

September 14, 2015

The Carroll County Board of Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on, September 14, 2015 in the Board Meeting Room of the Carroll County Governmental Center.

Present were: Phil McCraw
Dr. Tom Littrell
David V. Hutchins
Joshua A. Hendrick
Bob Martin
W.S. Sam Dickson
Gary Larrowe, County Administrator
Nikki Cannon, Asst. County Administrator
Jim Cornwell, County Attorney

Mr. McCraw called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION – PURSUANT TO VIRGINIA CODE SECTION 2.2-3711(A1, A3, A5, A7)

Upon motion by Mr. Dickson, seconded by Mr. Hendrick, and passing, the Board convened a Closed Session for the discussion of personnel, legal matter, as authorized by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A1, A3, A5, A7).

Mr. Durbin explained the purpose for entering Closed Session as listed below.

1. Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body; and evaluation of performance of departments or schools of public institutions of higher education where such evaluation will necessarily involve discussion of the performance of specific individuals. Any teacher shall be permitted to be present during a closed meeting in which there is a discussion or consideration of a disciplinary matter that involves the teacher and some student and the student involved in the matter is present, provided the teacher makes a written request to be present to the presiding officer of the appropriate board.

3. Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

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 the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community.

7. Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body; and consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. For the purposes of this subdivision, "probable litigation" means litigation that has been specifically threatened or on which the public body or its legal counsel has a reasonable basis to believe will be commenced by or against a known party. 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.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick	Yes
Mr. McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

Upon motion by Mr. Hutchins, seconded by Mr. Hendrick, and passing, the Board adopted the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Carroll County Board of Supervisors convened a Closed Session this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and on the motion to close the meeting in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act;

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711(D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board of Supervisors that such Closed Session was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Carroll 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 under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were heard, discussed or considered in the Closed Session to which this certification applies, and (II) only such business matters as were identified in the motion by which this Closed Session was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting to which this certification applies.

VOTES

- Mr. Hendrick Yes
- Mr. McCraw Yes
- Mr. Hutchins Yes
- Mr. Dickson Yes
- Dr. Littrell Yes
- Mr. Martin Yes

Mr. McCraw led in invocation and pledge. He welcomed everyone and told that it was good to see a crowd, he would like to have this much of a crowd every time they meet. He thanked everyone who participated in the fair this year, it was very successful and continues to grow. He told that special thanks go out to Kevin Semones and his staff as well as our staff here for all the hard work that went into it. He told that hopefully our fair is going to continue to grow. He told that he has heard nothing but good things. He told that a lot of people attend the Surry County Fair and he has had a lot of people tell him that the fair here has surpassed what Surry has and that is a testament. He told that he has some other things that he will discuss as we go along.

(Order)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Dickson and passing, the Board approved the minutes of the meeting on August 10, 2015.

VOTES

- Mr. Hendrick Yes
- Mr. McCraw Yes
- Mr. Hutchins Yes
- Mr. Dickson Yes
- Dr. Littrell Yes
- Mr. Martin Yes

(Order)

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL

Upon motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Dickson, and passed unanimously, the Board approved the payroll for September 2015 and did authorize the Chairman and Clerk, along with Bonita M. Williams, Treasurer, to sign checks for the October payment of salaries and wages for all County officials and employees as previously budgeted by the State Compensation Board and this Board of Supervisors.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick	Yes
Mr. McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon motion by Mr. Hutchins, seconded by Dr. Littrell and passing, the Board approved the agenda.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick	Yes
Mr. McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Dickson and passing, the Board approved the Consent Agenda.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick	Yes
Mr. McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

Mr. Hendrick told that he would like to note that within the consent agenda are the two H2B projects that they talked about last month and those ended up being two locations on 52 North and Rt. 669 between 58 and 100. He told that is what VDOT chose and he thinks they are good projects.

(Order)

PROCLAMATION

Upon motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Dickson and passing, the Board approved the Proclamation for Dr. Oliver McBride.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick	Yes
Mr. McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes

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Mr. Dickson	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

PPTRA RESOLUTION

Upon motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Dickson and passing, the Board approved the PPTRA Resolution.

WHEREAS the Personal Property Tax Relief Act of 1998, Va. Code § 58.1-3523 *et seq.* (“PPTRA”), has been substantially modified by the enactment of Chapter 1 of the Acts of Assembly, 2004 Special Session I (Senate Bill 5005), and the provisions of Item 503 of Chapter 951 of the 2005 Acts of Assembly (the 2005 revisions to the 2004-06 Appropriations Act, hereinafter cited as the “2005 Appropriations Act”); and

WHEREAS these legislative enactments require the County to take affirmative steps to implement these changes, and to provide for the computation and allocation of relief provided pursuant to the PPTRA as revised; and

WHEREAS these legislative enactments provide for the appropriation to the County, of a fixed sum to be used exclusively for the provision of tax relief to owners of qualifying personal use vehicles that are subject to the personal property tax on such vehicles.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Carroll County Board of Supervisors that:

Qualifying vehicles obtaining situs within the County during tax year 2015, shall receive personal property tax relief in the following manner:

- Personal use vehicles valued at \$1,000 or less will be eligible for 100% tax relief;
- Personal use vehicles valued at \$1,001 to \$20,000 will be eligible for 36.42% tax relief;
- Personal use vehicles valued at \$20,001 or more shall only receive 36.42% tax relief on the first \$20,000 of value; and
- All other vehicles which do not meet the definition of “qualifying” (business use vehicles, farm use vehicles, motor homes, etc.) will not be eligible for any form of tax relief under this program.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick	Yes
Mr. McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

SWVEMS COUNCIL SUPPORT LETTER

Upon motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Dickson and passing, the Board approved the SWVEMS Support Letter.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick	Yes
Mr. McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes

Mr. Martin Yes

(Order)

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Upon motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Dickson and passing, the Board appointed Matt Surratt to the Social Services Board.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick Yes
Mr. McCraw Yes
Mr. Hutchins Yes
Mr. Dickson Yes
Dr. Littrell Yes
Mr. Martin Yes

(Order)

HB2 PROJECT

Upon motion by Mr. Martin seconded by Mr. Dickson and passing, the Board approved the HB2 Project for Rt. 770 and Rt. 705 contingent upon completion of the application.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick Yes
Mr. McCraw Yes
Mr. Hutchins Yes
Mr. Dickson Yes
Dr. Littrell Yes
Mr. Martin Yes

(Order)

HB2 PROJECT

Upon motion by Mr. Martin seconded by Mr. Dickson and passing, the Board approved the HB2 Project for Rt. 669 contingent upon completion of the application.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick Yes
Mr. McCraw Yes
Mr. Hutchins Yes
Mr. Dickson Yes
Dr. Littrell Yes
Mr. Martin Yes

(Order)

SWVTC RESOLUTION

Upon motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Dickson and passing, the Board approved the SWVTC Resolution below.

WHEREAS, the Southwest Virginia Training Center was established in 1975 and has provided quality care throughout the years; and
WHEREAS, most residents have profound and/or other serious intellectual disabilities, often accompanied by severe medical or behavioral problems and need full time assistance to perform the basic functions of living; and

WHEREAS, family members of residents are deeply concerned about the safety of their loved ones should they be forced to leave the center; and
WHEREAS, Carroll County will be impacted with the moving of the residents into the community; and
WHEREAS, the closure of this facility would be detrimental to our community with the loss of approximately 500 direct jobs and many auxiliary positions;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Carroll County Board of Supervisors urges the Commonwealth to take necessary steps to protect the Southwest Virginia Training Center from closing for the betterment of the residents as well as the community.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick Yes
Mr. McCraw Yes
Mr. Hutchins Yes
Mr. Dickson Yes
Dr. Littrell Yes
Mr. Martin Yes

(Order)

RECREATION SENIOR TRIPS

Upon motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Dickson and passing, the Board approved an additional allocation in the amount of \$12,209 for the Recreation Department Senior Trips.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick Yes
Mr. McCraw Yes
Mr. Hutchins Yes
Mr. Dickson Yes
Dr. Littrell Yes
Mr. Martin Yes

(Order)

SHERIFF GRANT

Upon motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Dickson and passing, the Board approved an allocation in the amount of \$1,347 from the DCJS Byrne Justice Block grant for equipment purchase.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick Yes
Mr. McCraw Yes
Mr. Hutchins Yes
Mr. Dickson Yes
Dr. Littrell Yes
Mr. Martin Yes

(Order)

PAAC

A video was played regarding the Southwest Virginia Training Center.

Ms. Charlotte Barkley, Executive Director for PAAC who is a 501C3 what want to support the IDD people in Southwest Virginia. She told that she has pages of notes that she is not going to go through today, but she can leave a copy with Mr. Larrowe. She told that she just wants to talk one caring person to another. She told that SWVTC is considered an ICF. She told that in Virginia there are 500 private ICF beds, most in

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Southeastern Virginia. She told that only 20 of those beds are in Southwest Virginia in Buchanan County and all of those are full.

Mr. Martin asked if the patients are going to be pushed east.

Ms. Barkley told that the residents are considered high need requiring 24 hour a day care. She told that there are no intermediate care facilities in this vicinity in Southwest Virginia. She told that if the Training Center closed and we wanted to put them in an ICF where they would be best cared for, it would have to be considerably east of our locality. She told that the Commissioner has made a comment that there would be no more ICF's except those in the pipeline. She told that the SWVTC is the most economically ran in all of Virginia. She told that the cost per resident was \$141,476 in FY 10 and 12 and during the same time period there were 57 residents released outside Virginia that were high needs and their cost for being cared for in the community was \$140,611, so you can see there is literally no cost savings for moving someone into the community. She told that to move them out of the training center would be a proportional increase and expenses for the counties that they were moved into. She told that she is going to do her best to be politically polite, they have a long standing track record of presenting facts and figures without being called to substantiate them. She told that one instance is, there is something called a medicade assessment tax which allows Virginia to get more monies which showed up all of the sudden in 2012 under expenditures/contract services, it was listed as auditing fees and all of the sudden it showed an increase of \$10,000 per person to care for a person at a training center. She told that they finally got them to move that to a more appropriate place in the budget. She told that there were some other figures as well like Information Technology showed up under the SWVTC budget and that has been moved. She told that currently there are 65 residents in the Central Virginia Training Center that belong in the SWVTC region. She told that the families of these residents live scattered throughout the region and should the center be allowed to closed and residents move into the communities then those people, jobs and money would be moved out of Carroll County. Ms. Barkley told that Virginia has a Code on the books right now that basically says a person has the right to Training Center placement and they cannot be forced into a community setting. She told that the bill that passed this year says basically that if someone moves into a community they are to receive quality care that is comparable to that provided in the Training Center. She told that Judge Gibney stated that there was nothing in the decree meaning the DOJ settlement in agreement with Virginia that mandated closing of a Training Center, he said that it is either up to the General Assembly or to the Governor to make a change. She told that the current decision to close the Training Center and leave only the Southeastern Training Center open was a bill passed that was signed off by the previous Governor and it could be changed by just reaching one man. She told that with the almost 500 full and part time jobs at SWVTC represents, that has a multiplier effect. She asked is there any way that Carroll County can bear either the moral or financial burden of allowing SWVTC to close. She told that she is going to ask you for two things, PAAC is a 501 C3 and they have hired an attorney and a lobbyist and if there is any way that you can help with funding they would appreciate it. She told that she would also appreciate personal individual letters to the Governor and PAAC would like to collect these and deliver them to the Governor in December along with Resolutions that are passed.

Mr. Martin asked if they are talking about a \$2 gift or something much more substantial.

Ms. Barkley told that they will accept whatever you are willing to give. She told that they have spent \$10 to \$15 thousand so far paying the attorney and lobbyist and making trips to Richmond. She told that the bank account is getting thin.

Mr. McCraw told that they tried to work through Delegate Campbell's office to meet with the Governor but he was unavailable. He told that they are to meet with Dr. Hazel who is the Secretary of Human Services and they will meet on September 25th. He told that it is a bad situation and it breaks his heart to see people with severe disabilities treated that way. He told that he has MS and it is a bad enough disability and it is beyond him that the politicos of our state seem to not care. He told as far as being able to help,

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we are under a tight budget but we will take it under advisement. He told that we are all very interested in keeping the Training Center open.

Mr. Martin told that the Board may want to consider supporting them especially since they have a lobbyist.

Mr. Hutchins told that in our Consent Agenda there was a resolution passed. He told that he attended the meeting in Wytheville and he was very impressed. He told that sometimes we don't let the truth come through and it appears that there are some number there that are questionable.

Mr. McCraw told that he is going to make a suggestion, since we are meeting with Dr. Hazel we will see what he says and how it goes then we can brainstorm and we can bring it back to the Board and we can decide if there is a different course of action that we might want to take next month.

Ms. Barkley thanked them for the Resolution and she will use it as an example for others. She told that she always likes to have a reason for anything she is asked to do and the reason she is asking that you send the letter that you write to the Governor is that in the past it has been shown graphically that any individual letter that goes to the Governor in support of keeping Training Centers open doesn't get past the gatekeeper so they are hoping to have a bigger impact by having a large package.

(Order)

VACo ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Mr. Dean Lynch told that it is really hard to follow that presentation, VACo is your lobbyist in Richmond. He told that when you do a resolution he encourages you to send it to VACo so they can advocate on your behalf. He told that they have been working on this for years and there is a lack of funding and if this facility should close where do those funds come from. He told that the Governor said we raised revenue since last year so maybe there is some money there.

Mr. Lynch told that it is a pleasure to be here, he jumped at the opportunity to be here. He told that this is the highest VACo award that they can give and congratulations to you. He told that they received a record 92 entries this year and Carroll County was recognized as the highest achiever in the class and by the class he means all 95 counties. He told that this is a very competitive program and only the best are selected as winners. He told that this is the second time Carroll County has won, the first time was the high achievement award in 2009 for the Economic Milestone program. He told that a little bit about the judges, you may be familiar with Ted Povar, he is one of the judges and is the Associate Director of Virginia Institute of Governments. William Quarrels is a former Gouchland County Supervisor, Linda Lumpkin is a retired Essex County Administrator and they went over the entries and base the winners on selected guidelines and he reviewed those. He told that winning submission is for the STEM Lab for Agriculture and he read the submission. He told that he would again like to congratulate Carroll County and you will be recognized again at the VACo Conference and he presented Mr. McCraw with the award.

Mr. Hutchins told that we are thankful and appreciative of the award. He told that he knows William and he is a very technical oriented individual and if it passed William it had to be doing well. He told that Carroll County has a history in agriculture and we are continuing to improve. He told that we have commercial vegetables, timber and other things. He told that we have beef and Mr. Goldwasser could probably talk about that for a half a day. He told that Carroll County was the first agricultural program in the nation under the Smith-Hughes Act in 1917 and since then it has grown through the system. He told that he has heard several folks say that you can use agriculture to teach any discipline and he believes that is true. He told that the STEM Lab has been one that we really worked at for the things that kids might not otherwise take. He told that there are a lot of children that are not challenged and this gives them an opportunity. He told that it was in their goals and they kept working on it and the Board directed the IDA to obtain funds.

He told that when it first started it looked kind of humble but as things went they converted some space. He told that since it has been open we have gotten local, state and national attention and showed a short slideshow about it. He thanked Mr. Lynch for the award and for the recognition and he thinks the high school students will begin to grow.

Mr. McCraw told that he has been in the STEM Lab and it is very progressive. It does look like a chemistry lab but it is far beyond that, it is amazing. He told that we have had local, state and national recognition, it is quite impressive. He told that it not only helps agricultural students, it helps all students. He told that it is an amazing program and it will benefit Carroll County greatly. He told that we appreciate coming down and presenting this.

(Order)

OUT OF COUNTY BILLING

Mr. Cornwell told that he was asked to consider whether or not, the County presently bills for emergency medical services and it does what is called soft billing in where the bill is sent and if there is no response there is no follow up on billing. He told that he was asked if the County could adopt a different policy for nonresidents of the County compared to residents of the County and it is his opinion that based upon the opinions of the Office of the Inspector General for Department of Health and Human Services that such a policy would be permitted should the County wish to adopt it. He told that he believes the policy would be the same policy as now except after a certain number of billings without payment the County would basically send nonresident bills to a collection agency for collection.

Mr. McCraw asked if it will be legal to bill nonresidents and soft bill residents.

Mr. Cornwell told that according to the opinions that I attached which are in your file it would be permitted.

Mr. Hutchins told that we review the proposal and discuss at the next meeting.

Mr. McCraw told that is a good idea. He told that you hate to think about hard billing your residents because they are already paying taxes but the volunteer rescues are having more and more trouble getting volunteers and it is very expensive. He told that we can think about it and discuss next month.

Mr. Hendrick asked when this could be implemented.

Mr. Cornwell told that upon adoption and then there would be a question if it would be for bills generated after that date or before.

Mr. Hendrick asked if any other localities are doing something similar.

Mr. Cornwell told that he is not aware, he was just asked to look and see if we could do it.

Mr. Hendrick told that he knows we have some neighboring that do hard billing across the board.

Mr. Cornwell told that if you read the opinion you will see that there are numerous jurisdictions throughout the United States that have asked if they can do this. He does not know if they are in Virginia or not.

Mr. Larowe told that the billing company had said that this was something that they have worked with other localities. He told that we can end up asking them if they have specific localities that are doing this and what the results are.

Mr. Dickson told that he assumes we would need this money to balance our EMS budget.

Mr. McCraw told that is correct because we are having more and more trouble. He told that we are trying to look at every avenue possible to come up with funding without putting as much of a burden or more of a burden than we have to on our local residents.

Mr. Dickson asked if most of the nonresidents come from car wrecks.

Mr. McCraw told that is right.

Mr. Dickson told where else could you get them.

(Order)

CITIZENS TIME

Ms. Gina Isom thanked the Board for allowing her to speak. She told that she wanted to inform you and other citizens what part she has had in Fancy Gap. She told that since they have had water and sewer for about two years, about a year and a half ago she contacted Gary Larowe and the purpose for the call was to ask him if the County could possibly put together a team that could organize a power point presentation with information that they could present to potential investors that wanted to come to Fancy Gap and to basically get something started. She told that when she spoke with him he told her to let him think about what we could do. She told that he sent out the guy from GIS and told him for Gina to help him identify properties that were for sale. She told that they didn't really understand how it was going to work and she was afraid that someone would feel left out if their name was not on the list but that is when she jumped to conclusions. She told that he went back to his office and after 6 months she called Gary again because he is the Chief Executive Director for Economic Development. She told that if she should have come before the Board instead of him she apologizes, she thought that he was in that position and that was the right place to go. She told that they got together and when he told her what he was thinking then she understood and it made sense. She told that he told her when you turn a project over to a marketing group it is very helpful if they know what properties are available so that they can study that and identify property with companies. She told that he was also contacting VDOT so they could do traffic counts and all that before it was turned over to a marketing group. She told that another year has went by and we hadn't talked about it. She told that he sent out this first letter asking for their input so no one would be left and then after the last board meeting he sent out another letter. She told that she wants to put out on record that at no time anything that she has said to Gary or anyone else, the word zoning has not been mentioned. She told that she has lived in Carroll County almost her entire life and she knows how people feel about zoning. She told that when the famous Fancy Gap School meeting was, she was accused of being a part of that and for the record she positively did not know anything about that plan and she had no part of that. She told that we live in a democracy and that is good so when the majority of the people want something that's the way it should be and the rest should go along. She told that people in Carroll have no interest in zoning and that okay with her. She told that millions have been spent at Exit 19 and out of total respect because she knows that you sacrifice to do the job that you are doing. She told that we are blessed to have Sam here today because of the health issues that he has had and as citizens she feels like it has to be a partnership with you for us to come to great things. She told that Exit 19 has received millions of dollars and she is so glad, but in Fancy Gap it is time and she is asking you for your support. She told that she doesn't go away. She told that our local government is important, we have no chance of our voice being heard except through you. She told that she is asking where does the plan for Fancy Gap need to come from, she doesn't care they just need one. She told that she and her husband have worked very hard, lets get on board and make good things happen.

Mr. Steve Gregson told that he is going to read the handout in its entirety, some of it has been marked out, his mistake because he thought we had 3 minutes. He told that these are the comments that he has prepared for today:

After my questions that I proposed to the Board Members at last month's meeting and due to the August letter sent by staff. I have some observations, additional questions and comments:

- During the August meeting, not a single Board member mentioned any prior knowledge of the July letter nor this so called transparent plan that was submitted to only a select few in Fancy Gap. If it wasn't for *The Carroll News*, only this Board and a select few, would have any knowledge of this non approved Board plan. Why are the minutes very different to the quotes used or left out from the same meeting in *The Carroll News*?
- It was claimed by staff that "many" property owners had contacted him and additionally; "and I know that she has spoken to several of you about possibilities at Fancy Gap" referring to a business owner. But there wasn't any acknowledgement of any Board members that this had or had not happened. As a matter of fact Mr. Chairman this falls in your own district and you had mentioned: "had (has) not been approached by anyone in his district with the concerns that you were talking about and he is in a public place."
- I again quote from the minutes: "the administrator coming up with a plan to identify the properties out there around the interchange and down 52 arbitrarily just so they could have something to work off of with properties that fronted onto 148 or 52 that would be in the service area of water and wastewater or properties that had potential for development because where their proximity was or removing some properties because of topography or rock out, wetlands and things like that to get started on the process of identifying properties that could potentially be available for development and as a group end up shopping that around to potential developers." "Arbitrarily" (Mr. Cornwell wasn't there but there was another attorney that spoke and why wasn't that not in minutes because he brought in that the selection process has to be consistent on it.) a selection process that completely discriminates against others in the Fancy Gap area and this quote appears to create liability for the county in its selection process, or lack thereof.
- Also in the minutes Staff "told that we would in no way be a broker or agent for anything except a connective tissue between those that want to develop the property and those that actually have the property."..."anything than getting to potential buyer and property owner together." This is exactly why several do not want the county involved especially due to the administrative staff personal track record and the lack of results at Exit 19.
- In addition, Staff "told that we would in no way was it done in a non-transparent way because if it had been they wouldn't have sent it out publically on to the individuals who are the land owners." This clearly makes one question if the author understands the definition of Transparency. One chooses a private letter to a select group and calls it transparency? (Other than himself and a couple of other people, most that are here tonight to speak are ones that received the letter. We are not hearing a voice from the other ones and he thinks that's very important.)
- After staff being questioned by a Board member; "He told that this is not the first time that we have done this, we actually did this along US 58 after the water and sewer system was developed in the Woodlawn area and tried to get some people to buy into that. He told that it was not a fruitful proposition," Woodlawn along 58 was not a "fruitful proposition," along with a personal investment by two county administrators at Exit 19; in which one had stated he had lost money "hand over fist." This with the current issues of Exit 19 with over \$24 million with no return on investment (that would change tomorrow). With these failures, it is very clear the county's staff needs to stay clear of any plans and leave it up to professionals that have a proven track record.

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- With regards to Staff's quote: "there are some people that are killing the goose that laid the golden egg so you never know exactly which direction to go..." I can only remind the author that geese hunting is out of season and that would be highly illegal, but if this was another attempt to discredit the public from freedom of speech or the "team" then I can only recommend that one would review the Code of Ethics. Mr. Chairman these unethical failed attempts to discredit the public needs to stop and I will leave that up to you. It's quite unprofessional and at best embarrassing upon the County.
- Clearly the issue of the Non Board approved letter/plan has created a liability for the County in which one has to question; why wasn't the County Attorney's comments in the minutes but *The Carroll News* had the quote?
- Additionally, within the second letter it appears a county employee has created a new title for themselves that has never been approved by the Board nor exists within the Code of Virginia. The staff member has asked the select few to contact the Board for their direction while placing blame on others and clearly his actions is just another example of violating the Code of Ethics for which Mr. Chairman it is your duty to uphold. Thank you again *The Carroll News* for bringing this to the attention of the general public.

Much of the work that staff has claimed has already been done a while ago by other staff with Gina up here earlier, she was very much a huge part of that process of the input for that data set. Thank you Bernie Deck, for which we were blessed for his tremendous talents. (He put together a business plan. Mr. Hutchins made a comment when we did water and sewer powerpoint that he felt we needed to do that for every project in the future.)

Therefore, after speaking to many of the residents of the Fancy Gap area (who were not on the list), I would propose:

1. The Board to vote directing staff to file applications for funding of an outside professional real estate planning company thru an public workshop/meeting while being transparent with a request for proposals (RFP) process.
2. Demanding thru the RFP for the successful company to take what work that has already been done, update and proceed for a plan to accommodate not only protecting the rural landscape but integrate a best use practice of the properties available; maximizing the utilities that are in place along with traffic flow considerations for the whole area that has been impacted by the Federally funded water/sewer project.
3. This company needs to be noticed that part of their responsibilities will be to represent all property owners and to mediate a plan that will need to be approved by the Board allowing for any economic tax credits that are available so that the plan will have a chance of success.
4. This needs to be done prior to a decision of reversing the flow on sewer with regards to the Town of Hillsville proposal.

Mr. Mike Goldwasser told that he would like to begin also by saying that it was a fantastic fair and he has known Kevin for more years than he wants to say and we are so fortunate to have the support of the fair and the support of Kevin because as a farmer in this County it is amazing how the fair has improved. He told on a less pleasant note, he has known Steve Gregson he doesn't know how long and he wouldn't want me to say this but he is here because he really sees that over the past couple of years a true adversarial relationship has developed and this last situation at Fancy Gap is an example of it. He told that he saw the second letter and it was written in a way to his eyes and also when you talk about killing the goose that laid the golden egg that accused Steve of doing something wrong, if it had not been for Steve we could have gone on with this project of economic development. He told that Steve Gregson doesn't run Carroll County

government, the reason that you stepped back from that project is because Steve Gregson who is a very intelligent resident and is extremely knowledgeable about these things and had a good point was why on his own initiative, the County Administrator go out and do this when it seems so logical that a first step should be to consult with the Board or to have a public hearing. He told that the thing that bothers him so much is it is just a repetition of what he has complained about over the years, so many things have been done that could have been done better if the public had been involved and for that reason and actually the straw that broke the camel's back was when Mr. Hutchins and Gary sent that letter trying to get the hotline abolished. He told that over all the years that he has seen citizens squash from participating in government. He told that what he did to make sure that there would be a way for citizens to express themselves, and he is not a facebook person but he was fortunate in having some friends help him, so starting today he has started a facebook page that is called the Carroll County forum and he would welcome you to participate, discussion is truly free on there anybody can contribute and anybody can say what they want and he started out by basically repeating the theme of wanting to allow citizens to participate in government and there is alot of information, more than you are gonna want to read going all the way back to the process of trying to stop the hotline and things like that and also going back to a lack of public hearing, going back to Wildwood, going back to your conflict of interest things and there is a tremendous amount of information about all of that and he would encourage you to become involved and if he has made mistakes let him know but he thinks it is very important to become involved. He told that this is another example where the public was pushed aside in being involved in something they should have been involved in.

(Order)

SUPERVISORS TIME

Mr. Hendrick told that he is going to try not to ramble but last month concerning letters over Fancy Gap there were some questions asked and he hasn't read the full letters that went out but it is his understanding that the second letter contained Steve Gregson by name. He told that it was also cited as providing an opposition to any development that went on in Fancy Gap and asked if that reasonably correct for anybody that has read the letter. He told that he cannot agree with that. He told that he doesn't care who wants to come up here and address the Board, if he or Gary or anybody on the Board doesn't agree with it, he doesn't agree with citing that in a public letter, he thinks it is bad business. He told that he thinks that it does discourage public involvement. He told that he doesn't enjoy everything he reads in the hotline, he has been in there several times himself and he does wish they would put names on there but anything that we do to discourage involvement of the public he doesn't agree with. He asked if he agreed 100% with everything that Mr. Gregson said, no but I do believe that he is for development in Fancy Gap and he thinks there are people who will attest to that. He told that all the work wasn't done here in Administration, some done in Congressman Boucher's office and there was also a lot of work done by citizens and Steve Gregson was one of them. He told that with that he does not agree with that approach and that is his two cents. He told that next he has been thinking about the whole discussion on the letter that went out to poll landowners on if they were interested in selling. He told that a discussion that they has been that businesses and industry do not want to deal with private citizens in their purchasing land. He told that we as a County have positioned ourselves to buy multiple buildings over the past two years for that very reason which makes him scratch his head as to how the County can promote development like the goal was at Fancy Gap. He told that if in previous conversations the County has said, in order for us to effectively promote and land a business we need to purchase or the option on the land and asked if anyone sees where he is going with this. He told that doesn't mean he doesn't want progress but how we go about it needs to be addressed. He told that we have had citizens interested in selling their land they have come up here and spoke, he doesn't know how they got treated when they left here as far as if they got any attention. He told that the one in particular he knows did but what kind of position does that put us in as a County, are we going to endorse promote and show every piece of commercial land in the County. He told that the only thing the County is responsible for in Fancy Gap is the water and sewer. He told that he will add that to think about because he does not want to hinder progress anywhere. He told that the word zoning was mentioned and he would

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say to anyone that wants progress to investigate the word zoning, look up the definition of zoning. He told that he sees Mr. Barnhart is here and provided very good arguments and reasoning behind what was suggested previously. He told that he has some good ideas and if you want to rush progress see what you get in the end and if Fancy Gap wants to stay looking like Fancy Gap he would suggest investigating that dirty word. He told that he appreciates everyone coming out and asked them to come back next month.

Mr. Martin told that someone told him to never say anything bad about the newspaper or anybody that buys in by the barrel. He told that the school system started an energy saving program and he applied for the position and got it and the columns in the paper go vertical and there was an article saying that going down and directly across from his picture it said local man convicted of child molestation and he never got over that because the damage was done and the Gazette he was the first person that got a call in to the hotline but they put his picture beside his name and when they say Bob Martin is he a communist the damage is done. He told that he thought Josh had excellent comments. He told that he is not an advocate of zoning because it would be a good way to do suicide. He told that in the past when they spent hours going through bringing in experts on zoning what was suggested was to look at agriculture zoning but he is not advocating that today. He told that Josh mentioned there were spot improvements on 52 N and ask where they were.

Mr. Larrowe told that it is Hanging Tree and Coon Ridge.

Mr. Martin told that last month they had a request for a bridge naming and he thought it was a good idea we come up with a policy.

Mr. Larrowe told that it is in the packet under information.

Mr. Martin told that is great, he over looked it. He thanked everyone for coming out. He told that he believes very much that its the peoples building and they elect us to do the business of the county and under the Board is the County Administrator and what he always told is it is critical that people who come in are treated in a professional manner and treated equally. He told that he has done some petty things and he is sorry for it but when you start mentioning names it pulls us down and that is something to watch.

Dr. Littrell thanked Charlotte for being here and putting the video together. He told that he apologizes for not being at the Wytheville meeting and he supports your efforts and he is going to take the DVD and share it and ask people to write letters. He told that we preach Economic Development over and over and certainly the Training Center is so very important for the residents and the County for the economic impact. He told that we attract business and we need to retain what we have as well. He told that he is so proud of the STEM Lab at the High School, agriculture is very important and this is a way to reach out to folks.

Mr. Dickson thanked all who showed up and stay for the whole meeting, it shows character when you can stay and listen. He thanked those who are working to keep the Training Center open. He told that he will reiterate that he is a Democrat in the letter since he is the only one on the Board and the Governor happens to be one right now. He told that it is better in Carroll if you don't run as a democrat but sometimes you have to do what you got to do. He told on the economic adventures we are having, he has full trust in Mr. Larrowe. He told that we do not have a Economic person to promote our County and he has to do that along with his other duties and I think he does a very good job so if it takes a letter to Fancy Gap to help get things started, he didn't have to ask for my approval because he knew he already had it, thats the way it works. He told that he did think of one thing and Mr. Larrowe is alot responsible for this, we spent millions at Exit 19 but most come from the Tobacco Commission so as far as our County we have put very little in. He told that you can't get Tobacco Commission to send money to Carroll who didn't loose jobs to tobacco so we joined with Grayson and Galax. He told that when something happens at 19 and it will, Grayson and Galax will both share in the revenues of taxes and benefit from the jobs. He asked if we can practice the same thing in Fancy Gap, we could try it and see. He told that the County doesn't have a lot of

money. He told that it is just a thought and thanks the people in Fancy Gap who helped and thanked Gina Isom for her help. He thanked everyone for coming.

Mr. Hutchins thanked everyone that is here, often times people come and have their two minutes and are gone but you guys came and we appreciate that. He thanked VACo for the award. He told that he thinks that it has more meaning than alot of folks realize. He told that there was a huge amount of effort behind it and a large piece of that was Mr. Larrowe working diligently with others to get it going. He told that it was a vision that started years ago, almost the same time Ms. Isom started coming wanting water in Fancy Gap. He told that both took a lot of persistence and it has paid off. He told that we don't have by definition an economic development individual, the County Administrator is charged with that and he doesn't necessarily have to ask him before he tries to do something that is good for an area and with conversations that are out there, there are many things that County Administrator's do that help to grow the economy that are seeds that are planted before dollars are spent. He told that we pay them to have creative innovative thoughts and he appreciates that.

Mr. McCraw told that he is glad everyone was here tonight. He told that he appreciates those coming from the Training Center and told that everyone up here is on is behind you and we will do what we can. He told that when you are dealing with Richmond sometimes that is a little hard but we will do everything we can. He told that VACo will probably help us with this to and will charge Mr. Lynch to do everything he can to help save the Training Center. He told that it helps the economy and it helps alot of people who really need it and it is really sad. He told that he appreciates Sam saying what he did about Gary and he appreciates David to. He told that he is not saying that he agrees with everything Mr. Larrowe has ever done but I don't think he has ever done anything really horrible. He told Mr. Gregson that he has one comment and he is not fussing he is just going to bring attention to your second bullet point. He told that he knows this is not politically correct but it says as a matter of fact Mr. Chairman this falls in your own district, it does and you had mentioned that I had not been approached by anyone with a concern that you were talking about. He told that he did say that but we were talking about the z word if you will recall, you brought zoning up and that's what he was talking about and no one has mentioned it. He told that he knows better than to bring the z word up. He told that he is totally against zoning and he will never do anything that to support it. He told that sometimes you can get things accomplished but he is getting old and can't run.

Mr. Gregson told that he is glad you brought that up because that is one of the discrepancies that is clearly what you were quoted in the minutes. He told that he took it from the minutes because the news is not the official record and that is why there are discrepancies.

Mr. McCraw told that he hasn't even looked at the minutes, shame on me for that but he was talking about zoning and he will never support it. He told that he ran on that platform and he will never change his mind. He told that he appreciates everyone coming out tonight. He told that two of us will be at the meeting with Dr. Hazel and hopefully after we have the meeting we can come up with a plan.

(Order)

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Mr. Hendrick, seconded by Dr. Littrell and passing, the Board adjourned.

VOTES

Mr. Hendrick	Yes
Mr. McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hutchins	Yes
Mr. Dickson	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

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(Order)

Chairman

Clerk