

At a regular meeting of the Southampton County Board of Supervisors held in the Board Room of the Southampton County Office Center at 26022 Administration Center Drive, Courtland, Virginia on May 27, 2003 at 6:00 PM.

SUPERVISORS PRESENT

Reggie W. Gilliam, Chairman
Eppa J. Gray, Jr., Vice-Chairman
Carl J. Faison
Dallas O. Jones
Charleton W. Sykes
Ronald W. West
Walter L. Young, Jr.

SUPERVISORS ABSENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Michael W. Johnson, County Administrator (Clerk)
J. Waverly Coggsdale, III, Assistant County Administrator
Richard E. Railey, Jr., County Attorney
Julia G. Williams, Finance Director
Cynthia L. Cave, Community/Economic Development Director
Susan H. Wright, County Administration Executive Secretary

Chairman Gilliam called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. After the *Pledge of Allegiance*, Supervisor Young gave the invocation. (*Note*: Supervisor West was not yet present.)

Chairman Gilliam sought approval of the minutes of the April 16, 2003 budget workshop meeting and April 28, 2003 regular meeting. Both were approved as recorded, as there were no additions or corrections.

Regarding highway matters, Chairman Gilliam recognized Mr. Randolph Cook, Resident Engineer of the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT).

Mr. Cook advised that they were mowing in various places in the County, although it may not look like it, given all the rain, and were working on drainage problems. The contractor had begun working on Route 671 and had completed much of the clearing even with all the rain. He stated that the contractor was finishing up the work on Route 58 in Supervisor Jones' area (Drewryville area). He hoped both projects would be completed in the next few weeks if the weather cooperated.

Mr. Johnson, County Administrator, reported that the tentative six-year program adopted by the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) on May 15 did not include any funding for the East Courtland Interchange on Route 58. There was very little change from last year's program. Overall it was a \$6.4 billion program with 1,590 separate highway projects. Only 2.3% of funding was set aside for new projects and those were primarily targeted to traffic congestion relief in major metropolitan areas including Northern Virginia, Hampton Roads, and Richmond. He announced that a final public hearing was scheduled at 5:00 PM on June 5 at King's Fork Middle School in Suffolk, and the CTB would approve the final program on June 19. He did not know if the Board wanted a representative present at that meeting or not, but did not think there was a chance the program would be changed. Chairman Gilliam did not think it would be of any benefit to have a representative present at the meeting. Vice-Chairman Gray agreed. Mr. Johnson suggested sending a letter to the CTB. Mr. Cook encouraged doing so and it was also the consensus of the Board.

Chairman Gilliam advised that the Transportation Safety Commission had a meeting at the Southampton High School and some of the students had some concerns. He presented those written concerns to Mr. Cook. Mr. Cook advised that he would present something back to him in writing.

In regards to appointments, the Board chose to defer the first item regarding the Suffolk Shelter for the Homeless, Inc., as Supervisor West, who would present the name of the respective candidate to serve on that organization's Board of Directors, was not yet present.

Vice-Chairman Gray advised that he had spoken with Reverend James W. Browder III, whose term on the Blackwater Regional Library Board of Trustees, was due to expire June 30, 2003, and he was

not interested in being reappointed. He had, however, spoken with another prospective candidate and had expected to hear from that candidate before the meeting tonight, but did not. He stated that if that person was not interested in serving, he would like to contact one of the Supervisors whose district was not represented on that Board and ask that they try and seek a candidate. Mr. Johnson informed that no one from Boykins or Drewryville was currently on that Board. Supervisor Faison (of the Boykins-Branchville District) and Supervisor Jones (of the Drewryville District) agreed to try and seek a candidate if Vice-Chairman Gray's prospective candidate was not willing to serve.

The Board chose to defer the next item as well regarding the Southampton Social Services Board of Directors, as Mr. Henry Hicks (of Berlin-Ivor), who was nominated by Supervisor West (of the Berlin-Ivor District) and appointed in February 2003 to fill the unexpired term of Linda Vick through June 30, 2003, was eligible for reappointment to a full four-year term. The Board wanted to hear from Supervisor West who was not yet present.

Regarding monthly reports, Mr. Johnson received various reports and provided them in the agenda for the Board's review. Those reports were Financial, Sheriff's Office, Traffic Tickets for 2003, 9-1-1 Sign Repair, Animal Control, Building Inspections, and New Housing Starts. Also Cooperative Extension, Treasurer's Office for February 2003, Delinquent Tax Collection, Daytime E.M.S. Contract, Fire/Rescue Reports, and Personnel.

Chairman Gilliam noted that several fire/rescue reports had not been received. Mr. Johnson advised that he had received a few more, but not in time for inclusion in the agenda. However, several were still outstanding. He stated that he would include those reports in next month's agenda.

In reference to the personnel report, Mr. Johnson announced that Ben G. Davis was hired in the Sheriff's Office effective 05/01/03 at an annual salary of \$25,501. McCoy L. Eaton was also hired in the Sheriff's Office effective 05/01/03 at an annual salary of \$23,329. L. Wayne Cutchins, Jr. resigned from and Andra Cross was terminated from the Sheriff's Office. He noted that J. Michael Blythe and Raymond E. Merkh of the Sheriff's Office remained on active military leave effective February 10, 2003 and January 1, 2003 respectively.

Proceeding to financial matters, bills in the amount of \$808,139.71 were received. **Vice-Chairman Gray moved, seconded by Supervisor Young, that the bills in the amount of \$808,139.71 be paid with check numbers 55966 through 56426. All were in favor.**

Moving forward to consideration of the FY 2004 annual budget and associated tax levies and utility fees, Mr. Johnson announced that included in the agenda was a synopsis of that budget. He pointed out that the bottom line of expenditures and revenues was \$40,411,034.

The budget synopsis is as follows:

**SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA
FY 2004 PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET**

FY 2004 REVENUE ESTIMATES

<u>REVENUE FROM COUNTY SOURCES</u>		<u>BUILDING FUND REVENUE</u>	
General Property Taxes	\$11,126,988	Utility Tax – Electricity	\$464,000
Other Local Taxes	760,583	Utility Tax – Telephone	250,000
Permits, Fees, Licenses	95,250	Rental of Property	60,556
Fines & Forfeitures	434,069	Building Fund Carryover	804,616
Use of Money & Property	95,000	TOTAL REVENUE/BUILDING FUND	<u>\$1,579,172</u>
Charges for Service	99,461	<u>REVENUE FROM THE COMMONWEALTH</u>	
Miscellaneous Revenue	641,170	Non-Categorical Aid	\$159,652
TOTAL REVENUE/COUNTY SOURCES	<u>\$13,252,521</u>	Categorical Aid	2,825,846
<u>OTHER COUNTY SOURCES</u>		Other Categorical Aid	360,835
Transfer/General Reserve	\$811,560	School Aid	11,384,234
Transfer/Building Fund	200,000	School Aid/Cafeteria	15,000
School Funds (School Food)	542,625	School Aid/Sales Tax	2,274,244
School Funds (School Operating)	2,000	Public Assistance	1,645,978
TOTAL REVENUE/ OTHER COUNTY SOURCES	<u>\$1,556,185</u>	TOTAL REVENUE FROM THE COMMONWEALTH	<u>\$18,665,789</u>
<u>E-911 REVENUE</u>		<u>REVENUE FROM FEDERAL SOURCES</u>	
Transfer from E-911 Reserve	\$46,976	School Aid/School Operating Fund	\$11,500
Wireless 9-1-1 Grant	38,328	School Aid/Federal Programs	1,375,041
E-911 Revenue (Telephone Surcharges)	100,000	School Aid/School Food	500,000
TOTAL REVENUE/E-911	<u>\$185,304</u>	TOTAL REVENUE/FEDERAL	<u>\$1,886,541</u>
<u>ENTERPRISE REVENUE</u>		TOTAL REVENUE/ALL SOURCES	
Water Services Fees	\$271,704	<u>\$40,411,034</u>	
Sewer Services Fees	725,376		
Other Fees/Connections	38,442		
Note Proceeds – Series 2003	2,250,000		
TOTAL REVENUE/ENTERPRISE FUND	<u>\$3,285,522</u>		

FY 2004 EXPENDITURE ESTIMATES

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>		<u>E-911 FUND</u>	
GENERAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION		E-911	<u>\$185,304</u>
Board of Supervisors	\$120,899	<u>ENTERPRISE FUND</u>	
County Administration	242,283	Water Service	\$494,353
Commissioner of the Revenue	202,483	Sewer Service	866,224
Treasurer	179,625	Rt. 671 Utility Extension	<u>2,335,900</u>
Delinquent Tax Collection	56,700	TOTAL ENTERPRISE FUND	<u>\$3,696,477</u>
Accounting	143,990	<u>BUILDING FUND</u>	
Data Processing	189,430	Capital Projects	<u>\$1,029,620</u>
Insurance/County Code	93,925	<u>SCHOOL FUND</u>	
Registrar	115,872	Instruction	\$13,801,215
JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION		Administration, Attendance, & Health	949,315
Circuit Court	54,527	Other Direction & Management	1,966,660
Combined District Court	18,110	Operation & Maintenance Services	2,509,667
Special Magistrates	1,338	School Food Service & Non Operating Costs	67,663
Clerk of Circuit Court	113,853	Facilities	124,026
Sheriff-Bailiff	380,211	Debt Service	2,164,526
Commonwealths Attorney	329,134	Rental Textbook	146,373
PUBLIC SAFETY		Technology	206,000
Sheriff	1,133,261	Drop Out Prevention	41,301
Volunteer Fire Departments	237,548	At Risk 4 Year Olds	80,299
Volunteer Rescue Squads	566,785	Early Reading Intervention	26,011
State Forestry Service	11,932	Special Education in Jails	35,323
Detention	2,014,556	<u>FEDERAL SCHOOL FUNDS</u>	
Probation	61,968	Chapter I	557,066
Building Inspections	66,842	Title VI-B Flow-Through	471,805
Animal Control	70,256	Title VI Innovative Education Program	25,632
Medical Examiner	1,500	Vocation Special Education	60,336
Emergency Service/Civil Defense	24,538	Substance & Drug Prevention	19,802
PUBLIC WORKS		Preschool Incentive	15,442
Street Lights	41,000	Silver Grant	12,590
Refuse Collection	321,964	Title II-A Training & Recruitment	155,082
Refuse Disposal	782,813	Title VI-B Rural and Low Income	57,286
Buildings & Grounds	371,998	TOTAL SCHOOL FUNDS	<u>\$23,493,420</u>
HEALTH & WELFARE		<u>SCHOOL FOOD</u>	
Local Health Department	268,133	School Food	<u>\$1,057,625</u>
Mental Health Services	62,116	<u>VIRGINIA PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FUND</u>	
State/Local Hospitalization	8,039	Eligibility Administration	\$591,720
Transportation Program – Elderly	5,265	Service Administration	419,693
Comprehensive Services Act	53,457	Joint Administration	313,153
STOP Organization	1,706	Benefit Programs	575,534
PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL		Energy Administration	21,911
Community Concert Series	2,500	VIEW Administration	<u>60,239</u>
Rawls Museum Arts	10,000	TOTAL PUBLIC ASSISTANCE	<u>\$1,982,250</u>
Historical Society	1,000	TOTAL EXPENDITURES ALL FUNDS	
Walter C. Rawls Library	165,565	<u>\$40,411,034</u>	
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT		Unappropriated General Fund Reserve	
Planning/Zoning	147,501	\$2,435,828	
Economic Development	133,753		
Soil & Water Conservation District	9,410		
Cooperative Extension Service	50,091		
NON DEPARTMENTAL			
Non-Departmental Operating	<u>98,461</u>		
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES	<u>\$8,966,338</u>		

Vice-Chairman Gray confirmed with Mr. Johnson that the figures in the budget included the salary adjustments (that were discussed under the budget deliberation item at the Board of Supervisors' regular meeting on April 28, 2003)

Vice-Chairman Gray made a motion to adopt the FY 2004 annual budget. Supervisor Young seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Mr. Johnson advised the next budget item was an ordinance establishing the 2003 (FY 2004) tax levy to support the budget. He noted that there were no proposed changes in the tax levies.

The ordinance is as follows:

TAX ORDINANCE

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Supervisors of Southampton County, Virginia, that for the year 2003 there is hereby levied:

1. A tax of \$0.65 per \$100.00 assessed valuation on all real estate in Southampton County, including manufactured homes.
2. A tax of \$4.00 per \$100.00 assessed valuation on all taxable, tangible, personal property located in Southampton County on the first day of January, 2001, except household goods and personal effects.
3. A tax of \$1.95 per \$100.00 assessed valuation on all farm machinery and farm implements, save and except machinery described in paragraph 4 herein below, located in Southampton County on the first day of January, 2001.

4. A tax of \$1.25 per \$100.00 assessed valuation on all farm machinery designed solely for the planting, production or harvesting of a single product or commodity, located in Southampton County on the first day of January, 2001.
5. A tax of \$0.65 per \$100.00 assessed valuation on all real estate and \$4.00 per \$100.00 assessed valuation on all taxable, tangible personal property of public service corporations based on the assessment fixed by the State Corporation Commission of Virginia.
6. A tax of \$2.40 per \$100.00 assessed valuation on all machinery and tools.
7. A tax of \$0.50 per \$100.00 assessed valuation on merchant's capital.
8. A tax of \$2.40 per \$100.00 assessed valuation on all heavy construction machinery, including but not limited to land movers, bulldozers, front-end loaders, graders, packers, power shovels, cranes, pile drivers, forest harvesting equipment and ditch and other types of diggers.
9. A tax of \$2.40 per \$100.00 assessed valuation on all motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers with a gross vehicle weight of 10,000 pounds or more used to transport property for hire by a motor carrier engaged in interstate commerce.

All levies shall be due on or before December 5, 2003.

Vice-Chairman Gray moved, seconded by Supervisor Young, to adopt the tax ordinance. All were in favor.

Mr. Johnson advised that the third and final budget item was an ordinance establishing the water and sewer fees for FY 2004. He noted that on average, the rates increased by 30-33 percent.

The ordinance is as follows:

WATER AND SEWER FEES ORDINANCE

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Supervisors of Southampton County, Virginia, that beginning July 1, 2003, the following monthly water and sewer fees are hereby prescribed for all county systems:

WATER RATES:

RESIDENTIAL: (PER UNIT)	\$24.50
COMMERCIAL: (UNMETERED PRIOR TO 7/1/03)	\$27.10
COMMERCIAL: METERED PRIOR TO 7/1/03	
Up to 5,000 gallons	\$27.10
All over 5,000 gallons	\$3.00 per 1,000 gallons
FLAT RATES:	
Meherrin Elementary School	\$211.51
Brookside Apartments	\$881.74

SEWER RATES:

RESIDENTIAL:	\$35.50
COMMERCIAL: (UNMETERED PRIOR TO 7/1/03)	\$39.00
NARRICOT INDUSTRIES	\$1.07 per 1,000 gallons
COMMERCIAL: METERED PRIOR TO 7/1/03	
Up to 5,000 gallons	\$35.50
All over 5,000 gallons	\$3.00 per 1,000 gallons
COMMERCIAL: FLAT RATE	
Meherrin Elementary School	\$257.40
Brookside Apartments	\$1,287.00
Courtland Coin Laundry	\$375.70
Courtland Elementary School	\$257.40
Courtland Health Care Center	\$1,378.00

Dairy Queen	\$54.60
For Pete’s Sake Restaurant	\$54.60
Pino’s	\$54.60
Shelter Management 1	\$2,067.00
Shelter Management 2	\$826.80
Shelter Management 3	\$1,240.20
Southampton Courthouse	\$244.40
Southampton High School	\$780.00
Southampton Jail	\$461.50
Southampton Middle School	\$595.40
Southampton Office Building	\$58.50
Southampton Office Center	\$188.50
Southampton School Board	\$482.30
Vick, Jack Building	\$98.80

Vice-Chairman Gray made a motion to adopt the water and sewer fees ordinance. Supervisor Young seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Moving forward to the request from the Southampton County Assembly, Mr. Johnson announced that included in the agenda was correspondence from that organization requesting a letter of support from the Board for their recertification as a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO). A CHDO was a private, nonprofit, community-based service organization whose primary purpose was to provide and develop decent, affordable housing for the community it served. In Virginia, the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (VDHCD) was the agency responsible for certification of CHDOs. However, a prerequisite for state certification was certification by a local participating jurisdiction, which was any local government that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) had designated to administer HOME program funding. He pointed out that Southampton County did not administer HOME Program funding directly, but rather worked through the Western Tidewater HOME Program Consortium, thus the recommendation would have to come from the latter.

He stated that the Southampton County Assembly was incorporated in February 1994 and designated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization by the IRS later that year. It served as a CHDO from July 1997 until December 2001 when it was decertified by the Western Tidewater HOME Program Consortium based upon certain findings by HUD during a routine compliance monitoring visit earlier that year. Their CHDO status was suspended for a minimum of one year, after which they could reapply, provided the following 4 conditions were met: 1) Submission of a new CHDO application; 2) Submission of comprehensive annual financial reports for FYs 2000, 2001, and 2002 prepared by an independent auditor; 3) Resolution of all previously-cited findings and concerns; and 4) Submission of letters of support from HUD and VDHCD. He noted that included in the agenda was various correspondence related to their CHDO status. They were essentially requesting that the Board send a letter to the Western Tidewater HOME Program recommending that they receive CHDO status once again. He advised that Shirley Walden of the Southampton County Assembly was present tonight to try and answer any questions.

Supervisor Jones asked if they had taken care of the four aforementioned conditions? Ms. Walden replied yes.

Vice-Chairman Gray commented that he did not have a problem sending a letter of support, as long as the 4 conditions were met and the letter indicated that their support was contingent upon those conditions being met.

Supervisor Jones put Vice-Chairman Gray’s previous statement in the form of a motion. Vice-Chairman Gray seconded the motion. All were in favor.

(Note: Supervisor West joined the meeting during discussion of the next item.)

Proceeding to the request for assistance from the Western Tidewater AAU, Chairman Gilliam introduced Mr. Todd Cales, Director of the local Western Tidewater AAU basketball program. Mr. Cales stated that in the last 5 years, the Board had helped send a group of their young players to Cocoa Beach, FL and another group to Greensboro, NC, and without their help, they would not have been able to go. The 2003 team, ages 13 and under, finished in the top 4 in the State tournament last month, thus qualifying for the nationals in Cocoa Beach, FL to be held July 13-July 20. There they would have the opportunity to meet and play against some of the best basketball players of that age group in

the country. He stated that over the past 5 years he had watched this group of kids develop into gifted basketball players and fine young men. They had overcome obstacles and gotten to where they were now by working hard and never giving up. They were winless in the region tournament in 1999 and 2002, and won 2 games in 2001. Last year they were one game short of going to the State tournament, and this year they finished 2nd in the region and placed in the top 4 in the State tournament, earning the right to go to the national championship. They had been through 3 coaches in that time period. He advised that fund-raisers were well underway, as the kids had been selling candy and donuts at 5:30 AM and spending weekends washing cars. He asked for the Board's help in reaching their goal of raising \$8,500.

Ms. Dawn Hinkle, Lead Coordinator of the Western Tidewater AAU, introduced the players to the Board. She noted there were 10 kids on the team, and 4 were unable to attend tonight.

Mr. Cales stated that the County's return on investment in the Western Tidewater AAU basketball program was very positive. For the 5th straight year, their annual tournament had brought over 1,200 people to the County. The local hotels were full and restaurants had very busy weekends. He did not know of any event, other than the fair, that brought more people to the area. He noted that he had been very persistent and finally proved that they could handle hosting the State tournament, as he was told that in the next 2-3 years, the Western Tidewater AAU program in Southampton County would host the Virginia State Championship. He thought their program gave back to the community by giving their youth the opportunity to better themselves and learn the value of a team and what a team could accomplish. He stated that he was very proud to be associated with this group. He thanked the Board for anything they could do and what they had done in the past, and thanked Mr. Johnson for allowing them to appear tonight.

Vice-Chairman Gray asked how many players were Southampton County residents? Mr. Cales replied all but two; one player was from Franklin, one from Suffolk, and the rest from Southampton County. He asked when and why the name of their organization was changed from Southampton AAU to Western Tidewater AAU? Mr. Cales replied that the name was changed because they were encompassing a wider area. They were now getting players from Emporia, Smithfield, Windsor, and North Carolina. However, 75% of their program came from Southampton County and their main facility was Southampton High School. Vice-Chairman Gray asked if they were receiving funding from other local governments? Mr. Cales replied that they had received \$1,000 from the City of Franklin. Mr. Cales confirmed for Vice-Chairman Gray that the team was working hard with fundraisers and had been washing cars, selling donuts, candy, Brunswick stew, etc.

Mr. Jackie White added that Electric Motor and Contracting Co., Inc., S.W. Rawls Inc., parents of the kids, and many others were also supporting the endeavor. He noted that the organization was unable to get airline and hotel discounts, as the more advance notice you could give, the better rates you could get, and they just found out they were going last month.

Supervisor Faison asked how many kids the organization served? Mr. Cales replied about 100.

Chairman Gilliam confirmed with Mr. Johnson that the Board had appropriated \$3,000 to the organization twice in the past.

Mr. Johnson advised that he had previously shared with Vice-Chairman Gray that he had gotten a call prior to the budget season from the coach of the Western Tidewater AAU girl's basketball team asking if it would be worthwhile for them to request funding. He indicated to the coach that they were certainly welcome to do that, but it was a tough budget year. They chose not to request funding based on that comment.

Supervisor Faison asked if the girls' team was going to a championship? Mr. Jackie White stated that they received an automatic invitation last year, because they finished second, to return to the nationals this year. Therefore, they had had almost an entire year to raise money. The boys just qualified last month, thus have had to start a fundraiser to raise funds in a short amount of time.

Supervisor West commented that the girls' team might feel that the Board was letting them down, having made contact with Mr. Johnson. He thought they needed to consider helping both the boys' and girls' teams.

Mr. Cales stated that the boys' team consisted of players primarily from Southampton County, but the girls' team only had a maximum of 2 players from the County. He noted that he did not want to take

anything away from the girls, but knew that the number of Southampton County residents on the team was an important issue.

Supervisor Faison advised that he thought they should contribute to the boys' and girls' teams. He thought they should strongly support the boys' team since it consisted of players primarily from Southampton County, but should also support the girls' team because there were 2 players from Southampton County on that team. Supervisor Young agreed.

Supervisor Jones made a motion to appropriate \$3,000 to the boys' team, and appropriate a proportionate amount to the girls' team based on the number of Southampton County residents on that team. Supervisor Faison seconded the motion. It was the consensus of the Board to have the County make contact with the girls' team. Mr. Cales advised that he was the director of both the boys' and girls' teams and would have the girls' coach contact Mr. Johnson. **All were in favor of the motion.**

Chairman Gilliam announced now that Supervisor West was present, they would go back to the items they chose to defer earlier until his arrival.

Regarding the Suffolk Shelter for the Homeless, Inc., Supervisor West advised that he had spoken to Ms. Barbara Greene of 36148 Broadwater Road, Ivor, VA. She was active in the community, the church, and with families that needed assistance in different ways. **He made a motion to appoint her to the Suffolk Shelter for the Homeless, Inc. Board of Directors as the representative of Southampton County. Supervisor Jones seconded the motion. All were in favor.**

In regards to the Social Services Board of Directors, **Supervisor West made a motion to reappoint Mr. Henry Hicks to a four-year term, July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2007. Vice-Chairman Gray seconded the motion. All were in favor.**

Moving forward to the delinquent real estate tax sale, Mr. Johnson announced that included in the agenda was correspondence from Tim Drewry of Pulley and Rowe related to the recent delinquent real estate tax sale styled as *Southampton County v. Community Realty, Inc., et als.* Six parcels were publicly auctioned on May 2 for delinquent taxes. An itemized statement of costs incurred for each parcel thus far was provided in the agenda. He stated that the closing bids on 5 of the 6 parcels were less than either the assessed or appraised values, and "adding insult to injury" was the expense associated with selling the property. In 4 of the 6 cases, proceeds from the sale were insufficient to cover just the legal costs associated with the sale. He advised that Mr. Drewry needed a recommendation from the Board to include in his *Special Commissioner's Report of Sale*, which would go to the circuit court judge who would ultimately confirm or reject the bids for each parcel. He stated that it was always difficult to accept a loss, but would recommend that the County cut its losses and have the sales confirmed and the properties placed back on the active tax rolls. The sale was well advertised, held on a sunny day, and at least 2 bidders were actively interested in each parcel. He did not think they would do much better if they repeated the process and would again be responsible for the associated legal expenses.

Vice-Chairman Gray made a motion to recommend that the Court confirm the sales. Supervisor Young seconded the motion.

Supervisor West asked if the appraised values of the parcels would stand or if the amounts they were purchased for would become the new values? Mr. Johnson and Richard Railey, County Attorney, explained that the assessed values would stand.

All were in favor of the motion.

Regarding the streetlight request, Mr. Johnson advised that Supervisor West had received a request to evaluate the area along Broadwater Road (just west of the Ivor corporate limits) for streetlights. Provided in the agenda was a planimetric map of that area illustrating the placement of homes and existing poles and streetlights. He stated that the Board's policy for installation of a new light was that it should serve 5 or more residences, or specifically illuminate a street intersection or cul-de-sac. Based upon a field survey by Waverly Coggsdale, Assistant County Administrator, they were recommending the installation of two additional lights on existing poles in front of residences at 36126 and 36360 Broadwater Road as being consistent with their adopted policy.

Chairman Gilliam and Supervisor Young both mentioned that they had been contacted recently regarding requests for streetlights, but were unsure if they qualified. Mr. Johnson advised them to

submit any requests (whether they thought they would qualify or not) and they would be glad to evaluate them.

Supervisor West made a motion to authorize and direct installation of those 2 streetlights. Supervisor Jones seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Proceeding to alternative proposals for the Virginia Department of Corrections (DOC) expansion, Mr. Johnson announced that upon DOC's receipt of the unsolicited proposal by Virginia Corrections Corporation (which the Board was briefed on last month), they announced its intention to evaluate the proposal and advertised for competing proposals through May 8. In response to the advertisement, DOC received 2 competing proposals, summaries of which were included in the agenda. He advised that the first proposal was from Commonwealth Corrections Consortium, which proposed to design, construct, and finance the following: 1) New detention centers on property adjacent to St. Brides Correctional Center in Chesapeake, Coffewood Correctional Center in Culpeper County, and Powhatan Correctional Center in Powhatan County; 2) Additional housing and support space at the Deerfield Correctional Center in Capron; 3) A new level 2 facility in Charlotte County; and 4) A new level 3 facility in Tazewell County. The second proposal was from Public Private Alliances, LLC, which proposed to design, construct, and finance 2 new 1,024-bed correctional facilities at locations to be determined. He noted that their cover letter to him indicated that Southampton County might be one of the two locations to be considered.

He stated that as discussed last month, under the *Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act of 2002*, the DOC could request more detailed proposals for further consideration from one, two, or all three of the proposers, or choose not to proceed any further with any of the proposals. He advised that the local governments had 60 days from receipt of the proposals to submit comments to DOC. Included in the agenda was the letter he sent to DOC last month (per the direction of the Board) in response to the first proposal by Virginia Corrections Corporation. He noted that they also had the option to not make any comments, which had no negative inference.

Supervisor Jones suggested that Mr. Johnson send a letter to DOC in response to the 2 new proposals similar to the letter he sent to DOC last month in response to the Virginia Corrections Corporation proposal. He did not think it would be worthwhile to invite representatives from the 2 new proposers to their next meeting, as they learned very little from the representative from Virginia Corrections Corporation that was present at their meeting last month. Vice-Chairman Gray and Supervisor Faison agreed. It was the consensus of the Board to follow Supervisor Jones' suggestion.

Moving forward to the proposal for strategic economic planning, Mr. Johnson advised that there was a briefing in the September 2002 agenda regarding an interest by 2 local charitable foundations, The Camp Foundation and Franklin-Southampton Charities, in funding an initiative to develop a strategic plan that would bring about a healthy, competitive, and sustainable economy in Franklin-Southampton County. The idea was initially conceived by Mr. Sol Rawls, President of The Camp Foundation, after learning about a similar initiative funded by *The Duke Endowment* to strengthen rural communities in North and South Carolina. He stated that a number of challenges Franklin-Southampton County faced as a rural locality were similar to the following challenges faced across the southeast: 1) Substantial dependence on traditional manufacturing jobs, for which the national trend was to downsize; 2) Lower educational levels than metropolitan competitors, when economic development depended more than ever on a highly-skilled workforce; and 3) Somewhat limited access to information technology and lack of digital preparedness. Rather than accepting rural decline as a reality, Mr. Rawls' research led him to MDC, Inc., a Chapel-Hill-based private nonprofit agency with more than 20 years experience in developing strategies to help rural localities expand opportunities, reduce poverty, and build inclusive communities. He reported that over the past twenty years, MDC had developed a model that relied on their six "building blocks" for community development. Their program began with a core group of local citizens whose task would be to set a vision for the economic future of the region, set measurable goals, develop an implementation plan, and cultivate support of the local community.

He advised that Mr. Rawls had organized an ad-hoc committee that included representatives from the City of Franklin and Southampton County (Mayor Council and City Manager Taylor from the City, and he and Chairman Gilliam from the County), Paul D. Camp Community College, the Camp Foundation, Franklin-Southampton Charities, the Franklin-Southampton Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Economic Development Commission. They had all met with MDC on several occasions, checked references (Danville/Pittsylvania County, VA, Henderson and Columbia, NC, and Blyville, AR), and actually visited Danville/Pittsylvania County. Mr. Johnson stated that the end result was that MDC had offered a proposal to work with the Franklin-Southampton County community over the next 9-12 months. The Chamber of Commerce had agreed to serve as the contract signatory and fiscal

agent, and the Camp Foundation and Franklin-Southampton Charities had agreed to jointly underwrite all associated expenses. The project had been endorsed by the Board of Directors for the Franklin-Southampton Area Chamber of Commerce, Paul D. Camp Community College, the Camp Foundation, Franklin-Southampton Charities, and Franklin City Council. He advised that they were seeking an endorsement of the project and a commitment from the Board of Supervisors to provide an in-kind donation of any staff time that may be necessary to assist the task force in its work. He pointed out that despite the nonprofit status (501 C 6) of the Chamber of Commerce, IRS regulations prevented the 2 local charitable foundations from making donations directly to them. Thus, they may make the donation to the City or County, and ask that they pass those funds to the Chamber to cover the costs of the contract.

Vice-Chairman Gray thought it was a “no brainer” and made a motion to endorse the project, provide an in-kind donation of any staff time that may be necessary to assist the task force, and serve as “pass-through” if necessary. Supervisor Young seconded the motion. All were in favor.

(Note: Vice-Chairman Gray left the meeting at this time due to another obligation.)

Proceeding to public hearings, Waverly Coggsdale, Assistant County Administrator and Secretary of the Planning Commission announced that tonight’s public hearing was to consider the following:

The application of Birdsong Corporation (Owner) to conditionally zone approximately 0.43 acres from Industrial District, (M-1) to Business District, Local, (B-1) “Conditional” for the purpose of establishing an adult day care/clinic. Said request is on property identified as Tax Map 92, Parcel 12A, which is located off the southeast side of General Thomas Highway (Route 671) approximately 3,000 feet west of the corporate limits of the City of Franklin. The subject property is located at 31394 General Thomas Highway and is located in the Franklin Magisterial District and the Franklin Voting District.

He advised that the Southampton County Planning Commission held the original public hearing regarding this application on April 10, 2003. Afterwards, the owner/applicant amended the application from a regular rezoning request to a *conditional* rezoning. The public hearing to consider the conditional rezoning application was held on May 8, 2003, and the Planning Commission recommended its approval.

Chairman Gilliam opened the public hearing and asked anyone in favor of or opposed to the conditional rezoning to approach the podium and state their case.

Mr. C.P. Griffith, General Manager of Birdsong Peanut Corporation, briefly addressed the Board. He advised that the building had been vacant since they purchased it in 2000, and they needed the income (that renting the building to the Western Tidewater Community Services Board for an adult day care/clinic would provide). He encouraged the Board to approve the application.

Chairman Gilliam closed the public hearing.

Supervisor Young advised that he would abstain from voting, as he was an adjacent property owner (to the said property) and received notification in the mail as required by law.

Supervisor West confirmed with Supervisor Jones (also a Planning Commission member) that the adult day care/clinic would operate during the day, 5 days a week, and no clients would be staying overnight. He also confirmed that there was no opposition to the application.

Supervisor West then made a motion to approve the conditional rezoning application. Supervisor Jones seconded the motion.

Supervisor Faison stated that the use of the property was inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan. He did understand how a *conditional* rezoning as opposed to a regular rezoning made it any more consistent. He commented that the County was proposing to invest a lot of money in that area and noted that the road was being widened (to a 5-lane highway; 2 lanes in each direction and a turn lane) for industrial purposes. He thought the adult day care/clinic could potentially interfere with that.

Supervisor Jones remarked that the Planning Commission thought that considering the nature of the business and the hours it would operate, they did not think it would be a problem.

Supervisor Faison asked Cindy Cave, Community/Economic Development Director, what her thoughts were. Ms. Cave replied that she had previously stated her thoughts, but it was subject to the Board's discussion and decision. (Ms. Cave had previously submitted written remarks to Mr. Coggsdale stating that the use would most likely deter any future industrial locations in that area, if not the entire Rt. 671 corridor. She added that the use was inconsistent with the future land use of the area as designated by the Comprehensive Plan.)

Chairman Gilliam called for a vote. **Chairman Gilliam and Supervisors Jones, Sykes, and West voted in favor of the motion. Supervisor Faison voted in opposition to the motion.** (Vice-Chairman Gray left the meeting prior to this public hearing and Supervisor Young abstained.) **The vote was 4-1 in favor of the motion, thus the motion passed.**

In regards to miscellaneous issues, Mr. Johnson advised that included in the agenda was a copy of a recent letter he sent to the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) regarding Southampton County's interest in the Dry Well Replacement Program, which was announced by Governor Warner late last year in response to the drought. The program would provide up to \$5,000 to drill a replacement well for qualified low-and-moderate income residents whose wells went dry last Fall. He stated that he received an inquiry earlier this month from a county resident whose well went dry during that time. His well had subsequently recharged due to all of the rain, but he was having problems with water quality and was concerned that his well could go dry again in the future. He noted that in talking with DHCD, they indicated that they thought this individual would qualify for the program and encouraged the County to apply. If the County chose to apply, an advertised community meeting would be held to afford others in similar situations the opportunity to inform the County so they could be evaluated for qualification in the program.

He stated that included in the agenda was a memorandum from Jim Campbell, Executive Director of the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo), requesting that each Virginia county contribute a minimum of \$1,000 to cover anticipated expenses with Virginia's hosting of the National Association of Counties Annual Conference in July 2007. VACo was apparently responsible for promotion of the conference, intra-city transportation, etc. The total expense was expected to approach \$1 million. He noted that while the conference was 4 years away and he did not sense any urgency, VACO did send the request so he thought they needed to respond. It was the consensus of the Board to send a letter of response indicating that they intended to support the conference but would consider the contribution as part of their FY 2005 Annual Budget.

Continuing with miscellaneous items, Mr. Johnson advised that included in the agenda was a Notice of Violation issued to the Town of Courtland for a non-acute coliform exceedence in April 2003.

He informed that the following incoming correspondence was received:

- 1) From Meyera Oberndorf, Mayor of Virginia Beach, announcing the resignation of Roy Budd as President of Opportunity, Inc. on April 23;
- 2) From The Department of Criminal Justice Services regarding a one year extension of the School Resource Officer grant program (Note: Sheriff Francis is pursuing this;
- 3) A thank you note from Rawls Museum Arts for the additional funding approved by the Board last month;
- 4) From Dominion Virginia Power, public notice regarding their application to the State Corporation Commission to implement three new retail access programs;
- 5) From the International City/County Management Association, notice that he (Mike Johnson) is recognized as an *ICMA Credentialed Manager* for 2003-2004;
- 6) From the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), notice of an application filed by VDOT to obtain the final permit to construct the East Courtland interchange which will impact slightly more than 4 acres of wetlands;
- 7) An update of VACo activities from Phillip Bradshaw, VACO Region I Chairman;
- 8) From Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia, notice of its annual public hearings regarding its FY 2004 Area Plan for Aging Services;
- 9) From Jim Spore, Virginia Beach City Manager, a draft letter from the Southside Mayors and Chairs to the Peninsula Mayors and Chairs regarding an opportunity to combine workforce development organizations from the Peninsula and Southside Hampton Roads; and
- 10) From the State Corporation Commission, public notice of Chaparral Virginia, Inc.'s petition to terminate its special rate contract with Virginia Power.

Finalizing miscellaneous issues, Mr. Johnson advised that outgoing correspondence and various news articles of interest were included in the agenda for the Board's reference.

Regarding late arriving matters, Mr. Johnson announced that he was seeking the Board's consideration in waiving the building permit fees for any repairs or home replacements directly related to the May 9, 2003 hailstorm. The waiver would apply to building, electrical, plumbing, and mechanical permits. Due to changes in the state building code several years ago, many of the necessary repairs (roofs, windows, and siding) were already exempt. However, some of the manufactured homes in the County were beyond repair and would have to be replaced entirely. He noted that to his knowledge, they had only issued 1 building permit to date for a replacement home, and would like to refund that person if the Board chose to waive the fees.

Supervisor Young made a motion to authorize the waiver of building and other related permit fees for repairs or replacement homes directly resulting from the May 9, 2003 hailstorm. Supervisors Jones and Sykes seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Chairman Gilliam advised it was necessary for a closed meeting to be held in accordance with the provisions set out in the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, for the following purposes:

Section 2.2-3711 (A) (5) Discussion concerning prospective industries where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating its facilities in the community.

Supervisor Jones made a motion to conduct a closed meeting for the purposes aforementioned. Supervisor Young seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Richard Railey, County Attorney, Waverly Coggsdale, Assistant County Administrator, and Cindy Cave, Community/Economic Development Director, were present in the closed session.

Upon returning to open session, Chairman Gilliam advised only those items previously assigned had been discussed.

Supervisor Jones moved, seconded by Supervisor Young, to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION OF CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Southampton County Board of Supervisors had convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 (D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Southampton County Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed and considered by the Southampton County Board of Supervisors.

**Supervisors Voting Aye: Reggie W. Gilliam
Carl J. Faison
Dallas O. Jones
Charleton W. Sykes
Ronald W. West
Walter L. Young, Jr.**

The motion was approved unanimously.

Supervisor Faison asked what was the status of the installation of the streetlights at the entrance of Southampton Middle School? Mr. Johnson and several members of the Board informed him that they were installed at the beginning of the month.

May 27, 2003

Supervisor Jones mentioned the business appreciation dinner that the Board would be hosting next Tuesday, June 3, at the fairgrounds. It was noted that the event would begin at 5:30 PM, the appropriate dress was casual, and spouses of the supervisors and county staff were invited to attend. Supervisor Young advised those members who would be helping him cook to arrive at 2:00 PM.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Reggie W. Gilliam, Chairman

Michael W. Johnson, Clerk