

The regular meeting of the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, September 23, 2014, in Rooms 226-228 of the Greenfield Education and Training Center in Daleville, Virginia, beginning at 2:00 P. M.

PRESENT: Members: Dr. Donald M. Scothorn, Chairman
Mr. Billy W. Martin, Sr.
Mr. Todd L. Dodson
Mr. John B. Williamson, III

ABSENT: Members: Mr. L. W. Leffel, Jr., Vice-Chairman

Others present at the meeting:

Mr. David Moorman, Deputy County Administrator
Mrs. Kathleen D. Guzi, County Administrator
Mrs. Elizabeth Dillon, County Attorney

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 2:00 P. M. and then asked for a moment of silence.

Mr. Dodson then led the group in reciting the pledge of allegiance.

Mrs. Guzi then introduced Chief Jeff Beckner to the Board. She noted that Chief Beckner was hired as the County's first Chief of Fire and Emergency Medical Services and began work on September 15. She noted that previously he worked for the City of Roanoke for 30 years and his most recent position was as the City's Director of Operations. Mrs. Guzi stated that Chief Beckner is a long-time resident of Botetourt County and many volunteer fire and rescue members have known him for years as he has conducted various fire-training classes.

Chief Beckner stated that it is an honor to be the County's first Fire Chief and he is excited to take on this new adventure. He thanked everyone for welcoming him to the County.

Dr. Scothorn noted that Mr. Leffel is not present at today's meeting due to a medical issue. He noted that the Board hopes that Mr. Leffel recovers soon and is able to quickly return to his duties.

Consideration was then held on approval of transfers and additional appropriations. Mr. Tony Zerrilla, Director of Finance, stated that there is one transfer and five additional appropriations for the Board's consideration this month. He noted that these requests are for recurring cost reimbursements, receipt of insurance proceeds, and State grants.

There being no discussion, on motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Dodson, and carried by the following recorded vote, the Board approved the following transfers and additional appropriations. (Resolution Number 14-09-02)

AYES: Mr. Williamson, Mr. Dodson, Mr. Martin, Dr. Scothorn

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Leffel

ABSTAINING: None

Transfer \$104.98 to Central Purchasing – Store Supplies, 100-4012530-6021, from various departments as follows for store supplies usage:

\$12.00 Deputy Co. Administrator – Office Supplies, 100-4012121-6001
\$35.99 Treasurer – Office Supplies, 100-4012410-6001
\$ 6.00 Development Services - Office Supplies, 100-4034000-6001
\$15.00 Tourism – Office Supplies, 100-4081600-6001
\$35.99 MIS – Office Supplies, 100-4012510-6001

Additional appropriation in the amount of \$777 to Maintenance – Maintenance Service Contracts, 100-4043000-3321. These are funds received from Virginia Western Community College for reimbursement of County custodial salaries for classroom setup at Greenfield ETC.

Additional appropriation in the amount of \$3,148.59 to Volunteer Fire & Rescue – Fire Insurance, 100-4032200-5302. These are insurance funds received for damages to Troutville and Fincastle apparatus.

Additional appropriation in the amount of \$5,527.80 to Sheriff's Department – Police Supplies, 100-4031200-6010. This is for two DMV grants received from the State.

Additional appropriation in the amount of \$1,671.39 to the following Sheriff's Department accounts: \$1,260.00 to Forest Patrol Salaries, 100-4031200-1900; \$96.39 to FICA, 100-4031200-2100; and \$315.00 to Vehicle & Power Equipment Supplies, 100-4031200-6009. These are reimbursed funds received for Forest Patrol overtime expenses.

Additional appropriation in the amount of \$5,000 allocated as follows: \$2,500 to Standing Room Only, 100-4072241; and \$2,500 to Attic Productions, 100-4072242. These are Challenge Fund Grant monies received from the Virginia Commission for the Arts.

Consideration was then held on approval of the accounts payable and ratification of the Short Accounts Payable List. Mr. Tony Zerrilla, Director of Finance, stated that this month's accounts payable totaled \$670,479.70; \$565,742.52 in General Fund expenditures; and \$104,737.18 in Utility Fund invoices. He stated that the Short Accounts Payable totaled \$309,982.01; \$298,393.94 in General Fund expenditures; \$3,055 in Debt Service Fund invoices; and \$8,483.07 in Utility Fund expenditures.

Mr. Zerrilla noted that this month's large expenditures included \$31,881 to McNeil and Company for the second installment payment for commercial insurance for the County's volunteer fire and rescue units.

Dr. Scothorn then noted that there are several insurance payments on this month's accounts payable list for the volunteer fire and rescue units and questioned if these policies could be consolidated.

Mr. Jason Ferguson, Division Chief of Fire and EMS, stated that the volunteer units' insurance policies which are divided into two components—buildings, vehicles and liability; and accident and health coverage. Mr. Ferguson stated that these policies include coverage for seven pieces of property, \$6.1 million in assets, and 62 pieces of rolling stock (vehicles) valued at \$11.8 million. Mr. Ferguson stated that he reviewed these insurance coverages two budget cycles ago to determine if the County could save money and receive better coverage by joining the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) insurance program. He noted that at that time it was determined that it was best to stay with a third-party agency for this coverage. Mr. Ferguson noted that there is a new insurance underwriter for these policies this year and this company is much more of a risk management organization.

After questioning by Mr. Williamson, Mr. Ferguson stated that the insurance policies were consolidated two years ago and the County retains the most up-to-date listing for coverage.

There being no further discussion, on motion by Mr. Williamson, seconded by Mr. Dodson, and carried by the following recorded vote, the Board approved the accounts payable and ratified the Short Accounts Payable List as submitted. (Resolution Number 14-09-03)

AYES: Mr. Williamson, Mr. Dodson, Mr. Martin, Dr. Scothorn

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Leffel

ABSTAINING: None

Consideration was then held on approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held on August 26, 2014.

There being no discussion, on motion by Mr. Williamson, seconded by Mr. Martin, and carried by the following recorded vote, the minutes of the regular meeting held on August 26, 2014, were approved as submitted. (Resolution Number 14-09-04)

AYES: Mr. Williamson, Mr. Dodson, Mr. Martin, Dr. Scothorn

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Leffel

ABSTAINING: None

Ms. Phyllis Booze, Voter Registrar, was then present to speak regarding a State pilot program to study the implementation of vote centers. Ms. Booze stated that the Electoral Board has adopted a resolution in support of legislation that would allow jurisdictions to choose to participate in a three-year pilot program to study the implementation of vote centers. She noted that these vote centers would offer fewer voting sites during June primary elections which would save the County money. Ms. Booze stated that the County currently has 17 precincts and all of those voting locations are not needed during primaries which usually have a low voter turnout. Ms. Booze noted that the County's voter turnout was only 0.8% in the June 2013 primary election.

She then requested that the Board support this legislation. Ms. Booze stated that, if this program is implemented, she would imagine that there would be 2 or 3 vote centers designated in the County and voters could vote at any of these locations. She noted that the hope is that voter turnout during primary elections would be higher if vote centers are in place. She emphasized that this legislation is proposing a pilot program for primary elections only.

After questioning by Mr. Williamson, Ms. Booze stated that there has been a large amount of discussion on having vote centers implemented in Virginia. She further noted that the State of Colorado has had vote centers for several years.

After further questioning by Mr. Williamson, Ms. Booze stated that a "firehouse" primary is different from a standard primary election in that it is planned, managed, and operated by a political party if the party members agree that that option is the best way to choose their candidates. She further stated that "firehouse" primaries are paid for by the political party while the standard June primary elections are paid for by the County.

After questioning by Mr. Dodson, Ms. Booze stated that Colorado had some problems with the poll books when they first implemented vote centers; however, the actual voting process worked very well.

After discussion, Ms. Booze stated that, if the General Assembly's legislation to implement this pilot program is approved by the Governor, the vote center issue and their locations would still have to be advertised for a public hearing by the Board of Supervisors.

Ms. Booze stated that there are benefits to having vote centers. She noted that the June 2013 primary election was scheduled on the County's last day of school which caused several problems due to graduation ceremonies and other end-of-year events at various schools. She noted that parking was an issue and there was difficulty finding poll workers who were available to work that day. She further stated that the Buchanan Elementary School precinct had only 6 voters and one of the Blue Ridge precinct polling places had to be relocated due to a lack of parking at Colonial Elementary School.

Mr. Dodson stated that the County's cost savings by having only 2 or 3 vote centers open during primary elections would make this program worthwhile. After questioning by Mr. Dodson, Ms. Booze noted that, if the vote centers are approved by the State and the Supervisors, then the voter's registration cards would have the vote center locations listed on them along with their November election polling place location. Ms. Booze noted that her office would also issue press releases, advertise these vote center locations in the newspaper, and have articles placed with various media outlets to inform the public.

After questioning by Mr. Martin, Ms. Booze stated that she is not aware of any voter fraud problems that Colorado had with their implementation of vote centers. Mr. Martin noted that he supports this proposed resolution.

Ms. Booze noted that she talked to Delegate Terry Austin and he is in support of this legislation.

After questioning by Mr. Williamson, Ms. Booze noted that this legislation was submitted in the 2014 General Assembly session and is proposed to be submitted again in 2015.

There being no further discussion, on motion by Mr. Williamson, seconded by Mr. Martin, and carried by the following recorded vote, the Board adopted the following resolution requesting that the Virginia General Assembly and the Governor enact legislation to allow a pilot program to study the implementation of vote centers.

AYES: Mr. Williamson, Mr. Dodson, Mr. Martin, Dr. Scothorn

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Leffel

ABSTAINING: None

Resolution Number 14-09-05

WHEREAS, the Botetourt County Electoral Board is charged with the conduct of elections by the Virginia Constitution and is regulated by the *Virginia State Code* and is advised/guided by the Department of Elections; and

WHEREAS, election costs are borne by the taxpayers, thereby placing on the Electoral Board a fiduciary responsibility to protect the County's treasury; and

WHEREAS, the Botetourt County Electoral Board has determined that the costs of Primary Elections as compared to General Elections are an extraordinary burden on the treasury because voter turnout is exceedingly low; and

WHEREAS, the costs of Primaries could be reduced simply by opening fewer precincts, hiring fewer election officers, and programming fewer voting machines without any deleterious impact on voter convenience; and

WHEREAS, the *Virginia Code* has no provisions specific for Primaries and other low-voter-turnout elections; and

WHEREAS, other State jurisdictions have studied, implemented, and received positive voter feedback with the use of Vote Centers for conducting primary elections; and

WHEREAS, these Vote Centers would offer fewer voting sites without negative impact on voter convenience or voter turnout, yet would offer greater tax savings to our locality;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors does hereby support immediate action by the General Assembly and Governor to enact legislation that would allow jurisdictions to choose to run a Pilot Program to study Vote Centers for a period of three years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors understands that Vote Centers may not be seen as useful to some jurisdictions, but that Vote Centers do have the support of both large and small jurisdictions;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors understands that a pilot program could not be implemented until requested by the Electoral Board and approved after public hearings held by the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors.

Ms. Booze further noted that several months ago the Board of Supervisors approved the Electoral Board's request to relocate the Mill Creek Precinct's polling place from Wheatland Lutheran Church to Mill Creek Baptist Church. She noted that new voter registration cards were mailed yesterday to the registered voters in this precinct notifying them of this change.

Ms. Booze also noted that the State's new law requiring photo identification to be presented at polling places is now in effect. She noted that registered voters who do not have one of the required photo ID items can have their photograph taken in her office. Ms. Booze noted that the photo is sent to the State of Virginia and the ID is then mailed to the individual.

After questioning by Mr. Martin, Ms. Booze noted that State-approved photo IDs include a government-issued photo ID card, driver's license, passport, an employer ID that contains a photograph, etc.

Ms. Booze then played a video which explains the new photo identification requirements. She noted that this video will be made public shortly and the public will be directed to the Voter Registrar's website for further information.

There being no further discussion, the Board thanked Ms. Booze for her presentation.

Consideration was then held on a joint resolution requesting the Roanoke Valley Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to fund a Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) project for the expansion and completion of the Tinker Creek Greenway. Mr. Pete Peters, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, stated that, as a part of the County's ongoing tourism efforts and quality of life improvement initiatives, the Recreation Department staff have been working with the Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission and the Roanoke County Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Department to develop potential greenway connections to link various related resources along the Botetourt/Roanoke County line.

Mr. Peters stated that the Roanoke Valley Greenways Plan lists the Tinker Creek Greenway as a regional priority that would potentially connect the two counties as well as Roanoke City and the Town of Vinton. He noted that approximately 1.5 miles of the Tinker Creek Greenway exists which connects with the Roanoke River Greenway near the Roanoke Regional Sewage Treatment Plant and Wise Avenue and there is a 2.5 mile section between I-81 Exit 143 near Hollins University which ties into the Carvins Cove Natural Reserve trail system. Mr. Peters noted that the County is also working to extend a greenway from Botetourt Center at Greenfield to Daleville.

Mr. Peters stated that the County would like to apply for a joint grant application with the other Roanoke Valley governments for funding through the RSTP to conduct a connectivity study to provide routing options within the Tinker Creek corridor to potentially connect the County's parks, schools, and areas of commerce within the Cloverdale, Daleville, and Greenfield communities with Carvins Cove and the existing greenway connection near Hollins/Plantation Road. Mr. Peters stated that the joint application, which is due on September 26, would be in the amount of \$400,000 with the Botetourt/Roanoke County portion consisting of \$100,000 in grant funds.

After discussion, Mr. Peters noted that the grant funds would be used to pinpoint existing rights-of-way that could be used, identify potential easements, conduct a topographical analysis,

etc. Mr. Peters stated that this study would not “lock” the County into any future greenway development projects. He noted that the study would determine the best route for a greenway from Daleville to Carvins Cove.

After questioning by Mr. Williamson, Mr. Peters noted that there is currently a County sewer easement located along Tinker Creek.

Mr. Martin noted that he is the Chairman of the MPO and requested that Mr. Peters provide him with any additional information on this grant application for his review prior to the MPO meeting. Mr. Peters stated that he would do so.

On motion by Dr. Scothorn, seconded by Mr. Martin, and carried by the following recorded vote, the Board adopted the following resolution in support of the joint application between Roanoke City, Roanoke County, the Town of Vinton, and Botetourt County for Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Grant funds to conduct a trail routing option study.

AYES: Mr. Williamson, Mr. Dodson, Mr. Martin, Dr. Scothorn

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Leffel

ABSTAINING: None

Resolution Number 14-09-06

WHEREAS, the City of Roanoke, Roanoke County, Botetourt County, the Town of Vinton, and the Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission desire to exhibit unanimous support for all Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) applications involving the Tinker Creek Greenway submitted to the Roanoke Valley Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (RVAMPO) with the goal of expanding and completing the Tinker Creek Greenway in all four jurisdictions; and,

WHEREAS, the Tinker Creek Greenway alignment is designated as a Priority Two Greenway in the 2007 Update to the Roanoke Valley Conceptual Greenway Plan and is planned to connect the Roanoke River Greenway to Carvins Cove Natural Reserve; and,

WHEREAS, the Tinker Creek Greenway Conceptual Master Plan was developed by the Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission and Virginia Tech Landscape Architecture students in the Landscape Architecture Department, in cooperation with the City of Roanoke, Town of Vinton and Roanoke County in Spring 2000 to identify potential routes for the Tinker Creek Greenway between Fallon Park and Carvins Cove Natural Reserve; and,

WHEREAS, the Tinker Creek Greenway has been completed between (1) the Roanoke River Greenway and Fallon Park in the City of Roanoke, and (2) Carvins Cove Natural Reserve and the trailhead parking lot north of Interstate 81 in Botetourt County and Roanoke County;

WHEREAS, Botetourt County has developed a Comprehensive Trail Plan to direct the expansion and enhancement of its trail inventory to include establishing trail connections to the Tinker Creek Greenway for the benefit of residents in southern Botetourt County, eastern Roanoke County and other trail users; and,

WHEREAS, the focus of the RSTP applications is to expand and complete the Tinker Creek Greenway between Fallon Park in the City of Roanoke and the trailhead parking lot north of Interstate 81 in Roanoke County as well as into Botetourt County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors requests the Roanoke Valley Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (RVAMPO) fund projects for the expansion and completion of the multijurisdictional Tinker Creek Greenway in the localities of the City of Roanoke, Roanoke County, Botetourt County and the Town of Vinton.

Mr. Dan Collins, Residency Administrator, and Mr. Kevin Hamm, Maintenance Operations Manager with the Virginia Department of Transportation, were then present to speak to the Board.

Mr. Collins noted that the Route 779/672 intersection project will not be completed by the October 31 deadline as shown in VDoT's monthly report. He noted that VDoT is awaiting the value engineering report from the project's contractor regarding the bridge's shoring installation. Mr. Collins stated that it is estimated that this project's completion will be delayed by approximately six months.

Mr. Collins further noted that Breckinridge Mill Road has been reopened to through traffic after being closed for 12 days to allow the contractor to conduct work on a bridge replacement project.

Mr. Collins also noted that the deadline for the County's submittal of a Revenue Sharing Program funding application is October 24.

Mr. Hamm then reviewed the land development projects and land use permits reviewed/approved by VDoT in the past month. He noted that the approval of the Journey Church utility connection was issued on August 29 and VDoT is conducting a second review of the Dale Court water system project. Mr. Hamm noted that two private entrance permits were issued by VDoT in the past month.

Mr. Hamm stated that pavement patching work continues on Route 11 and on Route 220 in Gala and on Breckinridge Mill Road but work still needs to be done on Routes 220 and 43. He noted that the slurry work on the one-way street project in Fincastle should begin next week.

After discussion, Mr. Hamm stated that VDoT has had problems on Route 220 in Eagle Rock and in Daleville with clogged drainage pipes under the roadway which causes water to come up through the pavement. He noted that cameras were sent through the pipes to obtain a closer look at the problem which may necessitate construction work to resolve.

Mr. Hamm then noted that VDoT conducted a hydraulics review on Loope Lane last Friday. He noted that there is a low area on this roadway which floods during rainstorms. Mr. Hamm noted that as soon as VDoT staff completes their review the information gathered last week he will inform the Board of needs to be done to alleviate the problem.

Mr. Hamm then noted that VDoT staff has completed most of their reviews of Secondary System roadways between Routes 11 and 220 that have been reported as being used by tractor trailers as cut-throughs. He noted that their studies show that there is no data to support through-truck restrictions on Routes 676 (Gravel Hill Road), 606 (Blue Ridge Turnpike), 641 (Oak Ridge Road), 630 (Springwood Road), 639 (Wheatland Road), and 670 (Trinity Road). Mr. Hamm noted that their staff is still compiling study data on Route 640 (Brugh's Mill Road).

He further stated that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) is still considering the County's request for through-truck restrictions on Route 779 (Valley Road) and Route 607 (Webster Heights Road). Mr. Hamm further noted that the landowner on the abandoned section of Patterson Trail (Route 683) will be installing a gate and a vehicle turnaround at the new end of State maintenance location in the next few weeks. Mr. Hamm stated that he wanted to inform the Board and County staff of this occurrence as there may be calls from citizens who have used this roadway in the past but now cannot and there may be instances of trespassing on the property located beyond the new gate.

After questioning by Mr. Williamson, Mr. Hamm stated that VDoT has been in contact with this landowner and there is still a plan to have a lock box installed on the gate to allow the County's fire and rescue agencies to have access to this property, if needed.

Mr. Martin noted that he received a call two weeks ago from a resident who said that tractor trailers are still using Webster Heights Road as a cut-through from Route 460 to the Webster Brick plant. Mr. Martin further noted that, as Webster Brick has announced that it will be shutting down the plant for a period of time, it may solve the problem of trucks using this narrow, curvy roadway.

Mr. Hamm noted that he checked with VDoT's Richmond office last week and they have not received a decision from the Commonwealth Transportation Board on these two through-truck restrictions.

After questioning by Mr. Martin, Mr. Hamm noted that the two bridge replacement projects on Webster Road (Route 738) should be completed in November.

After questioning by Mr. Williamson on recent tar and gravel work on Routes 615 and 606, Mr. Hamm noted that, under these types of paving contracts, one contractor puts down the tar and gravel and then a separate contractor follows behind by a week or so and installs pavement striping.

Mr. Williamson then noted that there is a bridge on Route 11 between Mill Creek Church and Wheatland Road that appears to have issues with deterioration of its concrete railings and supports.

Mr. Hamm stated that VDoT staff is currently working on this bridge's redesign and anticipate construction beginning in 2015.

After questioning by Mr. Dodson, Mr. Hamm noted that he will check again on the status of the Valley Road through-truck restriction with the CTB.

After further questioning by Mr. Dodson regarding the status of the Exit 150 public information sessions, Mrs. Guzi noted that VDoT is still working on finalizing the schedule for these sessions. Mrs. Guzi stated that she anticipates receiving updated information from VDoT later this week and she will forward it to the Board members and the press at that time.

Mr. Hamm noted that he will also check to see if any formal dates for the public informational sessions have been set.

There being no further discussion, the Board thanked Mr. Collins and Mr. Hamm for their attendance at today's meeting.

A staff update was then given on the recent activities of the Roanoke Center for Animal Control and Protection. Mr. Tony Zerrilla, Director of Finance, stated that he is the County's representative on the RCACP Fiscal/Support Committee and he is present to give an update on the organization's recent activities as per Dr. Scothorn's request last month.

Mr. Zerrilla stated that Botetourt County, along with Roanoke City, Roanoke County, and the Town of Vinton, assumed operational responsibilities of the RCACP from the Roanoke Valley SPCA on July 1, 2013, and created an executive committee consisting of representatives from each participating locality to oversee the facility's operations. He noted that Ms. Jill Deegan, Assistant Botetourt County Commonwealth's Attorney and an expert on animal welfare issues, was asked to serve as an advisor to the committee.

Mr. Zerrilla stated that, after an extensive search by the committee, Mr. David Flagler was hired as the facility's executive director just prior to July 2013. He noted that Mr. Flagler

was responsible for addressing several operational issues including a lower-than-desired live animal release rate and the recruitment, coordination, utilization, and retention of volunteers to work at the facility. Mr. Zerrilla further noted that the summer months of June, July, and August represent a significant animal intake increase rate. He stated that Mr. Flagler also had to forge a working relationship with the area's animal rescue agencies which play a vital role in animal placement efforts, as well as addressing public concerns on improving shelter results and focusing on community outreach.

Mr. Zerrilla stated that a listing of initiatives addressed by Mr. Flagler and his staff in his first year as Executive Director regarding operations, fiscal management, and adoption efforts were included in the Board's agenda packet. He noted that the operational initiatives included management transition from the SPCA to RCACP, stabilization of veterinarian services, creation of an Operations Committee which consists of animal control officers from the participating localities, partnering/contracting with businesses such as PetSmart and the Mountain View Humane Society, increasing media/market exposure and community outreach, staff training, stabilization of the volunteer program, utilization of Community Service workers, animal enrichment programs, and improvement of the live animal release rate.

He noted that the Operations Committee meets monthly with RCACP staff to share information, concerns, and ideas for better coordination of the animal control function with shelter operations. Mr. Zerrilla stated that the facility has also increased its visibility by securing time on the Roanoke City/Roanoke County cable channel, using print media, and television ads/news stories to inform the community of adoptions and pet healthcare matters.

He further stated that the recruitment of volunteers and their relationship with shelter management has stabilized and noted that 117 hours of volunteer time was logged in July 2014. Mr. Zerrilla noted that the volunteers' contributions and support are essential to the facility's operations. He stated that RCACP also utilizes Community Service workers approximately 20 hours each week to assist with necessary janitorial and cleaning responsibilities at the facility.

Regarding fiscal management initiatives, Mr. Zerrilla stated that at the end of the FY 13-14 fiscal year the facility's operations appear to have come in under budget which resulted in a slight increase in their fund balance. He noted that the shelter's debt which runs through 2022 was recently refinanced at a reduced interest rate which will yield approximately \$486,000 or 19% in interest expense savings. He further noted that the participating localities were able to establish reserve funds which can be used to support future operational and capital needs and shelter management was able to apply for and receive grant funding to pay for items such as animal well-being and staff training.

Regarding adoption initiatives, Mr. Zerrilla stated that the success of animal adoptions at RCACP is largely dependent on the relationship between the facility's management and the area's rescue agencies which provide an essential outlet for animal placement. He noted that two-way communications between the shelter and these agencies is a priority and is worked on continuously. Mr. Zerrilla then provided information on a recent program on which Angels of Assisi provided significant resources that resulted in a large number of animals being adopted.

Mr. Zerrilla stated that the facility has increased the opportunities for the public to adopt animals including weekend operating/adoption hours, holding off-site events to increase the adoption potential, working with PetSmart which provides space for adoption of shelter animals and provides funding for a rescue program which allows transport of animals out of State when

there is a slowdown of local adoptions, and effective August 2013 RCACP began offering public in-house adoptions.

Mr. Zerrilla then reviewed various monthly shelter activity indicators. He noted that the facility's highest yearly animal intake occurred in 2009 when 7,300 cats and dogs were received; however, this number has declined since that time. He further noted that from calendar year 2012 to 2013, there was a 10% decline in animal intake with an approximate 8% decline projected in calendar year 2014. Mr. Zerrilla stated that there has been a 44% reduction in stray cats and a 38% reduction in dogs surrendered by their owners.

After discussion, Mr. Zerrilla stated that there has also been a decline in the number of animals rescued since 2012. He noted that from 2012 to 2013 there was a 31% decrease in the number of cats rescued and a 19% decrease in dogs rescued by agencies. Mr. Zerrilla stated that the RCACP recently achieved its 500th adoption since beginning this program in August 2013 and now permanently offers free cat adoptions.

Mr. Zerrilla stated that during the past few years there was concern over the RCACP's live release and euthanasia rates. He noted that in calendar year 2012, the overall live release rate was 68% which decreased to 63% in 2013; however, in the first 8 months of 2014 there has been a 14% improvement in the live release rate over the previous year. He further noted that this 14% improvement includes a 23% increase in the cat live release rate while the live release figures for dogs have remained high over the past three years. Mr. Zerrilla stated that, although the 2014 live release rate is the highest in the past three years, there is a need for additional increases in this figure.

After discussion, Mr. Zerrilla stated that, while the RCACP has previously experienced unsatisfactory operational results, they are working toward better communications, coordination, and establishment of better relationships with rescue agencies and the community at large. He noted that all interested parties should work together to educate the public regarding the care and placement of animals and provide an outlet for more animals to be rescued/adopted.

Dr. Scothorn thanked Mr. Zerrilla for this detailed report. He noted that it is a struggle to obtain volunteers for any venture and he is glad to see that the situation at RCACP is now under better control.

After questioning by Mr. Martin regarding the live release/euthanasia rates, Mr. Zerrilla stated that the facility's live release rate was 68% in 2012, 63% in 2013, and is up to 72% in the first eight months of 2014; therefore the euthanasia rate has decreased since 2013. He noted that the live release rate includes animals that are adopted, those that are placed/transferred to rescue agencies, and animals that are picked up by their owners after they have been brought to the shelter by animal control officers.

Mr. Martin stated that RCACP is not a no-kill facility. Mr. Zerrilla stated that Mr. Martin's statement is correct.

After questioning by Mr. Williamson regarding the shelter's operating reserve, Mr. Zerrilla stated that Roanoke County is the facility's fiscal agent and will shortly issue a financial report on the shelter's budgetary operations.

After questioning by Mr. Williamson, Sheriff Sprinkle stated that he has not received any complaints from the County's Animal Control Officers regarding RCACP's operations and staff.

After questioning by Mr. Dodson, Mr. Zerrilla stated that he thinks that the facility is better than it was a year ago but there is still room for improvement.

Dr. Scothorn noted that he has been told by citizens that it is much easier to adopt an animal from the shelter now than in the past. He again thanked Mr. Zerrilla for his report.

Mrs. Guzi stated that the member localities know that there has been progress but there is still room for improvement.

Mr. Williamson then updated the Board on recent activities of the Strategic Pre-Planning Committee on which he and Mr. Martin serve. Mr. Williamson stated that he believes that the Committee has concluded their work as a facilitator has been hired and dates set for the Supervisors' strategic planning sessions.

Dr. Scothorn noted that he met with the facilitator last week and she seems to be a great choice to assist the Board through this process. Mr. Martin agreed with Dr. Scothorn's comments.

Mr. Dodson then noted that he has talked to the Director of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism and Mr. Peters will be putting together some videos for the Board to view at future meetings on youth sports recruitment efforts.

Mrs. Guzi then noted that the Virginia Association of Counties' 2015 legislative packet will be sent out electronically later today. She asked that the Board review this information to determine if there is any issue that the staff should consider or have added to the packet prior to the upcoming General Assembly session.

She also noted that VDoT will be conducting a meeting on the Six Year Plan on the same date as the Board's October regular meeting and staff will be working on providing a listing of County projects to be considered for funding.

Consideration was then held on various appointments.

Dr. Scothorn noted that the terms of Ed Baker and John Alderson on the Industrial Development Authority expire on November 1, 2014. He noted that both gentlemen have been contacted and Mr. Alderson is willing to be reappointed; however, due to family health issues, Mr. Baker declined to be reappointed.

After questioning by Mr. Williamson, Mrs. Guzi noted that the IDA members are at-large appointments.

Dr. Scothorn asked that the Board members consider potential appointees to fill the vacancy on the IDA.

Mrs. Guzi noted that the current membership listing of the IDA will be forwarded to the Board for their information.

On motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Dr. Scothorn, and carried by the following recorded vote, the Board reappointed Mr. John Alderson to a four year term on the Industrial Development Authority for a term to expire on November 1, 2018. (Resolution Number 14-09-07)

AYES: Mr. Dodson, Mr. Martin, Dr. Scothorn, Mr. Williamson

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Leffel

ABSTAINING: None

A staff presentation was then given on proposed amendments to Chapter 2. Administration and Chapter 11. Fire Prevention and Protection of the Botetourt County Code. Mr. Jason Ferguson, Division Chief of Operations and Training, stated that the Virginia Fire Services Board study was presented to the Board in March 2014 and one recommendation was to update the County Code regarding the provision of fire and EMS services. Mr. Ferguson noted that since May the County staff has worked with a committee appointed by the Chiefs and Captains group to update these Code sections.

He stated that ordinances from other localities were reviewed and a draft ordinance was developed. He noted that this draft ordinance was reviewed with Mr. Dodson and Mr. Leffel, who were appointed as Board representatives on the Fire and EMS Committee, and the Chiefs and Captains committee at their August meeting. Mr. Ferguson stated that a comparison of the existing and proposed ordinances was provided to the Chiefs and Captains and they were given three weeks to review the ordinance and submit questions, comments, and concerns; however, no comments have been received as of this time.

Mr. Ferguson also noted that the proposed ordinance has been reviewed by the County Attorney.

Mr. Ferguson then reviewed the proposed amendments to Chapter 2 Administration and Chapter 11 Fire Prevention and Protection of the County Code. He noted that Sections 2-1 and 2-111 through 2-115 are proposed to be repealed and rewritten for inclusion in Chapter 11. Mr. Ferguson stated that Chapter 11 now includes sections on the establishment of a coordinated fire and EMS system and its responsibilities, establishment and responsibilities of a department of fire and EMS, establishment and duties of a chief of fire and EMS, definition of the responsibilities of the County's volunteer fire and rescue units and their chiefs and captains, establishment and responsibilities of a fire and EMS commission, creation of a commission executive board, and provisions regarding noncompliance with system-wide policies.

Mr. Ferguson noted that the noncompliance section was based on an Albemarle County ordinance and, after talking to the Albemarle County Fire Chief, he was told that they have never needed to enforce/implement these provisions.

After discussion, Mr. Ferguson noted that the volunteer fire and rescue members and the County's career staff have been informed of these proposed amendments and no comments/suggestions have been received.

Mr. Ferguson stated that Section 11-8 (g) and (h) refer to the Fire/EMS Chief's authority during a declaration of a state of emergency as issued by the Governor. Mr. Ferguson noted that the Governor has to declare a state of emergency before a locality can declare a local state of emergency. He stated that the chief, on behalf of the Board of Supervisors, is authorized to enter into and take necessary action to carry out the terms of agreements for mutual aid, disaster preparedness, and provision of services during these disaster/emergency situations including expenditure of funds to provide for public safety. Mr. Ferguson noted that the chief is required to report back to the Board within 14 days of the local declaration of emergency, or the next Supervisors meeting whichever occurs first, on the actions he took during the emergency/disaster.

He further noted that there is a typographical error in subsection (g) of Section 11-13 Noncompliance with System-wide Policies. He noted that Section 11-6 is referenced in this subsection; however, it should be listed as Section 11-8. Mr. Ferguson also noted that a sentence should be added to the end of this same subsection as follows, "Any immediate action

shall be communicated to the county administrator and the fire and EMS commission as soon as possible.”

Mr. Ferguson noted that Mr. Jim Short with Read Mountain Fire Station, Mr. David Cox with Eagle Rock Fire and Rescue, and Mr. David Bush with Fincastle Volunteer Rescue Squad, were present at today’s meeting and he thanked them for their input during this ordinance update process.

Mr. Dodson noted that he and Mr. Leffel spent a lot of time reviewing these proposed ordinance amendments and he believes that this is a good document.

After questioning by Mr. Dodson, Chief Jeff Beckner stated that he has reviewed the draft ordinance amendments and “he can live with this ordinance as it is very well thought out.”

After questioning by Mr. Williamson, Mr. Ferguson stated that the Fire and EMS Commission will have to adopt bylaws, determine how to elect a chairman, etc.

There being no further discussion, on motion by Mr. Dodson, seconded by Mr. Martin, and carried by the following recorded vote, the Board authorized the advertisement of a public hearing on proposed amendments to Chapter 2 Administration and Chapter 11 Fire Prevention and Protection of the Botetourt County Code to be held at the October 28 regular meeting with the following corrections: (Resolution Number 14-09-08)

Section 11-13 Noncompliance with System-wide Policies, subsection (g)--Change “Section 11-6” to “Section 11-8”, and add the following sentence to the end of this subsection, “Any immediate action shall be communicated to the county administrator and the fire and EMS commission as soon as possible.”

AYES: Mr. Dodson, Mr. Martin, Dr. Scothorn, Mr. Williamson

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Leffel

ABSTAINING: None

A presentation was then given on the Livable Roanoke Valley Plan. Mr. David Moorman, Deputy County Administrator, stated that this plan was adopted by the Steering Committee of the Partnership for a Livable Roanoke Valley in April after a two year planning and input process. He noted that the County was a participant in the process through representation on both the Steering Committee and a stakeholder committee.

Mr. Moorman stated that this plan includes input from Valley residents, elected officials, community leaders and advocates, and business and nonprofit leaders who discussed what makes the region strong, what challenges it faces, what opportunities there are for making it stronger, and how to go about doing so.

He noted that Jake Gilmer, Director of Partnerships and Development of the Roanoke Valley/Alleghany Regional Commission, is present to offer a brief overview of the plan and then the Board will be asked to consider adoption of a resolution expressing their desire and intent to work with the participating localities to implement the plan’s provisions.

Mr. Gilmer then gave a PowerPoint presentation on the plan which reviewed the process to date and what the next steps will be. He noted that their mission statement for this plan is to “Promote economic opportunity and quality of life in the Roanoke Valley.” Mr. Gilmer stated that the Steering Committee consisted of members from local governments, nonprofit organizations, the Western Virginia Water Authority, Carilion Clinic, the Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce, Virginia Western Community College, the Council of Community Services, citizens, and representatives from the Alleghany Highlands have also asked to be included. He noted that

representatives from Botetourt County included David Moorman; Jeff Busby, Associate County Planner; and Pete Peters, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism.

Mr. Gilmer noted that he hopes that there are aspects of this plan that could help the Supervisors during their upcoming strategic planning sessions.

He then noted that their partnering organizations included Valley Metro, the Roanoke Regional Partnership, United Way of the Roanoke Valley, Blue Ridge Land Conservancy, Freedom First Credit Union, New Horizons Healthcare, the Virginia Workforce Network, and the Blue Ridge Independent Living Center, among others. Mr. Gilmer noted that the involvement process included public engagement through a series of three surveys, a website, and workbooks and the planning process included identifying trends, strengths and challenges, livability framework and vision, and strategies and pathways to achieve a livable Roanoke.

After discussion, Mr. Gilmer then listed some of the area's strengths (natural beauty, interstate and rail service, workforce, colleges/universities, etc.) and weaknesses (topography, slow population growth, urban/rural poverty, aging region, lack of transportation to education and jobs, etc.). He noted that over 1,500 citizens were involved in the various workshops and telephone surveys.

Mr. Gilmer then reviewed the listing of future opportunities and threats which included intermodal facility, passenger rail service, expansion of career and technical education, preservation of scenic/rural land, tourism promotion, resistance to change, declining legislative influence in Richmond, aging population/loss of young people, sprawling land development, interstate congestion, etc. He then noted that the key trends affecting the Valley according to their partnering organizations include increasing aging population and changing demographics, decreasing State/federal funding, increasing need for regional infrastructure investment, need for technically skilled workforce, rapid changes in technology, increasing need for healthcare workforce and an educated workforce, increasing energy costs, etc. Mr. Gilmer then reviewed the scenarios of the future—prepared/unprepared regional readiness and disabling/enabling social and economic conditions.

After discussion, Mr. Gilmer stated that, as part of this process, one and one-half years ago Virginia Tech conducted a livability survey of 1,030 participants; 103 of which were from Botetourt County. He noted that the survey's responses showed that the top four priorities were economic development/job creation, clean water and air, preventive healthcare and lowering healthcare costs, and educational options/academic performance. Mr. Gilmer noted that strategies were then developed pertaining to these four priorities and a vision statement was written which encapsulated these four topics.

Mr. Gilmer noted that guiding principles were drafted that reflected these regional priorities which included: protecting the beauty/ecology of the Valley, provide a health/equitable quality of life, celebrate diversity and its contribution to our culture, anticipate and adapt to change with responsible leadership, invest in regional infrastructure improvements that meet the communities' 21st century needs, promote excellence in education/job training, etc. He then stated that the goals of Livable Roanoke Valley are economic development, workforce development, a healthy Roanoke Valley, and natural assets and then discussed the strategies and champions of each goal.

Regarding the next steps to having these goals implemented, Mr. Gilmer stated that the plan recommends that the Livable Roanoke Valley partnership be continued, distribute the final plan and brochures, seek endorsement from local councils/boards, nonprofits, organizations,

businesses, etc., hold an annual Livable Roanoke Valley Implementation Summit, support champions to implement the strategies, pursue funding and partnerships to support this work, and track progress using indicators. He noted that this Summit was recently held.

Mr. Gilmer then thanked the Board for their time and he appreciated their consideration of a resolution of support for the plan's goals and objectives.

Mr. Moorman noted that the resolution does not require or request any financial commitment from the County or any special action. He noted that the resolution is only an expression of the Board's desire to partner with others in support of the plan.

Mr. Williamson noted that the proposal to use a wetlands bank as an economic development marketing approach is an interesting idea and he would like to hear more about that proposal in the future.

There being no further discussion, on motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Dodson, and carried by the following recorded vote, the Board adopted the following resolution of support for the Livable Roanoke Valley Plan.

AYES: Mr. Dodson, Mr. Martin, Dr. Scothorn, Mr. Williamson

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Leffel

ABSTAINING: None

Resolution Number 14-09-09

WHEREAS, the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission (RVARC) and the Council of Community Services (CCS) brought together seven local governments and more than 60 nonprofits and business organizations in 2011 to form the Partnership for a Livable Roanoke Valley (PLRV); and,

WHEREAS, the mission of the PLRV is to "promote economic opportunity and a greater quality of life in the Roanoke Valley;" and,

WHEREAS, the PLRV took a straight-forward approach to understanding and addressing key issues affecting the region; and,

WHEREAS, the PLRV engaged over 60 partnering organizations and over 1,300 citizens to gain a strong understanding of the region's values, vision, and priorities; and,

WHEREAS, Botetourt County staff participated in the Plan's development through a Stakeholder Committee, and public input was sought at many points during the plan development, including public meetings and presentations to elected officials, focus groups, and stakeholders; and,

WHEREAS, the PLRV developed a picture of potential futures for the region based on a detailed understanding of key trends at the local, state, and national level; and,

WHEREAS, the PRLV identified 11 strategic initiatives to achieve goals in the areas of economic development, workforce development, health, and natural assets; and,

WHEREAS, the PLRV Steering Committee adopted the Plan on April 9, 2014;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Botetourt County does hereby commend the PLRV Steering Committee and its development of the Livable Roanoke Valley Plan and expresses its desire and intent to work with the partnering organizations to implement provisions of the plan.

The Chairman then called for a 5 minute break.

The Chairman called the meeting back to order at 3:55 P. M.

Mr. John Alderson then provided the Board with an update on the proposed YMCA facility. Mr. Alderson stated that he is present today to discuss the possibility of developing a YMCA

facility in Botetourt County. Mr. Alderson noted that this has been a consuming passion for him over the last couple of years and he would like the Board to consider a funding proposal for this project's development. Mr. Alderson stated that he believes that this project will enhance the Board's desire to lead the County in the direction of progress for its current and future citizens. Mr. Alderson stated that Botetourt County is an attractive destination with opportunities for employment, education, etc., and the Board is judicious in spending on its assets.

Mr. Alderson stated that in 2011 several individuals suggested holding an informational meeting to solicit the views and opinions of citizens on the idea of a YMCA. He noted that these meetings began in earnest in January 2012 to determine if there was a desire to move forward with the concept. Mr. Alderson stated that since the beginning interest in this project has been encouraging and the "Y Team" decided that they needed to determine if this idea had more widespread support. He noted that a professional firm was hired to conduct a study which indicated interest and enthusiastic support of this proposal. Mr. Alderson noted that 2,000 survey respondents indicated that they would become members in the first year of the YMCA's operation.

After discussion, Mr. Alderson stated that the study also provided information to the team as to the scope and development of the project. He noted that the next step is to ascertain whether sufficient funds could be secured to design and construct the facility. Mr. Alderson noted that this feasibility study was conducted earlier this year and there appears to be strong financial support for this project. He further noted that a substantial gift toward the project's development in the amount of \$2.5 million was offered by the Waldron Charitable Foundation; however, there were conditions attached to this gift, which is why he is present before the Board of Supervisors today.

Mr. Alderson noted that Mr. Mark Johnson, President and CEO of the Roanoke Valley YMCA was present to answer questions as to what is a YMCA, what are the community's needs, and who will benefit from the proposed facility.

Mr. Johnson stated that a YMCA is "more than just a gym." He noted that their organization provides programs on changing lives and strengthening communities and includes teaching children to swim. He noted that they have taught over 35,000 swimming lessons in the Roanoke Valley and over 5,000 of these lessons were through partnerships with local schools. Mr. Johnson noted that 10,000 children participated in the YMCA's programs last year which included dance, after-school activities, etc., and 1,400 children participated in science camp, pirate camp, etc., last year. Mr. Johnson noted that, if kids are active during the summer months, they retain information better going into the new school year.

He also stated that they offer teenage-targeted programs for middle and high school children such as job skills, how government works, team leadership clubs, etc., and programs for older adults to keep them mentally, socially, and physically active. Mr. Johnson noted that the YMCA awarded over \$500,000 in scholarships last year to pay for children to participate in their programs whose families were unable to pay for them. He further noted that these classes/programs are led by community volunteers.

Mr. Alderson noted that the County has an excellent school division and Dr. Tony Brads, Superintendent of Schools, will explain what the location of a YMCA in the County would mean for the school system.

Dr. Brads stated that the school system currently collaborates with the YMCA to conduct after-school daycare programs in four of the County's elementary schools. He noted that the

school system is enthusiastic about the possibility of a YMCA being located in the County including the possible use of the facility by the high schools' swim teams. Dr. Brads stated that the County currently has a contract with Hollins University for the swim teams to use their swimming pool for practice session and tournaments; however, there are some scheduling issues on the use of this facility.

Dr. Brads noted that it is possible that the County's swim program could be expanded to the implementation of middle school teams if this YMCA is constructed as well as giving the health and physical education classes the opportunity to offer swimming lessons. Dr. Brads stated that the County's tourism initiative includes the James River as an attraction and school children should know how to swim if they are using the river.

After discussion, Dr. Brads stated that the school system is the largest employer in the County and it would be important for their employees to have the YMCA available as a wellness opportunity for health and exercise purposes. Dr. Brads stated that he appreciates the Board's consideration of this request as an issue of positive growth in the County.

Mr. Alderson stated that "most would agree" that the County has an enviable position when its assets are considered—roads, rail, natural gas, electricity, the James River, the Blue Ridge Parkway, schools, outstanding law enforcement, and prudent political leadership. He noted that the County has been operating successfully for many years, have managed to keep the tax rates down, and there are farmland and open space areas available. Mr. Alderson noted that the inclusion of a YMCA would enhance the County's position on behalf of its residents. He stated that the Board has a legacy of continually improving the situation but "we can always do better." Mr. Alderson stated that "much work is necessary as we look to the future" and the County needs a "well-defined plan going forward to meet the needs of the citizens" and he believes that "together we can do this."

Mr. Alderson then stated that Supervisor Jack Leffel visited him on Friday to discuss this proposal. Mr. Alderson noted that Mr. Leffel assured him of his support for the YMCA and his belief that the County should proceed in this direction.

Dr. Scothorn noted that both of his sons participated in the County's swimming program while in high school and the availability times of the Hollins University pool was difficult on the family's schedule. He noted that having a pool at the YMCA would give the County an opportunity to help the schoolchildren in a much bigger way and to develop a great swim program. He noted that teaching kids to swim is a life situation not just an educational process and he appreciates the time that Mr. Alderson and his team have put into this effort.

At the direction of Mr. Alderson, approximately 8 – 10 individuals in the audience who have worked on this project since the beginning raised their hands.

Mr. Dodson thanked Mr. Johnson and Dr. Brads for their comments. He stated that the County will have to implement some judicious spending to ensure that the Board is prudent in using the taxpayers' money on this project. Mr. Dodson stated that the YMCA facility is not his biggest spending concern as the County needs to "take care of our teachers and deputies." Mr. Dodson further stated that the County does need to increase its tax base and he sees the proposed YMCA making this possible as it will be part of the infrastructure of the County. Mr. Dodson stated that he does not think that a \$2.5 million allocation by the County over a ten year period is unworkable and he believes that this project is a great investment in the County.

Mr. Williamson thanked those who were present in support of this proposal. He noted that the community will also be responsible for donating funds toward this project before it can

proceed. Mr. Williamson noted that he was a member of the fundraising committee for the downtown Roanoke YMCA. He stated that downtown Roanoke is a vibrant area now and he believes that the location of a YMCA was part of that revitalization process.

Mr. Williamson stated that a YMCA will be an important piece of infrastructure for the County for families and children and as an economic development recruitment tool. He noted that affordability of the project is an issue with \$100,000 is being requested from the County in FY 16. Mr. Williamson stated that he believes that this is an important infrastructure investment and the County should figure out a way to “shoehorn” it in to make it work.

Mr. Martin noted that there have been some very good points made today on this proposal but he has some concerns on the request for \$2.5 million over a 10 year period. Mr. Martin stated that the Board is told during every budget cycle that the County has a tight budget and questioned if the County can afford to allocate funding to this project without raising taxes. He noted that several years ago the employees were given a raise totaling \$2 million and, when the budget was developed, the Board was told that the County had a \$400,000 deficit which resulted in a tax increase being implemented. Mr. Martin stated that he does not want to see this happen again.

He noted that the County has other projects that need funding including a new roof at Lord Botetourt and a new elementary school in Blue Ridge. He stated that the County has recently been informed by the State that they are going to reduce funding over the next two years. Mr. Martin questioned what happens if the economy worsens in the future—would the County still have to come up with the funding allocation for the YMCA.

After discussion, Mr. Martin stated that he would like to see a YMCA built in the County but he would prefer it to be done without jeopardizing other needed capital projects and without the possibility of raising taxes. Mr. Martin stated that, if he can be assured that the taxes will not be increased, he would be in favor of this project.

Mr. Williamson stated that the numbers can be calculated many ways but there is never any assurance of what will happen in the future with the County’s budget and revenues. Mr. Williamson stated that, if the County had a disastrous budget year, he would think that the YMCA would not have a problem with deferring a yearly payment as long as the amount remains \$2.5 million over 10 years.

Mr. Williamson then read the draft resolution in support of the concept of a YMCA facility in the County.

Mr. Williamson then made a motion, which was seconded by Dr. Scothorn, to adopt the following resolution in support of the concept of a YMCA facility to be located in Daleville Town Center.

WHEREAS, a coalition of Botetourt County citizens and businesses and the YMCA of Roanoke Valley have evaluated the feasibility of building and operating a YMCA facility in Botetourt County, and

WHEREAS, the YMCA of Roanoke Valley has determined that there are sufficient Botetourt County citizens interested in and expected to join a Botetourt County YMCA facility and YMCA of Roanoke Valley is committed to operating and maintaining such a facility if sufficient funds can be raised to pay for facility construction, and

WHEREAS, the YMCA of Roanoke Valley and the aforementioned Coalition of Botetourt County Citizens and Businesses have committed themselves to raising funds for facility construction of a Botetourt County YMCA branch if Botetourt County will participate in the cost of construction in the amount of \$2,500,000 funded over ten years, and

WHEREAS, the Waldron Charitable Foundation, Inc., has committed to provide \$2,500,000 in funding for the construction of a Botetourt County YMCA branch located at Daleville Town Center if the County of Botetourt will match the Waldron grant over ten years, and

WHEREAS, the YMCA will partner with Botetourt County Schools to provide a competitive-level pool for local school swim teams and an opportunity for all County school students to learn to swim, and

WHEREAS, the YMCA is a not-for-profit organization with expertise in and a proven track record of providing resources and guidance in helping its members and participants to improve health and wellness, including providing a warm water pool to assist older citizens in maintaining flexibility, vigor and a more active lifestyle, and

WHEREAS, the YMCA is committed to providing affordable after school child care and other youth and family development programs, and

WHEREAS, the YMCA provides its services without regard to citizens' ability to pay through financial assistance programs for qualifying individuals and families, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors does give its full support to the concept of a new YMCA facility in Daleville Town Center in Botetourt County, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors does hereby direct its County Administrator and Director of Finance to budget YMCA facility funding over the following ten fiscal years, subject to the Board of Supervisors being provided reasonable assurance that the additional funds to complete construction of the facility have been pledged and are being received on a timely basis:

Fiscal Year 2016	\$ 100,000
Fiscal Year 2017	\$ 200,000
Fiscal Year 2018	\$ 300,000
Fiscal Year 2019	\$ 300,000
Fiscal Year 2020	\$ 300,000
Fiscal Year 2021	\$ 300,000
Fiscal Year 2022	\$ 300,000
Fiscal Year 2023	\$ 300,000
Fiscal Year 2024	\$ 300,000
Fiscal Year 2025	<u>\$ 100,000</u>
10-Year Total	\$2,500,000

Mr. Martin then questioned Mr. Tony Zerrilla, Director of Finance, on his opinion on whether the County can afford to provide \$2.5 million toward this project over a ten year period without raising taxes.

Mr. Zerrilla stated that the County did not develop a two-year budget window during the FY 14-15 budget process to use as an indicator of the FY 15-16 budget revenues and expenditures. Mr. Zerrilla noted that at this point in time it is hard to determine based on many factors/priorities that this funding allocation would trigger a tax increase. He noted that this "goes back to the Board" as to what their funding priorities are for each budget year. Mr. Zerrilla stated that it is hard to say at this time whether it funding this project would require a future tax increase. Mr. Zerrilla reminded the Board that they cannot encumber future Boards to fund the YMCA by the adoption of this resolution.

After discussion, Mr. Zerrilla stated that there are some potential revenue enhancements that may occur in the future but there are also competing budgetary needs from capital projects and other operating expenses.

After questioning by Mr. Martin, Mrs. Guzi stated that she echoes Mr. Zerrilla's comments. She noted that this is "all about balancing the Board's priorities" and determining what

other expenditure increases the Board needs to consider next year and what other budget/revenue shortfalls occur from the State. She stated that the Board has to determine if the proposed YMCA is a quality investment at this time for the future of Botetourt County.

Dr. Scothorn noted that the County will see some additional revenues when the new AEP Cloverdale substation facility is completed. He noted that he sees this as an investment in the health and well-being of the County's citizens. Dr. Scothorn agreed that the County "does have some things that we need to look at" regarding future revenues and expenditures.

Mr. Martin stated that he would like to see a YMCA facility locate in the County; however, he has concerns about a possible tax increase. Mr. Martin noted that the Board is supposed to be good stewards of the citizens' money. He questioned if the Board can work together to keep the tax rates at their current levels and prioritize the County's options on where we need to spend our money.

Dr. Scothorn stated that he hopes that the Board can work together on this and many other issues.

Mr. Dodson stated that the upcoming strategic planning sessions will help the Board direct the County toward working and growing in a good way and he believes that having a YMCA will "help get the County to where we want to be."

Dr. Scothorn encouraged the County's business leaders to continue to work to have this project move forward.

There being no further discussion, Mr. Williamson's motion was approved by the following recorded vote: (Resolution Number 14-09-10)

AYES: Mr. Williamson, Mr. Dodson, Mr. Martin, Dr. Scothorn

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Leffel

ABSTAINING: None

Consideration was then held on a request from American Electric Power for an exemption to the Noise Ordinance. Mrs. Guzi noted that Mr. David Wright, AEP's Cloverdale Project Manager, and Mr. Jeremy Flynn, Project Manager with Branch Highways, were present at the meeting to speak on this matter.

Mrs. Guzi stated that AEP experienced delays in receiving the necessary permits from the Army Corps of Engineers for their \$237 million electric transmission infrastructure upgrade project at the Cloverdale substation. She noted that this project includes the construction of a new 500 kV extra-high voltage substation, expansions and upgrades to the existing Cloverdale 765kV and 345 kV substations, and installation of new transmission lines to tie the facilities together.

She stated that in order to complete the grading on this project by December 31, 2014, AEP is requesting an exemption to the County's Noise Ordinance to allow hauling of fill material from a borrow area located on Route 11 south in Cloverdale from 7:00 P. M. to 7:00 A. M. over the next 6 – 8 weeks. Mrs. Guzi stated that, by permitting the dump trucks to haul this material at night, it would reduce daytime congestion on Route 11 and would allow the project to move forward so that the grading work can be completed by December 31. She noted that Branch Highways is taking steps to minimize the use of the truck's backup beepers during the nighttime hours.

Mrs. Guzi noted that the Board is allowed to grant a variance to the provisions of the Noise Ordinance as per Section 15-59 of the County Code if they find that the noise does not

endanger the public health, safety, or welfare; or compliance with the provisions would produce serious hardship without producing equal or greater benefit to the public.

Mr. Wright stated that he is requesting an adjustment to the days on which this nighttime work would be allowed as listed in his September 8 letter. He noted that they would now like to conduct nighttime work from September 29 through November 21, 2014.

Mr. Wright stated that this substation project is expected to cost \$237 million and take 2½ years to complete. Mr. Wright stated that the grading contract with Branch Highways has a completion date of December 31, 2014. He noted that grading was supposed to begin on June 1 but, due to permitting delays and weather conditions, Branch was not able to begin their work until mid-July.

Mr. Flynn stated that the grading work for this project was delayed by six weeks and their overall construction schedule cannot afford this six week setback which is why they are requesting this variance to the Noise Ordinance. Mr. Flynn stated that they need to finish hauling dirt before winter weather and the shorter daylight hours because wet clay material will stick to the dump trucks which make unloading difficult and the clay will be carried by the truck's tires onto Route 11.

Mr. Flynn stated that by having their trucks haul the material at night it will minimize the impact to the traveling public on Route 11. He noted that Branch Highways conducted a traffic study on Route 11 during the evening hours and from these results they are requesting permission to haul this material from 7PM to 7AM for this two month period. Mr. Flynn noted that they need to move 4,000 cubic yards of material per shift to meet their deadline.

After questioning by Mr. Dodson, Mr. Flynn stated that Branch will use between 18 and 26 dump trucks each night and he estimates that they will carry 500 loads per night.

After questioning by Dr. Scothorn regarding mud being carried onto Route 11 from this borrow site, Mr. Flynn stated that there is a construction entrance/exit on the borrow site on which #1 stone has been placed for the trucks to travel over. He noted that this stone causes any mud picked up by the truck's tires to fall off prior to the vehicle entering Route 11. Mr. Flynn further stated that they can also use a broom truck to sweep off the roadway or install a tire wash to clean mud off of the truck's tires, if necessary.

Mr. Dodson noted that there are several residences located on the left side of Brown road, as well as a church, and a mobile home park located between the borrow site and AEP's property. He asked that AEP or Branch Highways ensure that these residents are notified of this nighttime activity.

Mr. Flynn noted that obtaining a variance from the Board of Supervisors for this purpose "was their first stop" in this process. He noted that AEP has a public outreach staff member who will handle notification of the public of this nighttime work.

Mr. Dodson noted that based on Mr. Flynn's figures he estimates that there will be a dump truck on Route 11 every 1½ minutes each night for two months.

Mr. Williamson requested that a representative from AEP or Branch provide the Board an update at their October meeting on how this nighttime work is proceeding.

After further discussion, on motion by Dr. Scothorn, seconded by Mr. Williamson, and carried by the following recorded vote, the Board authorized an exception to the Botetourt County Noise Ordinance for proposed night work from September 29 through November 21, 2014, as outlined in a letter dated September 8, 2014, from Mr. David H. Wright, AEP Project Manager, regarding the Cloverdale Extra High Voltage Transmission project as the Board finds

that the proposed night work will not endanger the public health, safety, or welfare of its citizens and will result in a significant reduction in truck traffic on the portion of heavily-congested U. S. Route 11 between the borrow site and 765 kV yard during daylight hours. (Resolution Number 14-09-11)

AYES: Mr. Williamson, Mr. Dodson, Mr. Martin, Dr. Scothorn

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Leffel

ABSTAINING: None

Mrs. Guzi noted that Mr. Wright has been excellent in communicating with the County about this project from the beginning. She noted that AEP held a public information session at Cloverdale Elementary School on this project last year and they have met with County staff to discuss this project's details. Mrs. Guzi noted that, if any issue of concern is identified regarding this nighttime work, she will contact either Mr. Wright or Mr. Flynn to try to resolve the issue.

The Board then held a joint meeting with the Board of Directors of the Western Virginia Water Authority. The Authority meeting was then called to order by Ms. Shirley Holland, Chairman, and the following members were noted as being present by roll call vote: Mr. John Bradshaw, Mr. Gray Goldsmith, and Mr. Don Davis. Mr. Mike McEvoy, Executive Director of Wastewater Services, Mr. Gary Robertson, Executive Director of Water Operations, and Mrs. Mary Sweeney, Board Secretary, were also noted as being present.

Introductions of the Board of Supervisors and Authority Board members were then made.

Mrs. Guzi stated that Botetourt County operates a small water and sewer system which has had a good operating experience over the years. She noted that the County is proud of the system and the level of service provided to our customers. Mrs. Guzi stated that, as the County staff explored areas of economic development, we experienced some challenges with the water quality of the aquifer system on the Greenfield property which serves a significant part of southern Botetourt County. She also noted that the County cannot compete with the WVWA's water quality and capacity which includes the Carvin's Cove and Spring Hollow reservoirs.

Mrs. Guzi noted that the Board of Supervisors directed her to "cast a wider net" in trying to find a solution to the County's water issues as some manufacturing processes require significant, good-quality water supply. She noted that the County's Utility Department staff has tried several different treatment options on the Greenfield water system with limited results. Mrs. Guzi stated that the County currently has a bulk water contract with the WVWA for service to several businesses in EastPark Commerce Center along Alternate 220 and in the Hollins area and we have had a good working relationship with the Authority over the years. She noted that the County also conducted discussions on renegotiating this contract last year.

Mrs. Guzi stated that the Greenfield water system meets the Virginia Department of Health's drinking water standards; however, it has a hardness issue which requires continuous monitoring and variations in treatment options. She noted that at least two water studies have identified the need for an additional water source or treatment options which have been thoroughly reviewed by County staff and various consultants. Mrs. Guzi noted that various possible water resources were also considered and test wells dug with no success.

Mrs. Guzi stated that the Board of Supervisors asked that the staff consider other options and it was agreed that it was prudent for the County to "have a conversation" on this matter with the Authority. Mrs. Guzi stated that meetings and discussions have been held with

the Authority's staff and a public information session was held earlier this month to obtain citizen input on a proposal for the County to join the Authority.

Mrs. Guzi then asked that the Authority address some of their capacity and water quality issues.

Mr. McEvoy stated that there has been a significant level of cooperation between the County and the Authority on both water and sewer issues as the County has been a participating member in the Roanoke Regional Sewage Treatment Plant since the 1970s. He noted that the County has 6.5% contracted capacity in the Plant. Mr. McEvoy stated that this agreement has been a good example of cooperation between the Authority and the County.

After discussion, Mr. McEvoy noted that the Authority does have a lot of redundancy with its crews and equipment with 12 construction crews available during the day and two during the nighttime hours to respond to any service outages.

Mr. Robertson then stated that the WVWA has several water sources available including Carvins Cove, Spring Hollow, and Crystal Spring, as well as a small facility available in Bedford County. He stated that these sources provide up to 55 million gallons per day (gpd) and they have 20 million gpd of treated water available for their customers. Mr. Robertson noted that they currently have a bulk water agreement with the County for the EastPark area and along Route 11 from Hollins to Exit 150.

Mr. Robertson stated that extending their water service to Greenfield would require the construction of a high pressure pump station in the vicinity of Lord Botetourt High School. He noted that the Carvins Cove water supply has a moderate hardness level. Mr. Robertson further stated that the Authority has been implementing an energy conservation program over the past few years which includes the installation of more-efficient meters. He noted that the Authority saved \$400,000 last year through this program.

After questioning by Dr. Scothorn, Mr. Kevin Shearer, County Engineer, stated that the Greenfield water source has a hardness level of 700 parts per million.

Mr. Williamson noted that, 11 years ago during a significant drought event in the area, he lobbied for the creation of the Water Authority. He noted that the Authority has been a "premier example" of what regional cooperation can be. He thanked the Authority for their cooperation with the County this year and hopes that these discussions will result in action by the Authority that the Supervisors can respond to.

Dr. Scothorn thanked the Authority for coming to Botetourt County today. He noted that the public information meeting held earlier this month was a great success and he appreciated the comments received from the approximately 100 citizens who attended.

Mr. Dodson stated that he expected to hear comments at the public information meeting as to why the County should not consider becoming a partner in the WVWA but he only heard positive comments about this proposal. Mr. Dodson noted that he has been contacted by Mr. and Mrs. Doug Kemp of Westridge Drive in Applewood Estates Subdivision, who are present at this meeting, who are having sewer issues and would like to be connected to the WVWA's system.

After discussion, on motion by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Goldsmith and carried unanimously by those members present, the Western Virginia Water Authority adopted the following resolution (Number 305) which formally extended an invitation to Botetourt County to become a member of the Western Virginia Water Authority.

WHEREAS, the Western Virginia Water Authority (the "Authority"), a public service authority formed and existing in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 51 of Title 15.2 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, the Virginia Water and Waste Authorities Act Section 15.2-5100-15.2-5158 (the "Act"), through its Board of Directors has determined to invite Botetourt County, Virginia, to become a member of the Western Virginia Water Authority; and,

WHEREAS, the Executive Directors have had preliminary discussions with various representatives of Botetourt County on the subject of the County's needs for water and wastewater services and the Authority's ability and willingness to provide the same; and,

WHEREAS, it has become apparent to those involved in such discussions that Botetourt County and the Authority might both be benefitted by Botetourt County's becoming a member of the Authority; and,

WHEREAS, the Executive Directors have recommended that the Board of Directors of the Authority invite Botetourt County to be a member of the Authority under Virginia Code Section 15.2-5112; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has thoroughly considered the concept and determined that the joinder of Botetourt County as a member of the Authority would be beneficial to the Authority;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Directors of the Western Virginia Water Authority that a formal invitation be issued to Botetourt County to become a member of the Authority,

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Directors, either ONE of whom may act, are hereby authorized and directed to formally notify Botetourt County, and in the event Botetourt County is interested in pursuing the matter, to negotiate a Comprehensive Agreement with Botetourt County setting forth the terms and conditions of its becoming a member of the Authority, and setting a schedule for the public advertisement and public hearings for the purpose of informing the public as to the proposed membership of Botetourt County in the Authority and are further authorized to conduct communications with the City of Roanoke, Virginia, Franklin County and Roanoke County, Virginia, to cause the necessary approvals to be obtained; to amend the Authority's articles of incorporation with the Virginia State Corporation Commission; and to take such further steps as shall be necessary or convenient to assist in Botetourt County's becoming a member of the Authority.

Dr. Scothorn thanked the Authority for taking this action.

On motion by Mr. Williamson, seconded by Mr. Dodson, and carried by the following recorded vote, the Board adopted the following resolution authorizing the County Administrator to pursue development of the County becoming a member of the Western Virginia Water Authority.

AYES: Mr. Williamson, Mr. Dodson, Mr. Martin, Dr. Scothorn

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Leffel

ABSTAINING: None

Resolution Number 14-09-12

WHEREAS, the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors is committed to ensuring the long-term provision of superior public services to the citizens, businesses, and visitors of the County; and,

WHEREAS, the Board has broadly set high quality of life and sustained economic development as foremost priorities; and,

WHEREAS, the Board understands the necessity of increased water capacity for current and future economic and residential development; and,

WHEREAS, the Board has explored additional economic development opportunities that require large amounts of water; and,

WHEREAS, the Board, while recognizing an already high level of service and customer satisfaction, has been investigating options to improve the water quality and quantity in our systems for many years; and,

WHEREAS, County staff have conducting preliminary discussions with the staff of the Western Virginia Water Authority on this matter and have agreed, on basic principle, that a consolidation could result in positive outcomes for both entities; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors authorizes the County Administrator, in concert with legal counsel, to investigate the option to consolidate the County's Utility Department with the Western Virginia Water Authority, to pursue development of a Comprehensive Agreement with the Western Virginia Water Authority to set the terms and conditions of the County becoming a member of the Authority, with this Agreement to be brought back before the Board for consideration prior to the requisite public notifications and public hearings when finalized.

The Board then allowed Ms. Connie Kemp to speak for a few minutes.

Mrs. Kemp stated that she and her husband have lived in Botetourt County for 25 years and moved to Applewood Estates in the Amsterdam community 13 years ago. She noted that the property's well and septic systems passed the Health Department's tests when they purchased the property; however, she began noticing wet spots in the back yard where the septic tank is located. Mrs. Kemp stated that she has talked to both the County Engineer and Mr. Steve Clinton, former Supervisors member from the Amsterdam District, about this situation.

Mrs. Kemp stated that they have added additional drain lines to the septic tank but the system is not improving and a new septic tank system would be very expensive to install. Mrs. Kemp stated that there is no County sewer line in the area at the present time and she would like to request connection to any future sewer and water lines that the WVWA would install in this area.

Mr. Kemp noted that their property is within 140' of the sewer pump station that The Glebe installed for their facility but they were not allowed to connect to this system because of possible liability issues and the need for a pump station to be installed.

Mrs. Holland then thanked the Board of Supervisors for meeting with them today to discuss this matter. The Western Virginia Water Authority meeting was then adjourned at 5:35 P. M.

Mr. Martin then noted that he spoke to an individual at the public information session who had concerns about how the County's Utility Department employees would be treated once they became WVWA staff members. He asked that all due consideration be given to the County staff members in this situation.

Dr. Scothorn and the Board members then thanked the Board of Directors of the Western Virginia Water Authority for meeting with them today.

The Chairman then called the Supervisors meeting back to order at 5:56 P. M.

A public hearing was then held on a request in the Amsterdam Magisterial District from Daleville Baptist Church Trustees for a Special Exception Permit, with possible conditions, for an Electronic Message Board/L.E.D. sign to display messages more than once each day, per Section 25-462(e)(3) Electronic Message Board/L.E.D. of the Botetourt County Zoning Ordinance on an approximately 1 acre lot in the Business B-2 Use District located on Roanoke Road (U. S. Route 220), approximately 0.08 miles south of the intersection with Valley Road (State

Route 779) in Daleville, and is identified on the Real Property Identification Maps of Botetourt County as Section 101A(1), Parcel BK1 - 4 & 5.

It was noted that the Planning Commission had recommended conditional approval of this request.

Mr. Dodson then stated that he is a member of Daleville Baptist Church, and to avoid any possible conflict of interest, he would recuse himself from any discussion on this request.

Mr. Jeff Busby, Associate County Planner, stated that the Church owns a 1 acre lot which fronts on U. S. Route 220 in Daleville on which an electronic message board/LED sign is currently located. He noted that this sign was installed prior to the County approving revisions to the Sign Ordinance in late 2013. Mr. Busby noted that EMB signs were previously permitted by right but the ordinance did not allow for flashing signs; therefore, messages were not allowed to change more frequently than once a day. He noted that the current Sign Ordinance allows these types of signs to change their message once every eight seconds.

Mr. Busby noted that the Planning Commission recommended approval of this request with the following conditions: The sign shall have a dark (black) background; and, messages shall change in a reasonable number, such as once or twice per day. He stated that Mr. Steve Kidd opposed these conditions as the current ordinance allows messages to change every eight seconds by right.

After questioning by Mr. Williamson, Mr. Busby stated that the proposed condition would allow the message to be changed once or twice per day.

Mr. Busby further noted that one letter was received in opposition to this request due to the brightness and glare from the current sign. He stated that the Planning Commission did discuss past issues of dimming capabilities, brightness, and glare from the Church's EMB sign. He noted that requiring a dark background for the sign's messages should prevent some of the glare issues. Mr. Busby further noted that the sign is required to be no more than 7' tall from the elevation of Route 220 and this sign is in compliance with this requirement.

Mr. Busby noted that Mr. Gary Friel and Mr. Ernie Brown, representing the Daleville Baptist Church Trustees, were present to answer any questions regarding this request.

After discussion, Mr. Busby stated that the new Sign Ordinance grandfathered all old signs; therefore, the Church is only allowed to change the sign's message once per day. He further stated that today's SEP request allows for the message to be changed more than once per day and includes provisions for glare which could impact/distract oncoming traffic.

After questioning by Mr. Williamson, Mr. Busby stated that the Board did not limit the frequency of the number of message changes on the Veteran's of Foreign War's LED sign which was approved earlier this year.

Mr. Friel stated that the County Code currently states that EMB/LED sign messages can be changed every 8 seconds. He noted that the Church would like to have 10 messages per day with no less than 30 second intervals.

Dr. Scothorn stated that he believes that the Church's sign should have the same opportunities as the VFW sign.

Mr. Busby noted that the sign's message is not allowed to change more frequently than every 8 seconds under the current ordinance's provisions.

After questioning by Mr. Williamson, Mr. Busby stated that the Planning Commission members were concerned about the driver distraction issue caused by this sign on this section of heavily-traveled Route 220. Mr. Williamson then questioned if there was any reason to

believe that driver distraction would be greater at this location than at the section of Route 220 near the VFW Lodge. Mr. Busby stated that he does not think so.

After discussion, Mr. Busby stated that Mr. Wade Burkholder, former County Planning Manager, researched this issue and found that eight seconds is the standard that other localities have in place for message changes on EMB/LED signs. Mr. Busby noted that he believes that allowing these messages to change every eight seconds is adequate.

After questioning by Dr. Scothorn, it was noted that there was no one else present to speak regarding this matter. The public hearing was then closed.

Dr. Scothorn stated that the question is whether the Board should implement a restriction of 1 – 2 messages per day on this sign. Dr. Scothorn stated that he does not think that this is necessary.

After discussion, the Board members agreed with the removal of the second condition.

Mr. Williamson noted that the condition requiring a dark background is a reasonable standard to mitigate glare.

There being no further discussion, on motion by Mr. Williamson, seconded by Mr. Martin, and carried by the following recorded vote, the Board approved a request in the Amsterdam Magisterial District from Daleville Baptist Church Trustees for a Special Exception Permit for an Electronic Message Board/L.E.D. sign to display messages more than once each day, per Section 25-462(e)(3) Electronic Message Board/L.E.D. of the Botetourt County Zoning Ordinance on an approximately 1 acre lot in the Business B-2 Use District located on Roanoke Road (U. S. Route 220), approximately 0.08 miles south of the intersection with Valley Road (State Route 779) in Daleville, and is identified on the Real Property Identification Maps of Botetourt County as Section 101A(1), Parcel BK1 - 4 & 5, with the following condition: (Resolution Number 14-09-13)

AYES: Mr. Williamson, Mr. Dodson, Mr. Martin, Dr. Scothorn

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Leffel

ABSTAINING: None

1. The sign shall have a dark (black) background.

A public hearing was then held on a request in the Fincastle and Buchanan Magisterial Districts from Judy K. and Carlton W. Fitzgerald for a Special Exception Permit, with possible conditions, for a Rural Home Business in the Agricultural A-1 Use District for a small scale metal fabrication business on a 33.70 acre parcel located at 1644 Salt Petre Cave Road (State Route 688) in Eagle Rock/Buchanan, approximately 0.16 miles south of its intersection with Shiloh Church Road (State Route 692) and is identified on the Real Property Identification Maps of Botetourt County as Section 28, Parcel 80.

It was noted that the Planning Commission had recommended conditional approval of this request.

Mrs. Nicole Pendleton, County Planning Manager, stated that this property is located in a remote area between Eagle Rock and Buchanan which is surrounded by agricultural land. She noted that the Fitzgeralds obtained a building permit for a 30' X 50' building to maintain equipment, tools and storage for personal use; however, the owners would also like to use a portion of this building for a custom metal fabrication business.

Mrs. Pendleton noted that this business's hours of operation would be from 8 AM to 5PM, Monday through Friday, and only family members would work at the business. She stated

that equipment such as a welder, acetylene torch, band saw, drill press, etc., would be used in this business and the only heavy equipment used would be a tractor, which is currently utilized personally as well. Mrs. Pendleton noted that the applicants anticipate only 1 – 3 metal utility/special purpose light-duty trailers, ornamental iron and wood/metal craft items, or specialized custom items of a similar nature would be produced by this business each month and any fumes/noise would be concentrated inside of the building.

After discussion, Mrs. Pendleton stated that there are no other properties visible from this structure. She then requested that the language in the second condition (“No employees other than Mr. Fitzgerald or his family will be employed as part of the rural home business.”) be amended to state that “No employees other than the property owner or his family will be employed as part of the rural home business.” She noted that this would alleviate any future owners of the property who are not named Fitzgerald from having to return to the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisor to amend this condition if they wish to conduct a similar type of business.

Mrs. Pendleton stated that Mr. Fitzgerald indicated that he would only purchase raw materials for the project that he was working on at that time which would mean that there would not be a large amount of materials stored on the property. She noted that Mr. Fitzgerald also estimated that there would only be 1 – 3 customer trips per month to his property.

She noted that one citizen spoke at the Planning Commission meeting with concerns about the potential increase in traffic on Salt Petre Cave Road if this business was approved.

After questioning by Mr. Dodson regarding VDOT’s comment letter on this proposed request, Mrs. Pendleton stated VDOT’s letter indicates that the entrance to this proposed business appears to qualify as a low-volume commercial entrance which has a sight distance requirement of 495’. She further stated that VDOT’s formal entrance permit application/review process will not proceed until after the Board of Supervisors takes action on the request.

Dr. Scothorn stated that he also has concerns about the narrowness of Salt Petre Cave Road which does not have a centerline and questioned the dimensions of the trailers proposed to be manufactured by Mr. Fitzgerald.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that he would construct small, utility-type trailers and some unique special purpose trailers such as those which carry several kayaks at one time. He noted that the trailers would be approximately 10’ long and 4’ – 5’ wide. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that he does not think there would be a big concern about these trailers traveling on Salt Petre Cave Road. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that he currently uses an 18’ trailer on this road and CSX Railroad pulls a larger trailer along Salt Petre Cave Road when they transport materials to make track repairs.

After questioning by Mr. Williamson, Mr. Fitzgerald stated that these would be flat-bed type trailers for hauling mowers, 4-wheelers, ATVs, etc. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that he does not anticipate constructing a trailer that is over 10’ – 12’ long and 5’ wide because those trailers are built using standard axle sizes that are readily available.

After questioning by Dr. Scothorn, Mr. Fitzgerald stated that he would only employ his family at this business. Mr. Fitzgerald noted that he previously worked at a private university which is where he learned this type of metal fabrication work.

After questioning by Mr. Martin, Mr. Fitzgerald stated that he has discussed this proposal with his neighbors and they have no problem with this request. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that he talked to Mr. Simmons after he expressed concerns at the Planning Commission meeting and

informed Mr. Simmons that there would be no large trucks making deliveries of materials to his property for use in this business.

Mr. Williamson noted that this is the type of small business that the County likes to encourage.

After questioning by Mr. Williamson, Mr. Fitzgerald stated that he has no problems with the condition that he can have “no more than one finished product” stored under the carport at one time.

After questioning by Dr. Scothorn, it was noted that there was no one present to speak regarding this request. The public hearing was then closed.

Dr. Scothorn noted that he had discussed this request with Mr. Leffel and he was 100% in support of this SEP.

There being no further discussion, on motion by Mr. Williamson, seconded by Mr. Martin, and carried by the following recorded vote, the Board approved the request in the Fincastle and Buchanan Magisterial Districts from Judy K. and Carlton W. Fitzgerald for a Special Exception Permit for a Rural Home Business in the Agricultural A-1 Use District for a small scale metal fabrication business on a 33.70 acre parcel located at 1644 Salt Petre Cave Road (State Route 688) in Eagle Rock/Buchanan, approximately 0.16 miles south of its intersection with Shiloh Church Road (State Route 692) and is identified on the Real Property Identification Maps of Botetourt County as Section 28, Parcel 80, with the following conditions: (Resolution Number 14-09-14)

AYES: Mr. Williamson, Mr. Dodson, Mr. Martin, Dr. Scothorn

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Leffel

ABSTAINING: None

1. The hours of operation will be Monday through Friday from 8:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M.
2. No employees other than the property owner or his family will be employed as part of the rural home business.
3. There will be no outside storage of materials. No more than one finished product may be stored under the carport at a time.
4. The rural home business activity will be contained to the proposed building shown on the building permit application dated May 20, 2014, office space inside the existing dwelling, and under the carport.

There being no further discussion, on motion by Mr. Martin, and carried by the following recorded vote, the meeting was adjourned at 6:21 P. M. (Resolution Number 14-09-15)

AYES: Mr. Williamson, Mr. Dodson, Mr. Martin, Dr. Scothorn

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Leffel

ABSTAINING: None