

14. MISCELLANEOUS**A. GENERAL ENGINEERING PROPOSALS**

The committee reviewing general engineering proposals has met twice and developed a short-list for interviews. We received 12 proposals and the committee has scheduled interviews with 2 of them on September 4 and 3 others on September 6. They hope to have a recommendation for you at your September meeting.

B. LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR PEANUT DOCUMENTARY

Attached for your reference, please find a copy of the letter you directed me to write last month in support of the grant application for a peanut documentary.

C. STREAMLINED AGRICULTURAL DISASTER DESIGNATION

Attached for your reference please find a copy of a recent news release from USDA regarding a streamlined disaster designation process. They will no longer require resolutions of request from the local governing bodies or the respective Governor's offices – this is expected to result in a 40% reduction in processing time for agricultural disaster designations.

D. NOTICES

Attached for your reference please find copies of various notices.

E. INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

Please find various items of incoming correspondence attached.

F. OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE

Please find various items of outgoing correspondence attached.

G. ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please find copies of various newspaper articles attached for your reference.

SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY



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August 3, 2012

Mr. David Bearinger, Director for Grants and Public Programs
Virginia Foundation for the Humanities
145 Ednam Drive
Charlottesville, VA 22903

Dear Mr. Bearinger:

On behalf of the Southampton County Board of Supervisors, I am delighted to offer this enthusiastic letter of support for the attached grant application.

At its regular meeting on July 23, 2012, the Board received a briefing from the Western Tidewater Humanities Regional Council regarding its interest in producing an hour-long documentary on Virginia peanuts. Production and processing of peanuts is a 160-year old tradition in southeastern Virginia that has left an indelible mark on the region's landscape, history and culture. Literally and figuratively, the peanut has deep roots in the flat gray fields and quaint towns of Southampton County. Generations of families have staked their lives and fortunes around them, and the peanut remains the most widely recognized symbol of our rural heritage.

I hope that you will give this application favorable consideration and allow the Western Tidewater Humanities Regional Council to share this amazing story of Virginia peanuts with future generations.

With kind regards, I remain

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael W. Johnson".

Michael W. Johnson
County Administrator