

VIRGINIA: AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRUNSWICK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HELD WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2020, IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE BRUNSWICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT BUILDING

PRESENT: HON. DR. BARBARA JARRETT-HARRIS, CHAIR, HON. JOHN W. ZUBROD, VICE-CHAIR, HON. BERNARD L. JONES, SR., HON. DR. ALFONZO R. SEWARD, HON. WELTON TYLER, BOARD OF SUPERVISOR MEMBERS; DR. CHARLETTE T. WOOLRIDGE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK; VIVIAN SEAY GILES, COUNTY ATTORNEY; LESLIE R. WEDDINGTON, ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR/ DEPUTY CLERK/RECORDER OF MINUTES

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The meeting was conducted in the Board Room of the Brunswick County Government Building. Hand sanitizer was available for citizens and staff. All in attendance wore face masks and practiced social distancing.

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**Re: Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Harris invited anyone in the audience who would like to participate in the invocation with the Board members to please stand and join them. Supervisor Tyler gave the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

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**Re: Approval of Agenda**

Upon a motion by Mr. Zubrod, seconded by Dr. Seward, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

Ayes: Jones, Seward, Tyler, Zubrod, Harris; Nays: None

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**Re: Public Hearings**

**Comprehensive Plan Amendment Case #20-003, Proposed Amendment to Section 4.5 Transportation – Roads and Multimodal Facilities of the Brunswick County, Virginia Comprehensive Plan 2037**

Mr. George E. Morrison, III, Director of Planning, stated that the proposed Comprehensive Plan amendment would update the plan to incorporate the 2045 Rural Long-Range Transportation Plan prepared by the Southside Planning District

Commission, County staff and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). Additionally, the amendment would also incorporate the U.S. 58 Arterial Preservation Plan, prepared by VDOT, that covers Brunswick and Mecklenburg counties to ensure safety and preserve the capacity of the U.S. 58 corridor. The Planning Commission conducted a public hearing regarding the proposed amendment at their March 10, 2020, meeting. No one spoke in favor of or in opposition to the request. At the conclusion of the public hearing, the Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of the proposed amendment.

The Chair opened the public hearing. No citizens spoke.

After providing all citizens an opportunity to express their views, the Chair closed the public hearing.

Upon a motion by Mr. Zubrod, seconded by Mr. Jones, and unanimously carried, the Board approved Comprehensive Plan Amendment Case #20-003.

Ayes: Jones, Seward, Tyler, Zubrod, Harris; Nays: None

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**Rezoning Case #20-001 – Submitted by Anne L. Hartley, to downzone a portion of the subject property from Business (B-1) to Agricultural (A-1)**

Mr. Morrison stated that the applicant is requesting to rezone a portion of the subject property from Business (B-1) to Agricultural (A-1) to rezone the property to its original zoning and to conform with surrounding properties. The subject property is located on the west side Robinson Ferry Road (State Route 626), approximately fifty (50') feet northwest of the intersection of Robinson Ferry Road with Hendricks Mill Road (State Route 903), in the Meherrin Election and Magisterial Districts, also identified as a portion of Tax Map 98, Parcel 38.

The Planning Commission conducted a public hearing regarding this request at their March 10, 2020, meeting. No one spoke in favor of or in opposition to the request. The Planning Office received five (5) emails in support of the proposed rezoning and two (2) emails and one (1) phone call in opposition to the proposed rezoning. At the conclusion of the public hearing, the Planning Commission voted seven (7) to two (2) to recommend denial of the request.

The Chair opened the public hearing. The following citizen spoke:

- Anne L. Hartley, applicant – Requested support of her application to rezone the property back to A-1. She stated that rezoning the property back to A-1 makes the property consistent with the rest of the tract, the County's Vision, comprehensive plan and zoning ordinances.

After providing all citizens an opportunity to express their views, the Chair closed the public hearing.

Following the public hearing, Mrs. Vivian Giles, County Attorney, recommended that, in light of additional information that has been made available to the county attorney, and in light of certain legal issues that only recently have been identified, it would be advisable for the Board to delay a vote on the rezoning request in order to allow for a more thorough consideration of relevant legal issues.

It was a consensus of the Board to defer action on Rezoning Case #20-001 to review and gather further information.

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### **Courthouse Security Fee Ordinance**

Mrs. Keli Reekes, Director of Finance, stated the Code of Virginia allows counties and cities to assess a courthouse security fee in each criminal and traffic case in its district and circuit courts. These fees are to be used solely for the funding of

courthouse security personnel, equipment, and other personal property used in connection with courthouse security.

The 2020 General Assembly approved a fee increase from \$10 to \$20 per court case. In order to allow the courts to assess the maximum fee allowed per the Code of Virginia, the Board of Supervisors must first hold a public hearing to allow citizen input on the change to Brunswick County's Code of Ordinances.

The Chair opened the public hearing. No citizens spoke.

After providing all citizens an opportunity to express their views, the Chair closed the public hearing.

Upon a motion by Mr. Zubrod, seconded by Dr. Seward, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the ordinance to change the courthouse security fee from \$10 to \$20.

Ayes: Jones, Seward, Tyler, Zubrod, Harris; Nays: None

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**Re: Approval of Minutes**

Upon a motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Zubrod, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the June 17, 2020, regular meeting minutes.

Ayes: Jones, Seward, Tyler, Zubrod, Harris; Nays: None

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**Re: Virginia Department of Transportation**

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) monthly report was provided as follows:

Maintenance Forces

- Primary mowing is complete. Secondary mowing is 95% completed.
- Performed pipe repairs/replacements on various routes.
- Patched pot holes on various routes.
- Performed brush cutting and tree limbing operations on various routes.

- Machined various National Highway System (NHS) routes and hauled stone as needed.
- Checked various routes for maintenance and safety issues
- Performed litter patrol on various routes.

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**Re: Brunswick County Public Schools Monthly Report**

**FY20 School Budget Tracking Report**

Dr. Kristy Somerville-Midgette, Superintendent, presented an overview of the schools monthly financial report. This was provided for the Board's information. See attached report.

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**Re: Presentations**

**Virginia Loggers Association, Inc. – Forest Harvesting and Equipment Tax**

**Exemption**

Mr. Ron Jenkins, Executive Director, Virginia Loggers Association, requested that the Board of Supervisors update the local ordinance to exempt all forest harvesting and sivicultural equipment from personal property, tools and machinery tax.

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**Re: Department/Agency Presentations**

**Department of Social Services – Carry-over Funds Request**

Mrs. Debbie Burkett, Director of Social Services, requested the approval to carry-over \$30,000 to the FY21 budget to enable the department to provide assistance to individuals and families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The funds will be used to cover the following:

- help individuals who are facing eviction and/or displacement
- to cover utility payments for individuals facing a cut-off of electric, gas or water service

- to secure services for individuals needing support including counseling, child care and other crisis interventions

Upon a motion by Mr. Tyler, seconded by Mr. Zubrod, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the request to carry-over \$30,000 to the FY21 budget.

Ayes: Jones, Seward, Tyler, Zubrod, Harris; Nays: None

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### **Re: Citizen Comments**

The Chair opened the citizen comment period and advised that each citizen will be allotted three (3) minutes to speak. The following citizens spoke:

- Frank Meyers, M.M. Wright, Inc., 6895 Christanna Highway – Expressed support for exemption of all forest harvesting and sivicultural equipment from personal property, tools and machinery tax.
- Scotty Bottoms, R.S. Bottoms, 148 Weaver Road - Expressed support for exemption of all forest harvesting and sivicultural equipment from personal property, tools and machinery tax.
- Ronnie Wright, Ronald E. Wright, 342 Blackridge Road - Expressed support for exemption of all forest harvesting and sivicultural equipment from personal property, tools and machinery tax.
- C.K. Green, Virginia Custom Thinning, 4356 Planters Road - Expressed support for exemption of all forest harvesting and sivicultural equipment from personal property, tools and machinery tax.

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### **Re: Finance Director's Report**

#### **Approval of Disbursements**

Mrs. Reekes, presented disbursements as follows:

- System checks dated June 24, 2020, (FY21) in the amount of \$21,535.00
- System checks dated July 1, 2020, (FY21) in the amount of \$316,495.00
- System checks dated July 8, 2020, (FY20) in the amount of \$238,563.29
- System checks dated July 9, 2020, (FY20) in the amount of \$12,070.00
- System checks dated July 15, 2020, (FY21) in the amount of \$1,778,417.24

Upon a motion by Mr. Tyler, seconded by Mr. Jones, and unanimously carried, the Board approved disbursements in the amount of \$2,367,080.53 as presented.

Ayes: Jones, Seward, Tyler, Zubrod, Harris; Nays: None

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**FY20 Audit Engagement Letter**

Mrs. Reekes stated that Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates has provided the engagement letter to audit the financial statements of Brunswick County for the year ending June 30, 2020. The audit fee is \$45,000-\$50,000, which reflects no increase from the prior year.

Upon a motion by Mr. Tyler, seconded by Mr. Zubrod, and unanimously carried, the Board accepted the terms of the engagement letter and authorized the Board Chair and the County Administrator to sign all documents on behalf of Brunswick County.

Ayes: Jones, Seward, Tyler, Zubrod, Harris; Nays: None

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**Disposal of Surplus Property**

Mrs. Reekes stated that previously the Board had declared the following vehicles surplus property, and further authorized the advertisement of the sale by sealed bid:

- 2000 Dodge Durango
- 2000 Ford Crown Victoria
- 2005 Chevrolet Caprice (Brunswick EMS)

Mrs. Reekes stated that it has been determined that the vehicles hold little to no value; therefore, staff recommends the vehicles be donated to Brunswick County Public Schools for repair or spare parts.

Upon a motion by Mr. Zubrod, seconded by Dr. Seward, and unanimously carried, the Board authorized the donation of surplus vehicles to Brunswick County Public Schools.

Ayes: Jones, Seward, Tyler, Zubrod, Harris; Nays: None

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**Re: Planning Director's Report**

**Request to Schedule Public Hearing: Conditional Use Permit Case #20-011-Submitted by DPM2, LLC, to operate and maintain cabin rentals for events and to construct and operate a venue barn in the Agricultural (A-1) Zoning District**

Mr. Morrison stated that the applicant is requesting the approval of a conditional use permit to operate and maintain cabin rentals for events and to construct a venue barn for weddings, family reunions, church group activities and other special events in the Agricultural (A-1) Zoning District. The Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on August 11, 2020. The applicants are requesting the Board to hold their public hearing during the August 19, 2020, regularly scheduled meeting.

Upon a motion by Mr. Zubrod, seconded by Mr. Jones, and unanimously carried the Board authorized the advertisement of a public hearing on Conditional Use Permit Case #20-011 during the August 19, 2020, regularly scheduled meeting.

Ayes: Jones, Seward, Tyler, Zubrod, Harris; Nays: None

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**Resolution – Smart Scale Application**

Upon a motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Zubrod, and unanimously carried, the Board adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS, in the 2014 legislative session the Virginia General Assembly passed House Bill 2, now known as Smart Scale, which provided for the development of a prioritization process for projects funded by the Commonwealth Transportation Board; and

WHEREAS, the projects submitted by Brunswick County, Virginia address specific needs identified in VTrans, Virginia's multimodal transportation plan; and

WHEREAS, all projects are specifically identified in the Southside Planning District Commission's 2045 Rural Long-Range Transportation Plan and in the 2019 U.S. 58 Arterial Preservation Plan for the County of Brunswick; and



WHEREAS, in rural counties, such as Brunswick, safe and efficient transportation systems are the backbone of the local economy; and vigorous economic and community development cannot occur without continuing investment in the transportation system; and

WHEREAS, this Board has worked with local, and regional VDOT representatives to identify and prioritize the following projects that have been identified by either the County's Comprehensive Plan and/or citizen requests for consideration as Smart Scale Projects:

1. Brunswick County – Intersection improvements for US 58 and Robinson Ferry Road.
2. Brunswick County – Intersection improvements for US 58 and Brunswick Square Shopping Center, and US 58 and Cattail Drive/Twin Ponds Road.
3. Brunswick County – Intersection improvements for US 58 and Brunswick Square Shopping Center, US 58 and Cattail Drive/Twin Ponds Road, and lengthen acceleration/deceleration lanes on the west side of US 58/VA 46 interchange.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that since said projects appear to be in the best interest of the Commonwealth of Virginia, the County of Brunswick and the citizens traveling those routes, the Board of Supervisors of Brunswick County does hereby support and request that the Commonwealth Transportation Board support and approve any or all of the projects submitted.

Ayes: Jones, Seward, Tyler, Zubrod, Harris; Nays: None

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**Re: County Administrator's Report**

**Introduction of Director of Economic Development**

Dr. Charlette T. Woolridge, County Administrator, introduced Mrs. Alfreda Jarrett Reynolds, the new Director of Economic Development.

**COVID-19 Update**

Dr. Woolridge stated that since the COVID-19 pandemic, the County has had one hundred forty-three (143) COVID-19 cases, twenty-one (21) hospitalizations and two (2) deaths. As of today, there are thirty-nine (39) active cases of which eighteen





WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Brunswick County, Virginia has assumed ownership and responsibility for the operation of the Lawrenceville-Brunswick Municipal Airport, desires to change the name of the airport to reflect this change and is required by state and federal agencies to formally approve such a name change.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF BRUNSWICK COUNTY, VIRGINIA, THAT:

1. The Board of Supervisors of Brunswick County, Virginia hereby approves the name change of the airport known as the Lawrenceville-Brunswick Municipal Airport to the Brunswick County Airport, and the County's employees and agents are authorized to take all actions and execute all documents required to effect such a name change and implement the intent of this Resolution.

2. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.

Ayes: Jones, Seward, Tyler, Zubrod, Harris; Nays: None

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**Re: Appointments**

**Brunswick County Litter Control**

Upon a motion by Mr. Jones seconded by Mr. Tyler, and unanimously carried, the Board appointed Peggy Smith to the Brunswick County Litter Control Council representing the Red Oak District.

Ayes: Jones, Seward, Tyler, Zubrod, Harris; Nays: None

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**Brunswick County Planning Commission**

This matter was continued.

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**South Central Workforce Development Board of Directors/CLEO**

This matter was continued.

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**Virginia's Growth Alliance**

Upon a motion by Mr. Zubrod, seconded by Mr. Tyler, and unanimously carried, the Board appointed Alfreda Jarrett Reynolds, Director of Economic Development, to serve as the alternate on Virginia's Growth Alliance.

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**Re: Adjourn**

Upon a motion by Mr. Zubrod, seconded by Dr. Seward, and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned.

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Hon. Dr. Barbara Jarrett Harris, Chair

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Charlette T. Woolridge, Ph.D., Clerk