

Regular Meeting, Wednesday, May 12, 2021, 7:00 p.m. Government Center, Verona, VA.

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

VIRGINIA: At a regular meeting of the Augusta County Board of Supervisors held on Wednesday, May 12, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., at the Government Center, Verona, Virginia, and in the 245th year of the Commonwealth....

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Chairman Garber welcomed those present for the meeting.

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Mr. Morelli, Supervisor for the South River District, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Ms. Carter, Supervisor for the Pastures District, delivered the invocation.

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CENTRAL SHENANDOAH HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN AND REGIONAL WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN RESOLUTION

The Board considered a resolution to adopt the Central Shenandoah Hazard Mitigation Plan and the Central Shenandoah Regional Wildfire Protection Plan.

Donna Good, ECC Director, stated that this is a resolution for the Central Shenandoah Hazard Mitigation Plan and it includes the Regional Wildfire Protection Plan. Mitigation is any sustained action that reduces or eliminates long-term risk to people from medical hazards. A steering committee reviewed the County's hazards such as flooding, hurricanes and wildfires to name a few. The plan was originally adopted in 2005 with two updates. Each jurisdiction has mitigation strategies that are included in the plan and the plan ranks hazards for the area that has historical information of severe weather events and regional capabilities and assessments. Local jurisdictions have no financial obligation or resource commitments. Adopting the plans are simply to provide localities with the opportunity to be eligible to apply for mitigation funds in the future. The goal of the plan is to help the community and the Central Shenandoah Planning District become more resilient.

Ms. Carter questioned landslides considering the landslide that happened on Afton Mountain.

Dr. Seaton moved, seconded by Mr. Wells, that the Board adopt the resolution.

Motion carried.

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Consider minutes of the following meetings:

- Considered claims paid since April 1, 2021

Motion carried.

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Motion carried.

Mr. Shull visited the courthouse and noticed a plaque honoring fallen veterans. He would like Staff to see if any updates to the plaque is needed.

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Mr. Fitzgerald discussed the following:

- 1) The Board suggests adding the Organ Donor Resolution to the worksession agenda for Board discussion.
- 2) It is up for consideration to use the Verona Elementary School property on Sunday's to allow United Church to hold outdoor services. Verona Community Association currently has a lease for use of the gymnasium. The buyer prospect of the school has met with the VCA discussing the use of the gym for services if the weather was not suitable for outdoor services. The VCA is willing to work with them on the use of the gym. It is proposed to pay a \$500.00 monthly for the lease opportunity as they continue toward the purchase of the property.

Mr. Slaven moved, seconded by Mr. Shull, that the Board approve the use of the property for outdoor services.

Vote was as follows:

Yeas:	Garber, Carter, Wells, Shull, Slaven, Seaton and Morelli
Nays:	None

Motion carried.

- 3) A letter from Judge Jones with Juvenile Court requesting additional space for staff was received. The following is requested: an additional courtroom to be added to the second floor of the District Court Building before July 1, 2021, an updated intercom system in the building, two full-time Augusta County Sheriff's deputies dedicated to the Courts and a reconfiguration of clerk's office space or additional clerk's office space. Staff has reviewed the request and established a plan. The plan going forward is to take one of the waiting rooms with the JDR Court and renovate it into another courtroom. The filing system in the clerk's space will be removed and relocated throughout various places within the building. This will free up space for the additional clerk. The estimated cost for the courtroom renovations is \$14,000.00 using funds in the Courthouse Capital Account. The JDR office area renovations estimated cost is \$102,000.00 also using the Courthouse Capital Account. The two additional deputies are estimated at \$110,000.00. The total for the project would be \$212,188.00. The updated intercom system is not needed. The microphone will be installed connecting to the existing intercom system. This plan will accommodate the request.

Mr. Shull stated that this is not a large amount of money and this help support the needs of the courts.

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

Ms. Carter wonders if there are any other options that do not cost as much.

Mr. Wells stated that this is a temporary fix until something permanent is done.

The Board discussed the project in detail.

Mr. Slaven called for the question, seconded by Mr. Wells.

Motion carried.

Motion carried.

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CLOSED SESSION
On motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Shull, the Board went 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 and Commissions: Youth Commission, Ag & Forestal Dist., Ag Ind. Brd., Recycling, Valley Community Services Board, Economic Development Authority
- (2) **the real property exemption under Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A) (3)**
[discussion of the acquisition for a public purpose, or disposition, of real property]:
 - a) Augusta County Courthouse
 - b) Grandma Moses House
- (3) **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]:
 - a) Proposed Office space, flex space, storage facilities, manufacturing facilities, utility and mixed use development.

May 12, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

- (2) the legal counsel exemption under Virginia Code § 2.23711(A)(8) Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter.

a) Augusta County Courthouse

On motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Dr. Seaton, the Board came out of Closed Session.

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

Motion carried.

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The Chairman advised that each member is required to certify that to the best of their knowledge during the closed session only the following was discussed:

Public business matters lawfully exempted from statutory open meeting

1. 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, Carter, Wells, Shull, Slaven
Seaton and Morelli
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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May 12, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, Dr. Seaton moved, seconded by Ms. Carter that the Board adjourn subject to call of the Chairman.

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

Motion carried.


Chairman


County Administrator

h:5-12min.2021