

At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Warren County held in the Warren County Government Center on April 6, 2021 at 9:00 AM.

Present: Cheryl L. Cullers, Chair (South River District); Archie A. Fox, Vice Chairman (Fork District); Tony F. Carter (Happy Creek District); Walter J. Mabe (Shenandoah District); and Delores R. Oates (North River District); also present were Edwin C. Daley, Interim County Administrator; Jason J. Ham, Interim County Attorney; David Beahm, Building Official; Mike Berry, Public Works Director; Michael Coffelt, Sanitary District Manager; Rick Farrall, Emergency Coordinator/Interim General Services Director; Caitlin Jordan, Senior Assistant County Attorney; Taryn Logan, Deputy County Administrator/Planning Director; Jon Martz, Director of Social Services; Keith McLiverty, Finance Director; Joe Petty, Zoning Administrator; Matt Wendling, Planner II; Emily Ciarrocchi, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Roger Bianchini, Royal Examiner; and Alex Bridges, Northern Virginia Daily

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Carter requested a new item be added for the appointment of Carolyn Kissinger and Stacy Wilson to the Parks and Recreation Commission in lieu of entering into a closed session. Mrs. Oates further requested the removal of the Economic Development Authority Board of Directors from the closed session to instead schedule interviews.

Dr. Daley requested the addition of item K-3 to the Consent Agenda, which is a proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month.

On a motion by Mr. Carter, seconded by Mrs. Oates, and by the following vote, the Board of Supervisors adopted the agenda as amended:

Fox, Aye; Mabe, Aye; Cullers, Aye; Oates, Aye; Carter, Aye

Presentation – 185th Anniversary of Warren County – Richard Hoover

Richard Hoover delivered the following speech in honor of the County's 185th Anniversary: "In March 1836, the year of the Alamo, the General Assembly created Warren County out of parts of Shenandoah and Frederick counties. One hundred and eighty-five years ago! Those who know me know that I prefer spending my time in the ever present past than in the ever present. So, when we retired and moved to Warren County, we found ourselves in a paradise, in a whole past-full of historic passion, a genuine past-full of American experiences. And I wanted to learn about it all, whether about the Shenandoah Indians or the experience of slavery. Whether about Belle Boyd or about Lucy Buck the great journal keeper of Bel Air and how the call to Civil War earned for Warren County the title 'Banner County' because it contributed a greater percentage of young men than any other county in Virginia.

"I learned about Confederate Memorial Day, how every May 23rd, the anniversary of the Battle of Front Royal, the ladies of the UDC gather at Prospect Hill Cemetery to strew flowers on the graves of their 91 known and 186 unknown forbears. And how their predecessors in the Warren Ladies Memorial Association had scouted the county to gather together the corpses, to place them in the Soldiers Circle. There were Reconstruction hardships, economic recoveries, and the blossoming of educational institutions.

"Remarkably, Browntown in the South River District took up economic slack created by the great flood of 1870 and the Great Depression of 1873 to become a center of mills for grain, lumber, and textiles, and for a tannery which employed over 200 workers. Three taverns! And how, before serviceable roads were put into place, 'Happy Riverton,' with its watery gundalow culture, became our transportation center. I read and heard about the passion ridden creation of the Shenandoah National Park in 1936, how the dispossessed inhabitants were relocated to Front Royal and Luray. And about the great civil rights struggles of the 1950's and 1960's. Over that issue, it is said, there was more turmoil in Virginia than in any other southern state, and more turmoil in Warren County than in any other Commonwealth county.

"At the same time, those in the Lost Warren County High School Class of 1959 remember that day in September 1958 when, as brand-new seniors, Richmond shut down their school in the name of 'massive resistance.' They felt at once sorrowful, confused and enraged that their senior year had been taken away. Some developed lifelong resentments toward government and nervous ailments which lasted for years. Many felt that the closure had been 'an adult thing.' The students, they later wrote, could have 'worked things out,' could have gotten along with integration, but they were never consulted. In February 1959, Warren County schools were ordered reopened and 21 Black students entered Warren County High School under heavy police guard.

"So, thanks in large part to the Warren Heritage Society, the Laura Virginia Hale Archives, and the Warren Rifles Museum, I got everything I wanted! In this mix of historical passion, the very naming of our county looms large as a tribute to patriotism, duty and to selfless sacrifice. It looms large as an indication of what kind of people we were in 1836. That same passion carried over to the Court House monuments dedicated to our veterans of the Civil War, World War, Korea, and Vietnam.

"General Joseph Warren, the ranking Continental officer at the battle of Bunker Hill lost his life there on June 17, 1775. And I venture that every Warren County school child knew the battle details, thanks in part to John Trumbull's famous painting, reproductions of which hung in so many homes. Here is the first of them, published in London in 1798. You will find another in the historic Balthis House on Chester Street. Owing to the key which accompanied these engravings, children could recognize the dashing Lt. Grosvenor of Connecticut elegantly wielding a silver hilted colichemarde, like the one being passed among you- - a small, broad-bladed descendent of the heavy Elizabethan rapier, designed exclusively for officers. Behind Grosvenor is the Black American soldier Peter Salem who has just put a ball into the British assault commander, Major Pitcairn of the Royal Scottish Marines. There is the dying Pitcairn being removed from the field by his son and another

officer. And thanks to the key children, no doubt laughing, would recognize Lord Francis Rawdin waving the British flag. Painter Trumbull had deliberately turned Rawdin's back toward the viewer because of Rawdin's odd reputation - that of the homeliest officer in the British Army!

"And there is our dying General Warren, being spared a bayonet thrust by a compassionate British officer who turns it away. See the broken colichemarde at Warren's side, signifying that he had reached his earthly end. Every school child also knew that Warren was a clotheshorse, that when the British won the field, they mockingly paraded his bloody silk waist coat on the end of a pike. And they cut off his head with which to play some form of football. Every school child knew of the frantic search for Warren's head, after the Americans had reoccupied the field. When one was found, battered beyond all recognition, the identification was made possible by the dentist who had installed some silver wires in the general's mouth. Thus our GM. H. H. General Warren also made medical history; his was the first case of dental forensics used to identify a body.

"On this 185th anniversary, let us keep Warren County, with all of its historic passion, self-sacrifice, diversity, beauty, excitement and sorrow - all of it - close to our hearts."

Public Comment Period (60 Minute Time Limit)

David Downes, 160 Old Browntown Road, wished to pay homage National Tartan Day and acknowledge the Scottish culture of many of the community members in Warren County. As he wore his tartan colors to the meeting, he spoke about settlers from Scotland who migrated to Ireland then to America.

Jim Ghent, 200 Kendall Court, provided handouts of maps showing the area proposed for the new Shenandoah Farms convenience site. He spoke about the history of accidents in lowland areas and also complimented the Fire Departments and first responders to the serious fire that occurred last Friday, which had twelve different units respond.

There were no further presentations from the public.

Report – Virginia Department of Transportation – Ed Carter

Ed Carter, Residency Administrator with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), presented the following report to the Board:

Maintenance:

- Conducted grading and stone application operations on non-hard surfaced roads to address deterioration left by harsh winter; this effort will continue into this month

- Cleaned up downed trees and brush along various routes throughout the County and repaired potholes; will continue pothole repair this month
- Replaced pipe on Route 613 and began sweeping bridges and sidewalks along Route 340/522; will continue sweeping operations this month
- Collected 1,387 bags of litter picked up by contractors and Department of Corrections' forces; VDOT expects more to be collected this month
- Will be performing shoulder repairs and skin patching on various routes this month
- Will also be demobilizing and cleaning equipment from winter operations

Board Issues:

- Will be holding a constructability review on April 21st for the design plans to extend the I-66 westbound on ramp to I-81 southbound at mile marker 300.
- Dr. Brian Bruckno, District geologist, has reviewed the rock slopes along Route 340 South from the litter station to the KOA campgrounds and found that there is little change from his assessment two years ago. He has recommended cleaning the ditches and scaling loose stone from the face until a thorough onsite survey can be performed. VDOT is currently in the process of scheduling the short-term recommendations. The speed study for this section has been completed, and they are awaiting the final report.
- VDOT has met and is working with County School officials to address the loss of access at Apple Manor. VDOT has sufficient right-of-way to construct a new parking area and bus turnaround at this location, and they are currently exploring funding options.
- VDOT representatives are ready to meet with the Board on the Secondary Six Year Plan at the Board's convenience. Mr. Carter would like for this to occur this month, if possible.

Mr. Fox asked if the extension for Kendrick Ford Road was still in the plans, and Mr. Carter confirmed the road was still on the Secondary Six-Year Plan for extension.

Mrs. Oates asked if there were any updates on the proposed flyover at the Rockland Road railroad crossing, and Mr. Carter said he had no updates. Mrs. Oates also thanked the crews for repairing the snowplow damage on a private property in her District so quickly.

Supervisor Carter inquired about the timeframe for the new bus turnaround and parking area for the Apple Mountain subdivision, and Mr. Carter stated it would not be ready for the 2021-2022 school year. Supervisor Carter then asked if everything had been worked out with the Warren County School Board with the timeline for Phase IV improvements on Happy Creek Road from Town limits to Manassas Run Road, and Mr. Carter confirmed the timeline had been worked out.

Mrs. Cullers noted the Sheriff's Office is working on additional enforcement on securing loads of trash as well as illegal dumping and reiterated the need to set a date for a work session to discuss the proposed Secondary Six-Year Plan for FY 2022-2027.

Report – Economic Development Authority – Doug Parsons

Doug Parsons, Executive Director of the Economic Development Authority (EDA), presented the following report to the Board:

1. Audits: Still waiting on the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for updated statements on the Avtex property. The EDA has completed the adjustment on the IT Federal note and reconciled balances for bank confirmations for EDA loans. Carolyn Stimmel, Financial Consultant, and Gretchen Henderson, Administrative Assistant, are working to finish up prepaid insurance entries, accrued interest, and construction commitments. They are close to figures for monies due from the Town and County for construction projects in Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019.
2. EDA-Owned Properties: The EDA has two new prospects for leasing space at 46 Baugh Drive and for the offices at 400 Kendrick Lane. They have also received updated quotes on the roof repairs needed at their office building in the event they land a new tenant and are working on HVAC quotes for inspecting those systems as well.
3. Silent Falcon: The new concrete work at the hangar is done. The company is working to resurface the existing and new concrete to their satisfaction and then begin work on the renovations to the interior and exterior of the building. They are now up to twenty (20) employees.
4. Prospects: The EDA now has five (5) different prospects for the 426 Baugh Drive building. Three are long-term projects while two are more immediately interested. They have a solid prospect for land in the Stephens Industrial Park that looks very promising.
5. Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP) Business Ready Sites Program: The Shenandoah Valley Partnership has been awarded the GO VA Grant for the due diligence work for several sites in the Shenandoah Valley, including the EDA's 53-acre tract at Stephens Industrial Park! The EDA will receive the benefit of up to \$67,000 worth of due diligence work to increase the Tier ranking of the land. Draper Aden will perform the work within seven months. This should allow the site to be elevated to at least Tier Three and most likely a Tier Four since the physical infrastructure is in place.
6. Leach Run Parkway: The Notice of Termination through the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is complete. The EDA has signed the form, and Karl Schaeffer, engineer at Pennoni, has submitted the paperwork to DEQ. Carolyn Stimmel and B.J. Wilson continue to sort out the financial history on Leach Run Parkway. That work is projected to take another three months or so.

Report – Department of Social Services – Jon Martz

Jon Martz, Director of the Department of Social Services, introduced the staff of the Child Protective Services divisions of the Department to the Board. In 2020, the Department received 965 physical abuse and neglect reports, and these dedicated workers responded to each report. He also said ten (10) pinwheel gardens have been “planted” throughout the community, and he encouraged citizens to “pick” these pinwheels in honor of Child Abuse Prevention Month. He then presented blue ribbons to each Board member.

Reports – Board Members, Interim County Administrator, Interim County Attorney

Mrs. Cullers reported the following:

- Read the following statement: “I would like to take a few minutes to make a statement about the recent incident with our system. As you know, Warren County, like many other localities around the country, was the victim of a cybersecurity incident in March. After learning of the incident, Warren County staff quickly took action to contain the threat, secure systems and to notify the Board of Supervisors. In addition, the County staff notified and began working with law enforcement- both the FBI Cyber Crimes Division and the Virginia State Police High Tech Crimes Division. Warren County staff also gave notice to its cyber insurance provider, who in turn engaged cybersecurity lawyers and cybersecurity forensics teams, on behalf of Warren County to investigate this incident.

“Warren County staff has been hard at work restoring services to a secure and safe environment, including moving a number of services into the cloud. While we are eager to resume operations, we need to do so in the most prudent way possible. Therefore, we have taken the time to build out our IT infrastructure and improve our security posture. Investigation into this incident is ongoing; we are continuing to work with law enforcement and legal team on this matter. I have read and heard many comments, concerns and accusations on social media and in the public, questioning our handling and transparency regarding this incident. I can assure you we are and will continue to do address this incident in cooperation with and according to guidelines and instructions of the Cybersecurity law enforcement and legal experts that have spent many long hours working with us on this incident. We will not jeopardize the investigation into this incident to appease those that feel they are entitled to information on demand.

“I can assure you I stand by my pledge to my community to be honest, transparent and accountable as a County Supervisor, when we have complete and accurate information, and have been assured by the investigation and legal teams, we can share this information with the citizens of Warren County, we will gladly do so.”

- Requested the Board consider the adoption of a resolution at its April 20th meeting to recognize and thank those who have worked diligently to restore services to the County

- Attended a ribbon cutting for ReWed Bridal on Main Street on March 17th
- Had a guest speaker at last Broadband Committee meeting
- Met with Rappahannock Supervisor Debbie Donahay at Chester Gap on March 26th
- Met with Michelle Matthie, who is planning festival called Hope Arising in June

Mr. Fox reported the following:

- Reflected on Mr. Hoover's presentation and on how he was a senior in the "forgotten class" of 1958; that was when the Warren County Educational Foundation was created, and he was able to complete his senior year

Mr. Mabe had nothing to report.

Mr. Carter reported the following:

- There was a major fire on Howellsville Heights recently and previously a major fire on Apple Mountain; he noted his appreciation of local Fire Departments and aid received from neighboring jurisdictions and further reminded citizens that there is no open-air burning currently allowed

Mrs. Oates reported the following:

- Gave a shout out to Samuels Public Library, which has been creative during the pandemic, and invited citizens to attend its Spring Fling Drive-Thru book giveaway on March 27th
- The Drug Prevention Committee is working diligently to initiate a number of services in Warren County, as many are concerned about the isolation created by the pandemic and the effects it will have on residents

Dr. Daley reported the following:

- Staff has been busy this past month working on the technology and server issues, and he thanked the people from Frederick County and from the School Board who have come to help restore service and functionality

Unfinished Business – Vehicle Purchase for the Building Inspections Department – David Beahm

Mr. Mabe stated had no issues with the request but wanted to make sure the vehicle proposed to be purchased fit the intended use for the Department. David Beahm, Building Official, said most of the vehicles for the Department were sedans prior to 2000, but recently they switched to using utility vehicles. From 2005-2010, pickup trucks were purchased and used, but between the interior space needed to carry sensitive equipment and Code Books, even with an extended cab, the pickup trucks did not offer enough interior space. There is

notable cost effectiveness of purchasing an SUV off State the contract; the vehicles are approximately \$6,000 more through local dealerships. Trucks are also less fuel efficient than the proposed SUV. Mr. Beahm also noted the newest Department vehicle is eight years old and the oldest vehicle is from 1998.

Mr. Mabe asked if the Department will retire the old 1998 vehicle, and Mr. Beahm confirmed it was more than likely they would do so, though they are currently ensuring its maintenance and body work are up to date.

Mrs. Oates commented on how the School's Transportation Division does all the maintenance for the County fleets and wondered if there had been any discussions or efforts about consolidating to one make/model of vehicle for the entire fleet. Mr. Beahm and Dr. Daley stated there are various incentives offered by competing manufacturers at different times to purchase vehicles.

On a motion by Mrs. Oates, seconded by Mr. Fox, and by the following vote, the Board of Supervisors approved the request to purchase a 2021 Ford Explorer using the Virginia State Contract #E194-75485 for the Building Inspections Department at a cost of \$30,320.82:

Carter, Aye; Oates, Aye; Cullers, Aye; Mabe, Aye; Fox, Aye

Unfinished Business – Vehicle Purchase for the Planning Department – Taryn Logan

Taryn Logan, Deputy County Administrator/Planning Director, reported the last vehicle purchased for the Planning Department was in March 2004, and they have been putting money into the Special Projects fund since that time to save for another vehicle. They need an SUV because staff takes the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals members out every month for various site visits and have had to borrow vehicles from other Departments to accommodate the number of people for years. Recently, Emma Rusnak, GIS Coordinator, had the Department's truck break down on her while she was doing E-911 mapping, which is another reason for the reliability of an SUV.

Mrs. Cullers wondered if the old 2004 vehicle could be given to the Building Inspections Department if they need one in the future, and Mrs. Logan said it would probably be better suited for Parks and Recreation because that Department is localized and not up in the mountains.

On a motion by Mrs. Oates, seconded by Mr. Fox, and by the following vote, the Board of Supervisors approved the request to purchase a 2021 Ford Explorer using the Virginia State Contract #E194-75485 for the Planning Department at a cost of \$30,320.82:

Fox, Aye; Mabe, Aye; Cullers, Aye; Oates, Aye; Carter, Aye

Consent Agenda

1. Additional Appropriation Request of Warren County Public Schools – Ed Daley
2. Coyote Bounty – Douglas Boyd (1) – \$50 Each – Animal Control
3. Proclamation to Declare April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Warren County – Jon Martz

Mrs. Cullers wanted to make clear that the individual who killed the coyote did so on his own property.

On a motion by Mrs. Oates, seconded by Mr. Mabe, and by the following vote, the Board of Supervisors approved the Consent Agenda as presented:

Carter, Aye; Oates, Aye; Cullers, Aye; Mabe, Aye; Fox, Aye

PROCLAMATION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF WARREN COUNTY DECLARING APRIL 2021 AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

WHEREAS, in Federal fiscal year 2019, 4.4 million reports were made to child protective services nationwide; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect is a serious problem affecting every segment of our community, and finding solutions requires input and action from everyone; and

WHEREAS, our children are our most valuable resources and will shape the future of the Warren County; and

WHEREAS, child abuse can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects that have lasting consequences for victims of abuse; and

WHEREAS, protective factors are conditions that reduce or eliminate risk and promote the social, emotional, and developmental well-being of children; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention activities succeed because of the partnerships created between child welfare professionals, education, health, community-based and faith-based organizations, businesses, law enforcement agencies, and families; and

WHEREAS, communities must make every effort to promote programs and activities that create strong and thriving children and families; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that we must work together as a community to increase awareness about child abuse and contribute to promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment; and

WHEREAS, prevention remains the best defense for our children and families.

THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Warren County Board of Supervisors that April 2021 is declared as CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH in Warren County, urging all citizens to recognize this month by dedicating themselves to the task of improving the quality of life for all children and families.

Additional Appropriation Request of Warren County Public Schools – Ed Daley

There was extensive discussion between the Board members and Jason Ham, Interim County Attorney, regarding the proposed language of the motion and designating versus appropriating the funds.

On a motion by Mrs. Oates, seconded by Mr. Mabe, and by the following vote, the Board of Supervisors approved an addition to the School Board's budget of \$2,380,365 as follows: \$1,000,000 to the Capital Improvement Fund for School projects, \$1,000,000 to establish a Transportation Fund for school buses, and \$380,365 to the School Textbook fund; the Board further appropriated \$380,365 to the School Textbook Fund but did not yet appropriate the monies for the other two funds to the School Board:

Carter, Aye; Oates, Aye; Cullers, Aye; Mabe, Aye; Fox, Aye

Coyote Bounty – Douglas Boyd (1) – \$50 Each – Animal Control

On a motion by Mrs. Oates, seconded by Mr. Mabe, and by the following vote, the Board of Supervisors approved the payment for one (1) coyote bounty in the amount of \$50.00 for Douglas Boyd:

Fox, Aye; Mabe, Aye; Cullers, Aye; Oates, Aye; Carter, Aye

Authorization to Advertise for Public Hearing – Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 and 2021 Tax Rates – Keith McLiverty/Ed Daley

Dr. Daley reported the proposed FY 2021-2022 budget and tax rates for 2021 are based on the same tax rates as calendar year 2020 with no increases.

Real Estate / Manufactured Home	\$0.655
Personal Property	
Tangible Personal Property	\$4.00
Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad	\$2.00
Office Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	\$4.00
Machinery and Tools	\$2.05
Contract Carrier	\$2.05
Aircraft	\$0.75

The advertisement would also include the budgets, tax rates, and rates of charge for the Sanitary Districts as proposed by the HOAs/POAs/Advisory Boards/Committees. Dr. Daley then delivered a brief presentation overviewing the proposed FY 2021-2022 budget.

Initial Cost Drivers:

- Phase III Implementation for Compensation Plan - \$300,000 for County
- Dominion Water Agreement - August 2020
- Ongoing Debt, Operational, and Litigation Costs for the Economic Development Authority
- Funding of FLSA-mandated Overtime Costs in Fire and Rescue

Budget Highlights:

- Total budget increase from \$118,611,309 to \$124,615,000 (\$6,003,691 - 5.06%)
- Economic Development funding of \$3,197,500
- Warren County Public Schools funding of \$63,945,000 (\$27,720,000 in local funding)
- NO proposed increases in the current tax rates or fee structure for the General Fund
- Regional Tobacco Tax possible
- Landfill Fee adjustments possible
- Adjustments to Sanitary District Fees, as requested by certain Districts
- Economic Development Authority, Cost Recovery, and Airport funds
- Human Resources Department
- RSW Regional Jail and Juvenile Detention Center
- Two Information Technology positions
- Grants Coordinator position
- Deputy Registrar position
- Self Sufficiency Specialist

General Fund Revenues:

- Personal Property Taxes - \$1,250,000
- Local Sales Taxes - \$700,000
- State and Federal Funding - \$2,342,000
- Regional Jail Credit - \$830,000
- Shenandoah Farms Capital - \$637,000

General Fund Expenditures:

- Shenandoah Farms Capital - \$2,549,000
- EDA Capital - \$357,000
- Fire and Rescue Department - \$779,000
- SAFER Grant - \$400,000
- Sheriff's Office - \$540,000
- WCPS Local Funding - \$764,000

The special meeting to adopt the FY 2021-2022 budget and 2021 tax rates is scheduled for April 27th at 7:00 PM.

On a motion by Mrs. Oates, seconded by Mr. Mabe, and by the following vote, the Board of Supervisors authorized the advertisement of the FY 2021-2022 budget with the same tax rates as 2020 with no increases and the budgets, tax rates, and rates of charge for the Sanitary Districts as proposed by the HOAs/POAs/Advisory Boards/Committees for a public hearing to be held on April 15, 2021 at 7:00 PM with the correction to amend the Capital Outlay figure in the advertisement to \$2,779,408:

Fox, Aye; Mabe, Aye; Cullers, Aye; Oates, Aye; Carter, Aye

Appointments to the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Economic Development Authority Board of Directors

On a motion by Mr. Carter, seconded by Mrs. Oates, and by the following vote, the Board of Supervisors reappointed Carolyn Kissinger and Stacy Wilson to the Parks and Recreation Commission for respective two-year terms beginning upon appointment and ending February 28, 2023:

Carter, Aye; Oates, Aye; Cullers, Aye; Mabe, Aye; Fox, Aye

Adjournment

Mrs. Cullers adjourned the meeting at 11:27 AM.