August 16, 2022 Clarke County Board of Supervisors

1:00 pm

Regular Meeting Main Meeting Room

At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Clarke County, Virginia, held in the Berryville Clarke County Government Center, 101 Chalmers Court, 2nd Floor, Berryville, Virginia, conducted on Tuesday, August 16, 2022, at 1:00 pm.

Board Members Present:

Matthew E. Bass - Berryville District

Terri T. Catlett - Millwood / Pine Grove District

Doug Lawrence - Russell District
Bev B. McKay - White Post District

David S. Weiss - Buckmarsh / Blue Ridge District

County Staff Present:

Chris Boies, Brenda Bennett, Brandon Stidham, Cathy Kuehner, Catherine Marsten, Felicia Hart

Constitutional / State Offices / Other Agencies:

Sheriff Anthony "Tony" Roper, Matt Smith, Travis Sumption

Press:

Mickey Powell – The Winchester Star

Others Present:

Carol Coffelt, Lee Coffelt, Pam Klein, Sherry Wise, Alex Lee, Iona Pillion

1) Call to Order

Chairman Weiss called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

2) Adoption of Agenda

Vice Chair Catlett moved to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

Matthew E. Bass - Aye
Terri T. Catlett - Aye
Doug M. Lawrence - Aye
Beverly B. McKay - Aye
David S. Weiss - Aye

3) Citizen's Comment Period

Lee Coffelt

I would like to again request your support in the creation of the new Fire & EMS Advisory Group, and express to you how all three fire companies have collectively worked on this. We believe whole-heartedly that it is going to be a better model and a better working group for the oversight of moving Fire & EMS forward in the County. Some of you had very direct questions for me when I talked to you leading up to this meeting and I hope I got those answered.

As a general statement, I would like to reinforce what I spoke to you about. This is really going to streamline and will be a little more inclusive and do a little better job of providing that oversight for how services are provided, moving forward with new goals and objectives, and ensuring that the career side is working well with the volunteer side and vice-versa. On a personal note, it will also decrease the number of meetings per month for us volunteer chiefs, which is a wonderful thing.

Pam Klein

I live in Millwood. I'm here with several members of the Millwood Community Association in reference to the traffic in Millwood, which is terrible. The traffic isn't terrible as much as the speed. I say that because I live on Linden Lane, which is a dead end road, but it comes out onto Bishop Meade just as the hill goes down into town. Right opposite the Methodist church are two little lanes: Linden Lane on one side and Cunningham Lane on the other.

I've almost been hit two or three times almost every week because cars and trucks go very fast down the hill. They don't slow down, because you can't see. The road curves as it goes past the church and then, right past that curve—maybe thirty feet or forty feet past the curve—is where Linden and Cunningham lanes come in to Bishop Meade and you can't see it. Aside from the speed that people are going, there is no reason for them to stop. There is no indication that there are roads there, no signs, and they don't pay attention to the speed limit. We like it when the police are there, because then they catch speeders. Millwood is a good money-maker for the police.

The problems are the speed and the lack of visibility, and there are no signs indicating that there are roads coming up. Going up the hill the traffic isn't so fast, because it's coming out of the village and it has to slow down because people are walking around. This is also a problem for people who walk on the road, because there is no place to walk. There's a sort of berm next to the road.

We've talked about this a lot at our meetings and we have a couple of suggestions. First signage, maybe those flashing lights or the traffic signs that show your speed. We know that you can't do speed bumps because of the snowplows, but rumble strips like they have on Route 50 as it approaches the light and on Route 7 near the gas station. People at least can hear that and slow down, because there's something

happening on the road that indicates that maybe you should slow down. We have to do something because it's very dangerous. We're just waiting for something awful to happen. We'd like to have speed bumps the way they have in Upperville.

Sherry Wise

I live in Millwood on Route 255 between the Mill and Route 50. Of course, the speed limit is different there but I am constantly going back and forth. I have personally witnessed a couple of near misses and one accident where, fortunately, no one was hurt. But it is a problem and we have been talking about it for a very long time and we really would like someone to address it as soon as possible, before something terrible happens.

Alex Lee

I also live in Millwood and have been living there since 2007. My house is right in front of the Mill, so I go through the Mill parking lot. Every day, I go out at least once or twice on the road. I've had several near misses over those years. I have seen people pushed off the road by cars zipping around. I strongly support some effort. I realize there has been discussion on stoplights. Perhaps there are other ways of looking at this, but for the continuation of this and the amount of traffic going through, we are waiting to see a real serious accident.

Iona Pillion

I live on Sycamore Lane. What is really bad is the tractor trailers that come though Millwood. I've stopped some of them and said, "Excuse me, why are you coming down this road? It says no trucks." They say, "Well, the GPS sends us this way". And there again, that is dangerous. All the traffic in the middle of Millwood, and these big 18-wheelers coming through. They don't come fast, that's a good thing, because they can't go fast because there's no room. Can't we change the GPS or get somebody to change it? It's very scary, especially when you're on a horse.

4) VDOT Update

Assistant Resident Engineer Matt Smith provided the following update on maintenance activities in the County for the months of July and August:

- Completed primary moving operations
- Started secondary mowing operations
- Shoulder repairs on Routes 641 and 639
- Storm debris cleanup on Route 627
- Pothole repairs on various routes
- Dead animal removal
- Completed tree trimming operations on Good Shepherd Road
- Started tree trimming operations on Quarry Road

Complete patching on Routes 641, 610, and 608

Matt Smith provided the following update on previous Board issues:

- The Johnson grass on Routes 608 and 612 has been cut.
- Data was collected for the requested speed study on Route 723 from
 Millwood to Route 50. Two different groups, the traffic-engineering group
 and VDOT's local sign people went out and collected data. Based on that
 data, the crash history, and the road geometrics, the Staunton District Traffic
 Engineering does not support a reduction in the current speed limit. There
 were three reported crashes in the five years they looked at, one was a deer,
 one was alcohol-related, and one was icy road conditions.
- What VDOT can do, if the Board would like, is to go out and do an evaluation to see if there is any additional signage to put up or other similar measures.

Vice Chair Catlett

- Indicated that the Board and the citizens would like VDOT to do so.
- Added that there are a couple of facilities in that area that have a lot of horse trailers coming in and out, so sight lines are of particular concern.
- Requested that VDOT evaluate the area and suggested that increased signage may be a benefit.
 - Matt Smith advised that, often when VDOT gets requests to look at lowering the speed limit, they discover that people drive what the road dictates, and they will keep driving it at the speed they are comfortable with. Safety features such as permitted entrances, signage, and striping are all based on speed. If a speed is posted low but people are actually driving above that, then the safety features are not accomplishing anything. Enforcement is very beneficial in these cases, particularly if it is local people who are speeding.

Chairman Weiss

 Reiterated for the citizens in attendance that the Board, particularly the two Supervisors from the area, will continue to work through this issue with VDOT.

Matt Smith continued his update on previous issues:

- Per the Board's request, VDOT has provided a status report on the recommended improvements noted in the 2019 Route 7 Roadway Safety Assessment. This report includes a list of the eight recommendations that have been completed, five planned funded improvements that are upcoming, and six unfunded recommendations.
- VDOT is pursuing federal highway safety funding on two of the unfunded recommendations to try to get them implemented. There are not a lot of

discretionary funds available to be used for these recommendations; there is a lot of competition.

- O Chris Boies requested an update on a question previously asked of Ed Carter regarding federal infrastructure funds. VDOT cannot apply for some of these items, but localities can. The County needs to know if the planning work for the Route 7 safety study qualifies as planning per the federal requirement. If it qualifies, the County would be allowed to apply for construction funds. The application deadline is in September.
- o Matt Smith replied that he would follow up with Ed Carter.

Chairman Weiss

- Added that the Board would be particularly interested in those funds to implement and/or lengthen turn lanes up and down the mountain.
 - Matt Smith responded that the lanes are short for the speeds and traffic volume in the area, but there are many other competing projects across the state as well. They are all judged by analyzing cost versus safety benefit.
- Stated, and Chris Boies concurred, that the County is eager to pursue any available avenues and does not want to miss any deadlines for possible funding opportunities.

Supervisor Bass

 Advised that contractors installing rumble strips on Route 340 caused significant delays, with cars being backed up in both directions, midday on Saturday.

Supervisor Lawrence

- Requested that the Edinburg office lengthen the 20-second green signal on westbound Business Route 7 for the rest of the week, to ease congestion caused by fair traffic.
 - o Matt Smith advised he would call them after the meeting.

Vice Chair Catlett

 Commented that, if VDOT is going to be looking at Route 723 on the East side of Millwood, perhaps they could stop in Millwood and to see what they think about the sight distance and if it would be an appropriate place for rumble strips.

Supervisor McKay

- Asked to hear the Sheriff's opinion on the Millwood speed issue. The speed limit is already 25mph, and it is very difficult to get out in some places.
 Additional signage could help, but sign pollution is also a concern.
 - Sheriff Roper responded that, anecdotally, enforcement efforts in Millwood are usually pretty successful. He does not have any data readily available today but is happy to speak with the Supervisors about the issue with that data in hand.

 Chris Boies offered a reminder that the Board approved two additional deputy positions to help with enforcement, which the Sheriff is currently trying to get hired and certified.

Supervisor Lawrence

- Suggested it would be helpful to remove the non-legitimate signs in VDOT's right-of-way and asked if VDOT was responsible for Berryville Route 340/Buckmarsh Street, because there are many signs going up.
 - Matt Smith responded that those signs are illegal, though VDOT does not really actively enforce that unless there is a direct safety issue.

Chairman Weiss

- Summarized that the Board would like to have VDOT investigate the options that were mentioned today for Millwood and then work with the Supervisors and citizens to find some resolution.
- Opined that there are things that can help to a certain degree, but there are more people consistently traveling through the County now. As a result, issues like this may be improved or mitigated, but will never be fully solved.

Supervisor Lawrence

- Advised that there is a large ad in the Winchester paper every month that shows bridges that have had their weight limits reduced and questioned if VDOT contacts any online mapping or trucking companies to alert them to those changes.
 - Matt Smith responded he is not sure.

5) Economic Development & Tourism Update

Felicia Hart, Director of Economic Development & Tourism, presented the following:

- All updated information about the VATI grant has been put on the ClarkeConnect website and the Clarke County Broadband Internet Access webpage.
- One-on-one work continues with the Laurel Ridge Small Business
 Development Center, who is managing our GOVirginia Small Business
 Resiliency Team grant. This the second year we are participating in this program, which assists small businesses with free access to marketing, financial guidance, creation of an e-commerce website, and accounting software.
- Last year's regional Employer Expo was very successful and several Clarke
 County businesses participated. We expect the same for the next expo, the plans for which are currently in process.
- Clarke County is again participating in the Worlds of Work (WoW!) program,
 which will be hosted at the Shenandoah University Events Center on October
 13 & 14. We are encouraging local businesses to set up a hands-on booth to

- showcase themselves. Middle schoolers from all local school districts will attend this event.
- By working with Shaine Coleman from Clarke County High School, we continue to make introductions to local businesses for those students who may not be attending college. This work includes finding potential jobs in our area and allowing students to shadow an employee to determine if they are interested in that profession. We also hosted a "field trip" for several students to visit the Winchester Airport.
- The second New Resident Meet and Greet was held in July; about 30 newcomers attended. Many non-profits set up booths and Welcome Bags were distributed. The Welcome Bags include brochures, cards, and promotional items from local businesses, as well as local information. Going forward, we will be moving the Meet and Greet events to a different week so as not to conflict with the Berryville Town Council meeting. The next Meet and Greet will be held October 18.
- It has been about a year since our first local business Meet and Greet event at the Barns. We are looking at hosting our next one in October or November. More information will be provided as it becomes available.
- The Ruritans have recently invested a lot of money to improve the fairgrounds. A number of the buildings have been pressure-washed and painted, recent storm damage to the Horticulture Building has been fixed, fences have been repaired, and numerous other projects to enhance the facilities have been completed. This is still a work in progress.
- The Board of the Ruritans have recently approved my request to have WonderLOVE artwork on permanent display at the fairgrounds, along the Route 7 side, for enhanced visibility. This will allow Clarke County to participate in the State WonderLOVE Trail through the Virginia Tourism Corporation (VTC). This is an on-going project and a way to personalize communities. The display features the word "LOVE", with the letters being built from things that represent the community. I am now working with local artists and craftsman to get the display designed and completed.
- Secretary of Commerce Caren Merrick was scheduled for a two-day regional tour, with Clarke County hosting her for a tabletop meeting with some of our local business leaders at the Barns. Sadly, this tour has been postponed.
 Updates will be provided as they become available.
- The Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission is working in partnership with the Virginia Tourism Corporation (VTC). We have requested, and are still waiting for, an update from the Virginia 250 Commemoration Committee on the next steps.
 - Chris Boies advised that this is part of a statewide initiative that aims to bring people to Virginia by holding special events related to the Revolutionary War. The Commission had requested that localities

participate by naming local Virginia 250 Commemoration Committees, and staff was going to bring this to the Board for consideration. However, before staff was able to do so, the County received a subsequent communication advising that the County Administrator has been appointed to the Virginia 250 Commission as Clarke County's representative.

Chairman Weiss

- Offered that the County previously participated in the World War I
 Commemorative Committee and the Sesquicentennial and the people involved seemed to enjoy it.
 - Felicia Hart responded the main event would not be held until 2026.
 Augusta and Staunton are working on a regional campaign, to help small communities who may need to work in partnerships.

Chairman Weiss

- Asked the Director of Economic Development & Tourism how long she has been with the County and what she is most proud of.
 - Felicia Hart replied that, in 2.5 years with the County, she is proudest of helping local business owners to solve problems. She enjoys bringing people together by having conversations with business owners to identify their needs and then being able to connect them with available resources.

6) Approval of Minutes

Supervisor McKay moved to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2022 Regular Meeting as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

Matthew E. Bass - Aye
Terri T. Catlett - Aye
Doug M. Lawrence - Aye
Beverly B. McKay - Aye
David S. Weiss - Aye

7) Discussion and Set Public Hearing: 2022 Clarke County Comprehensive Plan

Brandon Stidham, Director of Planning, presented the following:

- The revised draft of the 2022 Comprehensive Plan was introduced last month, allowing 30 days for the Board to submit additional questions and edits.
- Three additional edits were proposed and are incorporated into the draft.

- The first relates to land conversion for the Nutrient Credit Program. Language was added to Objective 1 (Agriculture), Policy #9, to encourage government agencies to understand and minimize or eliminate the adverse impacts that their programs may have on agriculture and the availability of agricultural land, as well as specifically pursue legislation to limit the conversion of agricultural land to forest through nutrient credit programs that are used to mitigate stormwater impacts of development projects located outside Clarke County. This language mirrors the Board's 2021 Legislative Priorities.
- The second edit recognizes the VATI grant project by adding language to Objective 13 (Broadband Internet Access) to specifically identify the Countywide fiber-to-the-home project.
- The final is a minor technical edit recommended by Planning Commissioner Staelin. Removing the word "excessive" from Objective 10 (Economic Development), Policy #3, to avoid confusion with the newly defined term "significant degradation".
- If the Board is comfortable with these edits, staff will incorporate them into the revised draft. Staff recommends that the Board set a public hearing on the 2022 Clarke County Comprehensive Plan for September.

Supervisor Bass moved to set a public hearing on the 2022 Clarke County Comprehensive Plan for Tuesday, September 20, 2022, at 6:30 pm or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard. The motion carried by the following vote:

Matthew E. Bass - Aye
Terri T. Catlett - Aye
Doug M. Lawrence - Aye
Beverly B. McKay - Aye
David S. Weiss - Aye

Chairman Weiss

 Offered the Board's compliments and appreciation to all who worked on the Comprehensive Plan.

8) Proposed Parks & Recreation Fee Changes

County Administrator Chris Boies presented the following:

 At their July 13 meeting, the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board recommended fee increases, to be effective January 1, 2023. The delayed effective date gives Parks & Recreation staff time to notify the public.

- All of the fees try to strike a balance between remaining affordable and competitive with surrounding localities, while recouping as much operational cost as possible.
- The significant change proposed for the pool fees is to eliminate the price difference for residents versus non-residents. The non-resident fee has not generated significant revenue, and this will streamline the admissions process, as there is often a long line when the pool opens. There will still be a resident/non-resident cost difference to rent the pool facility.
- The Rec Center has been seeing increased usage and rentals of late. The proposed changes to admission fees include slight increases and again removes the resident/non-resident cost difference.
- Proposed changes to Facility Rental Fees includes slight increases and eliminating half-day shelter rentals, due to the cleaning and time required to turn them over for the second half of the day. There is still a discount for non-profits to rent park facilities.
- Overall, these proposed changes help to compensate for increased operational costs, due to minimum wage raises and other costs.
- Certain commercial activities allowed in the park and park facilities. In the
 past, they have been charged a percentage of their sales. However, this was
 done on an honor system, is hard to regulate, and sometimes results in
 payment of less than what the normal, non-commercial rental fee would be.
- The proposed fee to rent facilities for commercial activities is double the normal, non-commercial rental fee.

<u>Supervisor Lawr</u>ence

- Asked if there are many weekends when all the park shelters are rented at the same time.
 - Chris Boies answered that there are certain times of year where the facilities get close to full occupancy, but there seems to be an adequate number of shelters. The Parks & Recreation Director has also implemented rules to keep things fair and prevent any groups from locking out the schedule for certain shelters or facilities.

Vice Chair Catlett

 Advised that the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board spent a lot of time discussing these proposed fee changes; the last time fees were raised was many years ago.

Chairman Weiss

- Clarified that the proposed fee changes have been brought before the Board because they are the approving authority; the Parks & Recreation Board is only advisory and cannot change fees itself.
 - Chris Boies suggested that all fees across the County should be reviewed annually as a part of the budget process. Even if fees do not change, the Board should approve them each year.

Supervisor Bass

- Inquired if there were fee sheets for all the different County departments.
 - Chris Boies replied that there are, but they are all formatted differently. Staff would like to standardize them into a uniform format.

Supervisor Lawrence moved to accept the proposed Parks & Recreation Fee schedules as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

Matthew E. Bass - Aye
Terri T. Catlett - Aye
Doug M. Lawrence - Aye
Beverly B. McKay - Aye
David S. Weiss - Aye

9) Proposed Parks & Recreation Delegation of Authority

Chris Boies presented the following:

- The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board also recommended a delegation of authority, which provides some decision-making parameters in regards to new projects at the park. In working through some of the recent park projects, the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board realized that there was no defined way to review proposals and no clear approval process.
- This delegation of authority includes an application process, decision criteria, and a clear approving authority for projects within the park.
- The proposed delegation of authority breaks down projects into three levels.
- The first level could be approved by the Parks & Recreation Director and would include replacing, repairing, or renovating something that already exists, signage installation, and the placement of non-permanent structures.
- The second level would go to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board for approval and includes new, permanent structures requiring a building permit and uses that consume more than 256 square feet of ground.
- The third level would come before the Board of Supervisors for approval and includes items requiring financial contribution outside of the approved budget, anything involving naming, anything involving the donation of land, cash, or equipment valued at \$10,000 or more, and anything in conflict with the park's master plan.
- Compliance with the master plan is one of the stated criteria for evaluating projects, along with initial and maintenance costs, and the amount of space proposed to be used and the number of people to be served. There is not a lot of extra room at the park, so careful evaluation is required.

Supervisor Lawrence

- Questioned if other localities have policies on naming.
 - Chris Boies answered that VACO recently conducted a survey on this;
 he will get the results and share them.

Vice Chair Catlett moved to approve the proposed Parks & Recreation Delegation of Authority as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

Matthew E. Bass - Aye
Terri T. Catlett - Aye
Doug M. Lawrence - Aye
Beverly B. McKay - Aye
David S. Weiss - Aye

10) Proposed Fire & Rescue Advisory Group

Chris Boies presented the following:

- The three fire companies are proposing to alter the governance structure within the Fire & Rescue system by establishing a Fire & Rescue Advisory Group.
- Currently there is the Fire & EMS Commission, which was created through County Code and was put in place to provide planning level oversight for the system.
- With the County hiring a new Director of Fire, EMS, & Emergency Management, the fire chiefs saw an opportunity to try a new approach and get it in place before the new Director starts.
- This proposed change provides the opportunity to reduce the number of meetings, to improve communication, and to promote engagement and cooperation.
- The Fire & EMS Commission supports the new group, but would like to stay in place for some amount of time in order to ensure the new group can function as described.
- The Board of Supervisors has several options. The first is to leave things in status quo and not change the governance structure.
- The second is to follow the Commission's recommendation: allowing the new group to be formed while keeping the Commission in place and setting an evaluation period.
- The third option is to fully implement the advisory group and remove the Commission. This would necessitate amending the County Code and thus would require the Board to authorize a public hearing.

- The Fire & Rescue Advisory Group is designed to not be a public body, as it would not be a Board-appointed group, nor would it be created by the Board.
- The Chairman of the Board of Supervisors would appoint a citizen member, while the other members would be appointed by position. The group includes the President of each company, the Chief of each company, the Director of Fire, EMS, & Emergency Management, a career staff representative, and a citizen-at-large.

Supervisor Bass

 Opined that, in order to make first responders' lives easier, the Board ought to listen to what they have to say.

Supervisor McKay

 Suggested that this is a step in the right direction. It gives a clear break from the past and allows all three of the fire companies to have equal voice. Offered support for the following the Commission's recommendation for a trial basis.

Vice Chair Catlett

- Agreed that the trial basis is a good idea and suggested that the trial period include the budget process at least once.
- Added that having respect for and working in collaboration with the citizen member is a very necessary aspect of the proposed group.

<u>Supervisor Lawrence</u>

- Offered support for the trial basis and emphasized the importance of getting feedback from the new Director after 6 months. The new group is not that much different from the Association, which had its problems and fell apart, so it is good to listen to the Director's feedback to see how the success of the new governance structure can be measured.
 - Chris Boies clarified that, at their last meeting, the Fire & EMS Commission voted to meet quarterly and will meet again in November.
 A six-month trial would get through the budget submission process.

Chairman Weiss

- Advised he supports the effort to improve and address concerns and supports
 the six-month trial period, adding that, while the Advisory Group is not a public
 body and would not be subject to all the public notice requirements, it is still
 important to keep some degree of records to provide accountability within the
 group and alleviate potential recollection issues.
 - Chris Boies noted, and Lee Coffelt concurred, that there was an expectation among the Chiefs that the group would have a certain amount of organizational structure and records kept.
- Inquired as to dispute resolution, as the group would only be able to make recommendations to the Board if they were unanimous.
 - Chris Boies clarified that overall policies would not come before the Board unless there was a unanimous vote by the advisory group. If the

group could not reach consensus, then the matter would come to the Board of Supervisors to settle.

 Lee Coffelt explained that the unanimous language is a result of the group's collective desire to speak with one voice about how fire & EMS service is provided and what the future looks like.

Supervisor Bass

- Requested clarification as to the group's requirement for a unanimous vote and potential disputes coming before the Board.
 - O Chris Boies advised that the group's first objective is to provide guidance to the Board. The Board is the governing body and has the final say on how the system operates. The group should be able to handle day-to-day matters internally. It may be simpler to remove the language regarding disputes.

Chairman Weiss

- Asked what the budget process would be, because the advisory group does not have authority to disperse funds.
 - O Chris Boies answered that the Director would work with the new group on a proposed budget and try to get unanimous recommendation for that budget, which would be presented to the Commission and then to the Board. Existing agreement language establishes that the stipend is handled separately, but the rest of the budget would go through this group. If the Commission goes away after the six-month trial period, it will be necessary to amend the agreement and the County Code.

Supervisor Lawrence moved to recognize the new Clarke County Fire & Rescue Advisory Group, to keep the Fire & EMS Commission intact for the time being, to conduct a six-month review and to ask that the language about dispute resolution be reviewed and amended as necessary. The motion carried by the following vote:

Matthew E. Bass - Aye
Terri T. Catlett - Aye
Doug M. Lawrence - Aye
Beverly B. McKay - Aye
David S. Weiss - Aye

- 11) Board of Supervisors Personnel Committee Items from August 8, 2022:
 - A. Expiration of Term for Appointments Expiring through October 2022

2022-08-08 Summary: Following review, the Personnel Committee took no action.

2022-08-16 Action: Chris Boies reviewed the above summary.

B. Clarke County Sheriff's Office Career Development Program

2022-08-08 Summary: Following review, the Personnel Committee took no action.

2022-08-16 Action: Chris Boies reviewed the above summary.

12) Board of Supervisors Work Session Items from August 8, 2022

Board of Supervisors Work Session Items
Berryville/Clarke County Government Center, 2nd Floor
101 Chalmers Court, Berryville, Virginia 22611
August 8, 2022, 10:00 AM, Meeting Room AB

<u>Board Members Present</u>: David S. Weiss, Matthew E. Bass, Terri T. Catlett, Doug M. Lawrence, Beverly B. McKay (via telephone)

Board Members Absent: None

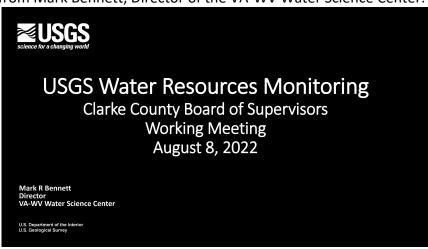
<u>Officer / Staff Present</u>: Brenda Bennett, Cathy Kuehner, Brandon Stidham, Alison Teetor, Catherine Marsten

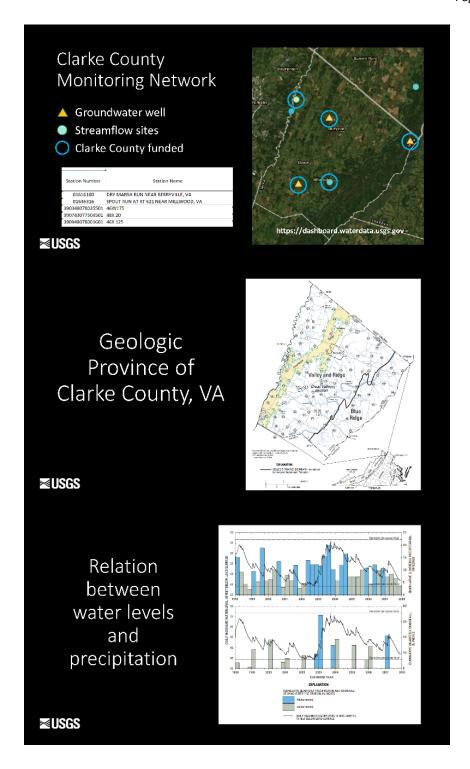
Others Present: Shaun Wicklein, Mark Bennett

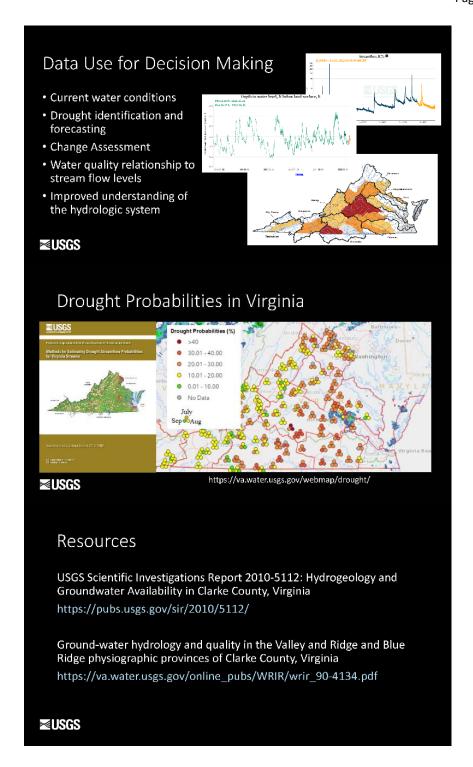
Press Present: None

2022-08-08 Summary: At 10:20 am, Chairman Weiss called the meeting to order.

<u>U.S. Geological Survey Presentation</u>: The Board heard the following presentation from Mark Bennett, Director of the VA-WV Water Science Center:









Board members asked several questions about the monitoring program, research methods and drought predictions. The Board generally supported continuing this monitoring program. The USGS representatives will draft a proposal for future consideration by the Board.

2022-08-16 Action: Chris Boies reviewed the above summary.

 The USGS will be sending a proposal to enhance the data analysis to the County; this will come before the Board in the future.

Supervisor Lawrence

 Asked what the County pays and why the USGS wanted to move to a 5-year period.

Chairman Weiss

- Explained the County pays roughly \$30,000, which used to be \$60,000 but had
 to be cut. The County used to receive an annual update on all the numbers,
 but the data is more relevant in 5-year groups instead of 1-year.
- Suggested treating the payment as a capital project, setting aside \$5,000 per year.

<u>Supervisor Lawrence</u>

- Questioned if the monitoring stations were most of the expense.
 - Alison Teetor affirmed and added that the funds would allow the monitoring stations to continue collecting data, but not provide for analysis.

13) Board of Supervisors Finance Committee Items from August 8, 2022

A. <u>Clarke County Sheriff's Office Career Development Program</u>

2022-08-08 Summary: Following review, the Personnel Committee took no action.

2022-08-16 Action: Brenda Bennett reviewed the above summary.

- B. <u>Clarke County Department of Social Services FY23 Supplemental</u>
 <u>Appropriation Request:</u> The Department of Social Services is requesting a supplemental appropriation for Covid funds. These funds were previously appropriated in FY22 but not fully expended during FY22.
- 2022-08-08 Summary: Following review, the Finance Committee recommends "Be it resolved that the Clarke County Department of Social Services fund budgeted expenditure and appropriation be increased \$8,907 and that fund balance designation for Government Savings be reduced in the same amount, all for the purpose of increasing expenditure budget for Covid-19 related expenses."

2022-08-16 Action: Brenda Bennett reviewed the Finance Committee recommendation.

- The Department of Social Services has federal Covid funds available to
 use in the amount of \$8,907. These funds were previously appropriated
 in FY22, but were not fully expended and were carried over to FY23. The
 timeframe for expending them was extended.
- During the FY23 budget process, the revenue for those funds was included in the budget but the expenditure was not, which resulted in the FY23 budgeted revenue being overstated.
- The expenditure appropriation that was missing from the FY23 budget is being requested now, in the amount of \$8,907, as a supplemental appropriation.

Supervisor Bass moved, be it resolved, that the Clarke County Department of Social Services fund budgeted expenditure and appropriation be increased \$8,907 and that fund balance designation for Government Savings be reduced in the same amount, all for the purpose of increasing expenditure budget for Covid-19 related expenses. The motion carried by the following vote:

Matthew E. Bass - Aye Terri T. Catlett - Aye Doug M. Lawrence - Aye Beverly B. McKay - Aye David S. Weiss - Aye

- C. <u>FY23 Conservation Easement Supplemental Appropriation Request</u>: The Conservation Easement Authority is requesting a supplemental appropriation for an application filed by Ellen Dupuy.
- 2022-08-08 Summary: The Finance Committee recommends: "Be it resolved that FY23 budgeted expenditure and appropriation to the Conservation Easement fund be increased \$42,000, that revenue from the Commonwealth be recognized in the amount of \$21,000, and that the fund balance designation for Conservation Easement purchases be decreased by \$21,000, all for the purpose of purchasing Conservation Easement on the land of Ellen Dupuy."

2022-08-16 Action: Brenda Bennett reviewed the above.

- The property meets all four criteria set forth in the guidelines for accepting properties for easement purchase.
- The easement purchase price of \$40,800 was approved by the Easement Authority, who is now requesting an appropriation of \$42,000 to include closing costs.
- \$21,000 of the appropriation would be covered by VDACS funding from the Commonwealth and \$21,000 would come from fund balance designation for conservation easement purchase.

Supervisor McKay moved, be it resolved, that FY23 budgeted expenditure and appropriation to the Conservation Easement fund be increased \$42,000, that revenue from the Commonwealth be recognized in the amount of \$21,000, and that the fund balance designation for Conservation Easement purchases be decreased by \$21,000, all for the purpose of purchasing Conservation Easement on the land of Ellen Dupuy. The motion carried by the following vote:

Matthew E. Bass - Aye
Terri T. Catlett - Aye
Doug M. Lawrence - Aye
Beverly B. McKay - Aye
David S. Weiss - Aye

D. Bills and Claims:

2022-08-08 Summary: Following review, the Finance Committee recommends approval of the July 2022 Invoice History Report.

2022-08-16 Action: Brenda Bennett reviewed the Finance Committee recommendation.

Vice-Chair Catlett moved to accept the bills and claims as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

Matthew E. Bass - Aye
Terri T. Catlett - Aye
Doug M. Lawrence - Aye
Beverly B. McKay - Aye
David S. Weiss - Aye

E. Standing Reports

- a. Year to Date Budget Report
- b. Reconciliation of Appropriations
- c. Capital Projects Report

2022-08-16 Action: Information Only.

14) Joint Administrative Services Board Update

Brenda Bennett provided the following update:

- The JAS Board did not meet last month.
- The office is busy closing FY22 as FY23 opens.

15) Government Projects Update

Chris Boies provided the following update:

As the Board is aware, the consultants for the courthouse green master plan project held an open house on July 28. Since that time, we have received two additional comments through email which have been forwarded to the consultants. The consultants will now work on the final design and will present preliminary drawings to staff in early October and host a second open house towards the end of October or first part of November. Following the second open house, the final master plan will be developed and submitted to the county.

Public Information Officer Cathy Kuehner has done a great job of updating the broadband webpage on our website. As you can see, we have provided the most updated information on the All Points project. The grant agreement with the Commonwealth was signed on July 22, 2022. All Points is doing design work and expects construction to begin in spring of 2023 and conclude in July 2025. Once construction begins and invoices are paid through the regional commission, we will receive monthly progress updates. The leadership team for the project will meet quarterly to discuss progress. All Points and the regional commission will provide updates at a BOS meeting semi-annually if requested. Our plan will be for staff to provide a regular update at each BOS meeting once construction begins and to place as much of that information as possible on the county website. Residents will receive notice that service is available at their location approximately 60-90 days in advance through correspondence from All Points.

16) Miscellaneous Items

None presented.

17) Summary of Required Actions

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Responsibility</u>
1.	Process approved minutes for July 19, 2022	Catherine Marsten
2.	Advertise PH2022-16 Notify Fire-EMS Commission members and Fire Chiefs of	Catherine Marsten
3.	advisory group recognition	Chris Boies
4.	Appoint citizen-at-large for Fire-EMS advisory group	David Weiss
5.	Update Position Classification & Compensation Plan Advise Parks & Recreation Advisory Board of approved fee	Chris Boies
6.	changes and delegation of authority	Chris Boies
7.	Process budget transfers and supplemental requests	Brenda Bennett
8.	Process Bills and Claims	Brenda Bennett

18) Board Member Committee Status Reports

By consensus, the Board agreed to skip committee status reports in the interest of time, as there were no urgent updates to share.

- 19) Closed Session pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(1): Discussion and evaluation of the performance and salaries of specific public officers and employees.
- 20) Closed Session pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(3): Discussion of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

At 3:02 pm, Supervisor Bass moved to convene in closed session to discuss and evaluate the performance and salaries of specific public officers and employees and to discuss the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, as permitted by VA Code §2.2-3711(A)(1) and §2.2-3711(A)(3). The motion carried by the following vote:

Matthew E. Bass - Aye
Terri T. Catlett - Aye
Doug M. Lawrence - Aye
Beverly B. McKay - Aye
David S. Weiss - Aye

At 4:27 pm, with the members of the Board of Supervisors being assembled within the designated meeting place with open doors and in the presence of members of the public and/or the media desiring to attend, Supervisor Bass moved to reconvene in open session. The motion carried as follows:

Matthew E. Bass - Aye
Terri T. Catlett - Aye
Doug M. Lawrence - Aye
Beverly B. McKay - Aye
David S. Weiss - Aye

Supervisor Bass further moved to execute the following Certification of Closed Session:

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Clarke, Virginia, has convened a closed meeting on August 16, 2022, pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3700 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Clarke, Virginia, that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Clarke, Virginia, hereby certifies that, to the best of each members 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 business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Clarke, Virginia. The motion was approved by the following roll-call vote:

Matthew E. Bass - Aye
Beverly B. McKay - Aye
David S. Weiss - Aye
Terri T. Catlett - Aye
Doug M. Lawrence - Aye

Supervisor Bass moved to accept the Clarke County Sheriff's Office Career Development Program as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

Matthew E. Bass - Aye
Beverly B. McKay - Aye
David S. Weiss - Aye
Terri T. Catlett - Aye
Doug M. Lawrence - Aye

Chairman Weiss

Commented that he hopes this program will allow the Sheriff's Office to attract
and retain employees and that he appreciates that the Sheriff worked within the
existing budget to make this happen.

Supervisor McKay

Noted he supports the program because there is no new money involved.

21) Adjournment

At 4:29 pm, Chairman Weiss adjourned the meeting.

22) Next Regular Meeting Date

The next regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors is set for Tuesday, September 20, 2022, at 1:00 pm in the Berryville Clarke County Government Center, Main Meeting Room, 101 Chalmers Court, Berryville, Virginia.

ATTEST: August 16, 2022	
	David S. Weiss, Chair
	Chris Boies, County Administrator

Recorded and Transcribed by Catherine D. Marsten