

At a regular meeting of the Charlotte County Board of Supervisors held in the Administration Building of said county on October 9, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Garland H. Hamlett, Jr. Chairman  
Robert L. Shook, Jr. Vice Chairman  
Gary D. Walker  
Kay M. Pierantoni  
Crystal S. Shepherd  
Donna Fore

Absent: Royal S. Freeman

Chairman Hamlett called the meeting to order.

Chairman Hamlett gave the invocation.

Motion was made by Kay M. Pierantoni, seconded by Crystal S. Shepherd and carried with Royal S. Freeman absent and all other members present and voting yes to approve the agenda as amended to include setting a joint public hearing with the Planning Commission regarding a Conditional Use Permit Application for Elam A. Stoltzfus for a building supply store. Also, to consider adoption of a Resolution Declaring a Local State of Emergency to exist in Charlotte County and consider adoption of a Resolution Request for Drought Disaster Relief for Charlotte County.

Motion was made by Kay M. Pierantoni, seconded by Robert L. Shook, Jr. and carried with Royal S. Freeman absent and all other members present and voting yes to approve the minutes as corrected. Correction to the minutes will reflect Robert L. Shook, Jr. absent at the Special Called Meeting on September 24, 2019.

After due notice was given, the Charlotte County Board of Supervisors held a public hearing to receive comments on an amendment for State and Federal Funding to the FY 2020 Budget.

The Public Hearing was called to order by the Chairman.

Robbie Mason, Interim Superintendent for Charlotte County Schools addressed the Board.

Motion was made by Gary D. Walker, seconded by Donna Fore to accept the recommendation to approve the amendment to the Budget.

Motion was rescinded by Supervisor Walker to allow for Public Comment.

Being no Public Comment the Public Hearing was adjourned.

Motion was made by Gary D. Walker to appropriate State and Federal Funding.

Amended motion was made by Gary D. Walker, seconded by Donna Fore and carried with Royal S. Freeman absent and all other members present and voting yes to approve and appropriate the amendment to the Budget as advertised. The appropriations are as follows;

		<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Revenue</b>
<b>Fund 30</b>	<b>School Operations (expended by order of School Board)</b>	<b><u>877,057.93</u></b>	
<b>Local</b>	<b>Other Rebates and Refunds</b>		<b>1,354.46</b>
<b>State Funds</b>	<b>State Funds</b>		<b>10,120.90</b>
<b>Federal Funds</b>	<b>Federal Funds</b>		<b><u>865,582.57</u></b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>877,057.93</b>	<b>877,057.93</b>

		Expenditure	Revenue
Fund 39	Virtual Virginia (Charlotte County Schools-Fiscal Agent)	<u>2,924,378.12</u>	
State Funds	State Funds		<u>2,924,378.12</u>
Total		<u>2,924,378.12</u>	<u>2,924,378.12</u>

		Expenditure	Revenue
Capital Projects-Communications System	Fund 70	<u>3,100,000.00</u>	
Borrowed-Loan Proceeds			<u>3,100,000.00</u>
		<u>3,100,000.00</u>	<u>3,100,000.00</u>

Chairman Hamlett recognized Mr. George Toombs addressed the Board with questions on the encryption for the new communications system and if it was included in the current budget.

***Committee Reports:***

Gary D. Walker – Supervisor Walker reported the Commonwealth Regional Council is assisting the Rescue Squad with obtaining grant money. They are also helping the Keysville Fire Department and Charlotte Court House Fire Department with obtaining grant funding. The Council is continuing to work on projects for the Towns of Keysville, Phenix and Charlotte Court House.

Donna Fore – Supervisor Fore attended the Go Virginia meeting. Supervisor Fore stated it was a very productive meeting. There are a lot of projects Go Virginia will be doing that will include Charlotte County for marketing, economic growth and broadband.

Royal S. Freeman – Absent

Kay M. Pierantoni – Supervisor Pierantoni attended the Piedmont Alliance for Prevention of Substance Abuse. Supervisor Pierantoni serves on the Tri County Community Action Board and encourages anyone who is in need of their services to contact her. The Christmas Parent’s Program continues to move forward and the next meeting will be Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at Supervisor Pierantoni’s home. Forms have been provided for donations to the Christmas Parents Program. Facilities Committee met September 30, 2019, Glen Johnson and P.K. Pettus also attended. Repairs and roof painting are being continued on the buildings in the County. Roadside clean up has been postponed due to the warmer weather.

The consensus of the Board was to postpone the roadside clean up until a later date.

Crystal Shepherd - None

Robert L. Shook, Jr. – Supervisor Shook reported the Solid Waste committee met on Tuesday October 8<sup>th</sup> to discuss the hours of the Recycle Centers. Data reviewed shows the Recycle Centers within the Towns collect more trash than the Centers in the County. The Committee suggests the Centers in the Towns should be opened on the previous schedule which is Monday thru Saturday 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. and on Sundays from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. The other centers in the County would continue with the new hours. All centers would make the change to closing at 6:00 p.m. once the time changed.

After much discussion from the Board, Supervisor Shook tabled the proposal until the November meeting.

Garland H. Hamlett, Jr. – None

***Public Comment:***

*George Toombs* addressed the Board with concerns over the concealed carry permit fee, funding for the Fire Department, and the new hours at the Convenience

Centers. Mr. Toombs also has concerns about the tax revenue that will be lost if the State Forest is developed.

*Kathy Liston* addressed the Board with concerns over the proposed State Forest. Ms. Liston would like to receive more information before the Board decides on a letter of support.

*Bill Devin* addressed the Board with concerns over the proposed State Forest and the loss of tax revenue as a result.

Being no further comment the Public Comment period was closed.

Motion was made by Donna Fore, seconded by Kay M. Pierantoni and carried with Gary D. Walker voting No, Royal S. Freeman absent and all other members voting yes to approve a letter of support regarding Virginia's Crossroads' Grant Application for Tobacco Region Special Funding Project – funding for the expansion of the Civil Rights in Education Heritage Trail.

Chairman Hamlett set a Joint Public Hearing with the Planning Commission for October 30, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. regarding a Conditional Use Permit Application for Elam A. Stoltzfus for a building supply store located at 506 Butterwood Road Charlotte Court House.

Motion was made by Robert L. Shook, Jr., seconded by Crystal S. Shepherd to adopt the following Resolution declaring a Local State of Emergency;

***WHEREAS***, *the Board of Supervisors of Charlotte County, Virginia does hereby find as follows:*

- 1. That due to the occurrence of moderate drought conditions caused by an extended period of a lack of substantial rain, Charlotte County is facing a condition of extreme peril to crops and livestock, and potential for fire;*
- 2. That as a result of the extreme conditions, the proclamation of the existence of an emergency is necessary to permit the full powers of government to deal effectively with this condition of peril.*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY PROCLAIMED*** *by the Board of Supervisors of Charlotte County, Virginia, that a local emergency now exists throughout Charlotte County; and*

***IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED*** *that during the existence of this emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the Director of Emergency Services and the Emergency Services organization and functions of Charlotte County shall be those prescribed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the ordinances, resolutions, and approved plans of Charlotte County in order to mitigate the effects of said emergency.*

*In order to carry out the effect of this resolution, a sum of money, not to exceed \$\_\_\_\_\_0\_\_\_\_\_, is hereby appropriated from the County's unappropriated fund balance to cover the reasonable operational costs of emergency services pending further report to this Board and such additional appropriations as shall be deemed necessary to cover the expected scope of this emergency.*

Roll call vote as follows; Robert L. Shook, Jr.-Aye; Crystal S. Shepherd-Aye; Gary D. Walker-Aye; Donna Fore-Aye; Royal Freeman-Absent; Kay M. Pierantoni-Aye; and Garland H. Hamlett, Jr.-Aye.

Motion was made by Kay M. Pierantoni, seconded by Donna Fore to adopt the following Resolution for Drought Disaster Relief;

**WHEREAS**, the drought conditions and extreme heat in the County of Charlotte have severely affected farmers; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Charlotte has received significantly less rainfall than normal while experiencing unseasonably high temperatures; and

**WHEREAS**, Virginia Cooperative Extension has reported that as of October 9, 2019 yield loss **estimates** for pasture and grazing land stands at 100%, hay loss, as it stands now, at 40% on the first cutting and 60% to 100% on the second cutting, corn at 40% to 80% depending on location, full season soybeans at 60%, double crop soybeans at 85%, and tobacco is expected to suffer a 15-20% loss; and

**WHEREAS**, it is incumbent upon the Board of Supervisors of the County of Charlotte to request the Governor declare Charlotte County as a state of emergency with Federal drought relief to local farmers.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors to adopt the aforementioned resolution and forward said petition to the Governor requesting a state of emergency for Charlotte County and request Federal drought relief to local farmers.

Roll call vote as follows; Kay M. Pierantoni-Aye; Donna Fore-Aye; Gary D. Walker-Aye; Crystal S. Shepherd-Aye; Robert L. Shook, Jr.-Aye; Royal S. Freeman-Absent and Garland H. Hamlett, Jr.-Aye.

### ***Broadband Discussion***

Mr. Witt gave the following update to the Board;

At the September board meeting Robert Taylor, Business Development Manager for RiverStreet, presented an update to the Board. Mr. Taylor provided the following update:

- RiverStreet is expecting to receive confirmation of their Federal Reconnect Fund loan application in late October or early November. This money, in the form of a 2% loan, will be used to match the shortfall from the CAF II grant funding for Charlotte County.
- Charlotte County is still number one on their list and work is currently scheduled to start in early 2020. However, that could change pending the Governor's announcement of the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) DCHD grants. If the county Mr. Taylor referred to receives an award, or if their Board allocates additional funding, that county would jump ahead of Charlotte County on the schedule.
- RiverStreet has initiated conversations with Dominion and is optimistic that they will be able to utilize some of Dominion's infrastructure when they begin installing broadband in Charlotte County.
- RiverStreet has submitted a letter at the request of Go Virginia for a Region 3 regional broadband plan.

Mr. Taylor stated the importance of a 'point' person for the County who can understand and talk the 'tech talk' during the process of implementing broadband within the County. He is currently working with Mr. Condyles, who did consulting work for Charlotte County with the radio communications system and is now consulting for Bedford County on their broadband implementation. I envision the consultant would be an interpreter for the County of the data, as well a liaison between the County and RiverStreet. Lastly, the consultant would be the 'motivator' to keep RiverStreet on task and on time.

The Board concurs with staff's request staff issue an RFP (Request for Proposals) for a consultant for Broadband. Mr. Witt will give an update in the November meeting.

### *State Forest Discussion*

Mr. Witt gave the following update to the Board;

At the September board meeting Mr. Harvey Darden presented a proposal for a State Forest in Charlotte County. He requested a letter of support from the Board of Supervisors that would assist with grant funding that would be used to pay for a portion of the land. The Board tabled the matter and requested additional information from Mr. Darden. He stated he would have the timber plan prior to the next board meeting.

Below are the questions along with Mr. Darden's responses:

- **A management plan for the proposed forest with timber acreage broken down by species:** As I mentioned in the meeting, it takes hundreds of hours for us to develop a state forest management plan. We would not begin a plan for the Stanley property until we closed on the property and then develop the plan within the next year. Overall, the plan would be similar to the Cumberland State Forest plan I presented at the meeting.
- **Projected plan for cutting timber of various types with associated estimated revenue based on today's market figures:** I'm working on this and plan to submit prior to the next Board meeting.
- **Proposed permitted uses (trails for hiking and horseback riding, hunting, etc.) and a list of Virginia State Forests, indicating the activities which are provided for the general public in each forest:** A list is attached of the current state forests and their permitted uses. We would expect hunting, biking and horseback riding to be permitted on this property. Hiking is allowed on all the properties without a State Forest Use Permit.
- **Tax Parcel numbers that are included in the proposed state forest and acreage to be included if the entire parcel is not part of the project:** List attached of the possible tax parcels VDOF may purchase. We are working with The Conservation Fund on exactly which parcels will be included in their entirety and which ones may be split or excluded due to their location.

Chairman Hamlett asked for the State Forest discussion to continue on the November 2019 agenda.

Mr. Witt gave the Administrator's report.

### *Public Comment*

*P. K. Pettus* addressed the Board with information on the upcoming Rural Heritage Festival taking place on October 26<sup>th</sup> in the Courthouse Square.

*Bill Devin* addressed the Board with concerns over the State Forest.

*George Toombs* addressed the Board with concerns over the Recycle Center hours, the State Forest, and the encryption requested for the new radios for the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Toombs also has concerns about employees who are employed by a Constitutional Officer being able to hold a position on the Board of Supervisors.

Angela Cook addressed the Board with suggestions for the Recycle Center hours.

Being no further comment the public comment period was closed.

Motion was made by Kay M. Pierantoni, seconded by Donna Fore and carried with Royal S. Freeman absent and all other members present and voting yes appropriate the following for FY2020;

		<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Revenue</b>
<b>10-2106-5811</b>	<b>Records Preservation-Books</b>	<b>11,830.00</b>	
<b>10-230802</b>	<b>Records Preservation Grant-funds received</b>		<b>11,830.00</b>
<b>10-4204-8112</b>	<b>Solid Waste-Landfill Closure Project</b>	<b>9,700.00</b>	
<b>10-510030</b>	<b>Funds from General Fund Balance</b>		<b>9,700.00</b>
<b>10-1101-3002</b>	<b>BOS-Purchased Services (Preconstruction Architectural/Engineering Service Contract-Phase II-Bacon and Phenix Elem. Schools)</b>	<b>25,000.00</b>	
<b>10-510030</b>	<b>Transfer from General Fund</b>		<b>25,000.00</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>46,530.00</b>	<b>46,530.00</b>

Motion was made by Gary D. Walker, seconded by Robert L. Shook, Jr. and carried with Donna Fore voting no, Royal S. Freeman absent and all other members present and voting yes to approve the invoice for September FY 2020 in the amount of \$543,257.93 and to send reminders to the department heads concerning purchasing policy.

Motion was made by Gary D. Walker, seconded by Crystal S. Shepherd and carried with Royal S. Freeman absent and all other members present an voting yes to refund a building permit fee in the amount of \$143.80 to Ross Duffer.

***Board Member Other Comments:***

Gary D. Walker – None

Donna Fore – Concerns about the Building Inspector not having additional help for inspections. Supervisor Fore would like to have someone from another County, or an additional staff member be available for back up. Update either in November or December.

Royal S. Freeman - Absent

Kay M. Pierantoni –None

Crystal Shepherd – None

Robert L. Shook, Jr. – None

Garland H. Hamlett, Jr. – None

The meeting was adjourned.