Jones states hold your motion.

Supervisor Porter states when you say you are ready to go with the 5 cents, there is no reconsideration of the things that people have said tonight. I still want to understand a little bit more about everything that is in it and see what we can do. We have time. The public hearing is not scheduled until May 27th.

Chairman Jones states yes, we still have plenty of time.

Supervisor Porter states we owe it to look at it and think about what we heard tonight. We have a meeting scheduled next week and on the 27th.

Mr. Michael Johnson states by the end of the night on May 27th you will have finalized your version of the draft to advertise for public comment.

Supervisor West states I agree with you and I have had time to sit down and look at this thing closely. I can strike \$500 here but for what reason. But, it is \$150,000 plus for one penny. I can't find \$150,000 or take it out of the Sheriff's budget okay. I can't do it.

Supervisor Porter states no; I have looked at it in numbers, but I want to talk some more to Mr. Johnson and Mrs. Lowe about what is in it to make sure what is in it is in the right place. I don't want to react too quickly and do something that after I looked at it for two weeks come back and see something I would like to change and we have already sent it out for publication. I am not saying we are going to increase the tax rate more than 5 cents or by whatever it is but I am saying I want to be comfortable that the money in the budget is in the right places.

Supervisor West states I don't understand that exactly because I know that if it is one million dollars allocated to the schools we can't allocate; is that correct?

Mr. Michael Johnson states the state revenue, correct.

Supervisor West states caution is good okay.

Chairman Jones states well board?

Supervisor West states no motion, no nothing.

Supervisor Edwards states I have looked through this but I would like to see if there is anything. I have looked it over at least ten times. Like you said \$50 here, \$500 there doesn't amount to a tenth

of a penny. But, it doesn't hurt to keep looking.

Supervisor West states our neighbors are going up and one thing that was said in the Tidewater News that I want to reiterate is Southampton County tax rate is not the highest tax rate anywhere around; period. Isle of Wight's proposal is three cents higher. It is my understanding that the City of Franklin is 95 cents. It is my understanding the City of Suffolk is...

Supervisor Porter states the City of Franklin is 99 cents and Isle of Wight is 85 cents going to 88 cents.

Supervisor West states and we are talking a proposal to 82 cents. The City of Suffolk is \$1.05 or more and the other cities down there don't even count as far as we are concern; \$1.10, \$1.15, \$1.20.

Supervisor Edwards states the thing they are leaving out is the assessments.

Supervisor West states and you have been five years without a reassessment so you have been on the same tax assessment...

Supervisor Edwards states they may have a tax rate of 70 cents but their assessments may be that much higher than ours. This is looking at half the picture.

Supervisor West states but I have spoken with people in the county that even today it is hard. It is not getting easier to pay the rate. I want business to be able to thrive, but I also want a homeowner to be able to live in it. It is costly either way. No one likes the quote "solid waste fee" but that is not on the consideration list for another year and a half until the SPSA decision comes down. The sewage treatment, perhaps there would be some significant savings there. That is not going to happen the first of the year or July 1; anything like that. That is another year plus. New businesses, I am telling you right now we have a critical meeting here tomorrow night with the Planning Commission. We also have more critical meetings coming up with this board as far as the property on Camp Parkway next to Riverdale Elementary School. We have major decisions to make. Everybody is not going to get what everybody wants. It is not an enviable position to be in at this point in time. Help us, pray for us, and move forward.

Supervisor Faison states I would like to say that the budget that has been presented has certainly been thoroughly done and I have had a chance to look at it, but I don't think we have to rush. I would like to consider it further.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor Cook.

Supervisor Cook states I am okay with looking at it another week.

Chairman Jones called on Supervisor Phillips.

Supervisor Phillips states I will amend Mr. West's comment. The Planning Commission meeting has been moved to the high school. I would say I am a farmer and I am still using tractors that are over 30 years old, and I am trying to make the best of it to stay in business. The bottom line in farming this year is not if you are going to make a profit but if you are going to even pay expenses. You can look at that two different ways. The way I see it is we have to have some development to help carry the load. Otherwise, the landowner will not be able to afford the taxes to hold the land. Everyone wants to keep Southampton County the same but everything is going to change. In order to maintain the same level of services that we have it is going to cost more; it is costing more just like with Fire and Rescue. I am in a very difficult position, but I think we need to continue to study it. That way we can address it better to explain our position. I am learning more about this budget and the needs that are there, and I think we need to continue to study it. I think we are headed in the right direction.

Chairman Jones states alright gentlemen; we will meet next week at the same time and the same place.

Supervisor Edwards states well let's all be prepared next week to turn these new ideas in. I would like to hear these new ideas on where we are going to cut, slash, or whatever.

Supervisor Porter states first of all there are no new ideas about cutting. It is just looking at trying to understand... and maybe we can't find anything but let's not cut the process too short until we have looked at everything. Maybe there is something hiding somewhere under a bush that we can find. I don't know.

Supervisor Edwards states but on the other hand let's look at reality. We are not going to see any miracles here.

Supervisor Porter states no but I have been saying it for three years that if we don't get businesses in here just to support these basic services that we are not even supporting right now, the taxes are going to double. People need to understand that. People say I want the county to remain agricultural and I want this, this, and this. Well guess what; the only way for this county to remain a farming county is to share it with someone who can share in the big burden of the tax load. That means bringing industry in here whether we like it or not. If we oppose industry, farming is going to die. It is dying now. It is going to die. That is all that I can say.

Chairman Jones states okay, well we will come back next week and see how far we have come. This meeting is adjourned.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Dallas O. Jones, Chairman

Michael W. Johnson, Clerk

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