

Regular Meeting, Wednesday, September 14, 2022, 7:00 p.m. Government Center, Verona, VA.

PRESENT: Gerald Garber, Chairman
 Butch Wells, Vice-Chair
 Pam Carter
 Michael Shull
 Scott Seaton
 Steve Morelli
 Jeffrey Slaven
 Timothy K. Fitzgerald, County Administrator
 Jennifer M. Whetzel, Deputy County Administrator
 Elizabeth Goodloe, Planner
 John Wilkinson, Director of Community Development
 James Benkahla, County Attorney
 Angie Michael, Executive Assistant

VIRGINIA: At a regular meeting of the Augusta County Board of Supervisors held on Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at 7:00 p.m., at the Government Center, Verona, Virginia, and in the 247th year of the Commonwealth....

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Chairman Garber welcomed those present at the meeting.

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The following students from the Riverheads High School Government class led the Pledge of Allegiance:

Autumn Burkholder plans to attend George Mason University and study Forensic Science.
 Olivia Lyszaz plans to attend Bluefield and study Criminal Studies.
 Julia Dixon plans to join the Coast Guard or attend a 4-year college.
 Dawlton Crawford plans to take over the family business.
 Micah Mass plans to attend James Madison University and study Psychology or Teaching.
 Alexis Mahaffey plans to attend Blue Ridge Community College and study nursing.
 Sadie Strickler plans to attend a college to study Marine Biology.
 Rebecca Warren plans to attend Blue Ridge Community College and study to be a Vet Tech.
 Kylee Grimm plans to attend Washington and Lee University and study Psychology.
 Gwyneth Pittman plans to attend Bridgewater College and study Special Education.
 Tamera Clark plans to work at Subway.
 Olivia Pittman plans to attend Harvard University and study Forensic Science.
 Bryan Culpeper plans to join the United States Marine Corp.
 Aiden Hinson plans to join the Air Force.

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Pam Carter, Pastures District, delivered the invocation.

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September 14, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

SAW CONSORTIUM TRUST – HEALTH INSURANCE UPDATE

The Board heard a presentation from Faith Duncan, Human Resources Director.

Faith Duncan, Human Resources Director, stated that the County issued an RFP for employee benefits including Medical, Prescription Drug, Stop Loss, Dental and Vision coverage in the spring of 2022. After an evaluation of the RFP results, finalist presentations, and finalist negotiations, the SAW Consortium is recommending the awards of the RFP as follows:

- Medical, Prescription Drug and Stop Loss coverage will be moving to Anthem January 1, 2023 on a bundled basis replacing Aetna and Express Scripts.
- Dental Coverage will be moving to United Concordia effective January 1, 2023, replacing Delta Dental of Virginia.
- SAW Consortium will be implementing a new voluntary vision plan with Anthem. There is no vision plan in place today.
- SAW Consortium will be transitioning FSA and COBRA administration to Flexible Benefit Administrators (FBA) based in Virginia Beach, Virginia, VA on January 1, 2023.

MMA, a SAW Consortium consultant, and County staff are evaluating a rate structure for employer and employee premiums for the 2023 plan year. Due to the estimated savings under the proposed plan, the rates will be less than the current year, and therefore within the approved budget.

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INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING REQUEST

The Board considered a funding request from the town of Craigsville.

Funding Source: Pastures Parks & Recreation Infrastructure 8024-30 \$600.00

Timothy Fitzgerald, County Administrator, stated that this is a request to fund recreation equipment for the Town of Craigsville.

Ms. Carter moved, seconded by Mr. Shull, that the Board approve funding request as presented.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Shull, Carter, Slaven, Morell
and Seaton
Nays: None

Motion carried

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VERONA PEDESTRIAN PROJECT CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS

The Board considered the following:

John Wilkinson, Director of Community Development, stated that these are items in relation to the Verona Sidewalk Project. The Rt. 612 portion was out for bid in early spring and there were no bids received. VDOT would like to put the Route 612 and Route 11 parts of the project into one contract and bid it out altogether. In order to combine the two projects there are a few updates needed.

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VERONA PEDESTRIAN PROJECT CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS (CONT'D)

a. Update to the Blank Project Funding Resolution that allows the County to Administer Transportation projects under agreement with VDOT.

Mr. Wells moved, seconded by Mr. Slaven, that the Board approve the resolution as presented.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Shull, Carter, Slaven, Morell and Seaton
Nays: None

Motion carried

Mr. Wilkinson stated that the updated contract for the project requires approval from the Board.

b. Route 612 and Route 11 sidewalk projects be put into one contract and utilize AMT to onsite inspection services and materials testing.

Mr. Wells moved, seconded by Mr. Shull, that the Board approve the request.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Shull, Carter, Slaven, Morell
and Seaton
Nays: None

Motion carried

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WAIVERS --NONE

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CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Wells moved, seconded by Mr. Shull, that the Board approve the consent agenda as follows:

MINUTES:

Consider minutes from the following meetings:

- Regular Meeting, Wednesday, August 10, 2022
- Staff Briefing, Monday, August 22, 2022

CLAIMS:

Consider claims paid since August 1, 2022.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Shull, Carter, Slaven, Morelli
and Seaton
Nays: None

Motion carried

Mr. Fitzgerald discussed the following:

- 1) Reminder of a FOIA training requirement for the Board.
- 2) The Board's Strategic Plan meeting is October 7 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Blue Ridge Community College.
- 3) John Benner, Extension Agent, has been informed by Virginia Tech Board of Visitors that they have approved an increase in staff hourly wages from \$15.756 to \$17.04 effective August 25, 2022. This increase affects staff compensation in their office. The budget for salaries has been approved at a rate of \$15.756, but he questions if there would be room in the budget to cover the \$1.28 per hour increase. The increase would be a \$2,667.00 increase in salary, plus a \$672.00 increase in fringe costs.
- 4) The Ag Industry Board would like to designate a portion of their approved budget for a youth scholarship. Mr. Fitzgerald plans to have further conversation with John Benner regarding the request.
- 5) Attended the first Tunnel Foundation Board. They are holding an Accessibility Day on September 24, 2022. This allows people that are not able to walk through the tunnel to ride through the tunnel on a golf cart. This years' time slots are completely booked.

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On motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Dr. Seaton, that the Board convene into closed session pursuant to:

- (1) **the personnel exemption under Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A) (1)**
[discussion, consideration or interviews of (a) prospective candidates for employment, or (b) assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining or resignation of specific employees]:
 - a) **Boards & Commissions:** Youth Commission, Ag & Forestal Dist., Ag Ind. Brd, Recycling, Broadband Committee, Library Board, Augusta County Service Authority, Valley Community Services Board, Shenandoah Valley Partnership, Planning Commission, Parks & Recreation, Community Policy Management Team.
- (2) **the economic development exemption under Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A) (5)**
[discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of its interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the county]:
 - b) Proposed Office space, flex space, storage facilities, manufacturing facilities, utility and mixed use development.

On motion of Mr. Shull, seconded by Ms. Carter, that the Board came out of closed session.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Shull, Carter, Slaven, Morell and Seaton
Nays: None

Motion carried

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The Chairman advised that each member is required to certify that to the best of

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CLOSED SESSION (CONT'D)

their knowledge during the closed session only the following was discussed:

1. Public business matters lawfully exempted from statutory open meeting requirements, and
2. Only such public business matters identified in the motion to convene the executive session.

The Chairman asked if there is any Board member who cannot so certify.

Hearing none, the Chairman called upon the County Administrator/ Clerk of the Board to call the roll noting members of the Board who approve the certification shall answer AYE and those who cannot shall answer NAY.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Shull, Carter, Slaven, Morell and Seaton
Nays: None

Motion carried

The Chairman authorized the County Administrator/Clerk of the Board to record this certification in the minutes.

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ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Seaton, seconded by Mr. Wells, moved that the Board adjourn the meeting.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Shull, Carter, Slaven, Morell and Seaton
Nays: None

Motion carried

Garland W. Gaudin
Chairman


County Administrator