

Board of Supervisors
Regular Meeting
July 19, 2016

Members Present: Johnny Woodward, Chairman At-Large
D. Keith Guzy, District 1
David Wiatrowski, District 2
Mark Stroupe, District 3
Larry Foltz, District 4
Dorothy Pendley, District 5

Staff Present: Amity Moler, County Administrator
Regina Miller, Assistant to the County Administrator
Nathan Miller, County Attorney
Virginia Delegate Todd Gilbert
Virginia Senator Mark Obenshain

Call to Order:

Chairman Johnny Woodward called to order the regular meeting of the Page County Board of Supervisors on July 19, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., in the Board of Supervisors Room located in the Page County Government Center, 103 South Court Street, Luray. The Call to Order was followed by the *Pledge of Allegiance* and Invocation.

Adoption of the Agenda:

Motion: Supervisor Guzy moved to add Departmental Budget Review to the end of the agenda and adopt as amended. Supervisor Stroupe seconded and the motion carried by a vote of 6-0. Aye: Woodward, Guzy, Wiatrowski, Stroupe, Foltz, Pendley. Nay: None.

Public Hearing:

Stonyman Agricultural and Forestal District:

EXHIBIT A

Chairman Woodward opened the Public Hearing on the Stonyman Agricultural and Forestal District at 7:10 p.m. The public hearing was advertised as follows:

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PAGE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
STONYMAN AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTAL DISTRICT
AMENDMENT TO SECTION 125-67 STONYMAN AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTAL
DISTRICT OF THE PAGE COUNTY CODE

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia, as amended that the PAGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS shall hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on July 19th, 2016, in the Board of Supervisors Room, 2nd Floor, 103 South Court Street, Suite B, Luray, VA, to consider the renewal of the Stonyman Agricultural and Forestal District pursuant to the Agricultural and Forestal Act of the

Commonwealth of Virginia, Title 15.2 Chapter 43, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, and Chapter 125 of the Code of Page County, Virginia Section 125-67:

Description of District: The Stonyman Agricultural and Forestal District shall consist of the following land: 2,045.23 acres, more or less, generally located south of the intersection of South Antioch Road (Route 689) and Stonyman Road (Route 642), east of the intersection of Stonyman Road (Route 689) and Route 340, north of the intersection of Ida Road (Route 689) and Hollow Run Road (Route 629), which includes the parcels shown on Page County Real Estate Maps, as of the effective date of this District, numbered : 51-A-110, 51-A-111, 51-A-112, 51-A-85B, 51-A-91, 52-A-12, 52-A-20, 52-A-22, 52-A-24, 52-A-24A, 52-A-25, 52-A-26B, 52-A-31A, 52-A-32, 52-A-32B, 52-A-36, 52-A-37, 52-A-40, 52-A-42, 52-A-44, 52-A-44A, 52-A-49, 52-A-5, 52-A-50, 52-A-51, 52-A-59, 52-A-60, 52-A-61, 52-A-65A, 52-A-65C, 52-A-65D, 52-A-65H, 52-A-67, 52-A-72C, 52-A-72D, 52-A-77, 52-A-78, 52-A, 79, 52-A-80, 52-A-81, 52-A-92, 52-A-96, 53-4-B, 53-A-112, 53-A-35, 53-A-40, 53-A-71, 53-A-78, 63-4-1, 63-4-2, 63-A-9, 63-A-216, 63-A-225A, 63-A-227, 63-A-228, 63-A-230A, 63-A-230B, 63-A-231, 63-A-232, 63-A-233, 63-A-234, 63-A-253A, 63-A-254, 63-A- 255, 63-A-256, 63-A-257, 63-A-258, 63-A-262, 63-A-266, 63-A-269, 63-A-36, 64-A-107, 64-A-108, 64-A-17, 64-A-18, 64-A-19, 64-A-24, 64-A-25, 64-A-26, 64-A-27, 64-A-28, 64-A-29, 64-A-30, 64-A-31, 64-A-8, 64-A-9.

Amendment to Section 125-67.C of the Page County Code with the addition of numbers:

(8) Any parcel in the district which meets the requirements stated in VA Code §58.1-3233 and Page County Code Chapter 105 may be entitled to receive a special tax assessment based on land use. Parcels that do not meet the requirements may still be included within the district but shall be taxed at the normal tax rate.

(9) There shall be an application fee of \$20.00 per parcel of land for inclusion in this district.

(10) If a renewal application signed by all owners of parcels for inclusion in a renewed district is submitted and accepted by the deadline required, but the Board of Supervisors fails to act on the application by the expiration date of the district, such district, including only those parcels proposed for renewal, shall continue; and all provisions of the district ordinance shall apply until such time as the Board of Supervisors makes its decision whether or not to renew the district as proposed.

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Michelle Somers, Zoning Administrator, said that the Virginia Code states that the Page County Board of Supervisors shall hold a public hearing to consider the renewal of the Stonyman Agricultural and Forestal District. Mrs. Somers reviewed the staff report and said at the June 14th Planning Commission public hearing, the vote was 8-0 to recommend approval of the District.

There were no public comments during the hearing. Chairman Woodward closed the hearing at 7:13 p.m.

Motion: Supervisor Guzy moved to approve the renewal of the Stonyman Agricultural and Forestal District and amendment to the Page County Code Section 125-67. Supervisor Foltz seconded and the motion carried by a vote of 6-0. Aye: Guzy, Wiatrowski, Stroupe, Foltz, Pendley. Nay: None.

Presentations, Proclamations & Awards:

Discussion of Possible Revenue Sources with Senator Mark Obenshain and Delegate Todd Gilbert:

Senator Mark Obenshain said that Page County has done a great job of using the resources available. He is impressed with knowing the challenges that the County has faced over the past several decades is the ability of County and staff to do a great job with the resources it has. He continued to say he is blown away by the teachers and staff in the school system and they do a great job of educating children in the County. He said he continues to have some frustration with the economic development efforts emanating from Richmond, but feels the need to continue to link arms. The best way to get the resources needed to provide expanded service to the citizens in keeping down the real estate and property taxes is through economic development. He expressed appreciation for the invitation to speak before the Board and will do all he can to help.

Delegate Gilbert agreed with all Senator Obenshain said and also thanked the Board for the invitation. He indicated that he was eager to begin a constructive dialogue.

Chairman Woodward said the towns have implemented a cigarette tax, but the County does not because it not allowed under the current legislation. He asked what they can do to help the County be allowed to implement this tax in order to make it equal throughout the County. Senator Obenshain replied that the tax code needs to be updated. He said that cities and towns have some responsibilities that counties do not have such as road maintenance. As a result, they were given some expanded taxing authorities. Cigarette tax is one of those taxing powers that cities and towns have in Virginia. There are two counties in Virginia that have it, which are Fairfax and Arlington because they manage their own roads. He indicated that there will likely be an ongoing discussion about they they should do with the state tax code. Delegate Gilbert asked the Board what is their goal, more revenue? Chairman Woodward replied yes and said the Board is trying to consider new revenue streams instead of taxing the property owners.

Chairman Woodward then asked if there is any kind of tax with tourism or an admissions tax that could be implemented. Supervisor Foltz asked if a statewide tourism tax could be implemented. Delegate Gilbert mentioned that they like people coming to Virginia. Senator Obenshain said that there is some precedent for it in Virginia, but not much. He said there are two localities in Virginia that have an admissions tax. Transient occupancy tax and meals tax are much more common and

utilized across Virginia. The localities that have adopted an admissions tax went through a long process of building some consensus in their communities. It has very little practical precedent in Virginia. If a county imposes it then so can a town. He suggested the Board initiate a dialogue with the local tourism industry and not to make a decision lightly.

Senator Obenshain indicated that he has been frustrated with Richmond's approach to rural economic development, at times. He remarked that Secretary Haymore is the new Secretary for Commerce and Trade for the State and he understands some of the challenges in rural Virginia. The Secretary is more than happy to come and help Page County.

Supervisor Guzy said that legislature assistance is needed to get improvements done on Route 340. He said that because of the HB2 law the County will never be at the top of the list for project funding. He said that the County needs help. Routes 340 and 211 is the only way to get business in Page County. Delegate Gilbert asked what the strategic plan for Page County is. Senator Obenshain indicated that they need a specific identifiable need in order to be able to assist appropriately.

Supervisor Stroupe replied that he feels that tax increases on tourism is a short term fix to a long term problem. He said he has requested a meeting with the EDA and the Board to put together a strategic plan in order to find out what we need and where we are going in order to achieve it.

Senator Obenshain said Virginia has the slogan "Virginia is for Lovers" and on the website Virginia.org the number one click for a destination is Luray Caverns. The number two locality clicked out of that is Luray. He commended the Board for making a reputation and there is a real opportunity to leverage it and continue to grow it. Tourism is the strength of Page County right now.

Supervisor Stroupe asked how to get the community engaged and involved. Senator Obenshain said there was a lot of energy from the Board and nothing happens overnight. Delegate Gilbert said he would like to first and foremost keep Page on the radar. He suggested that the new Secretary of Commerce and Trade should visit the County and that would be a good place to start.

Chairman Woodward asked for help to get on the Governor's schedule after the Secretary of Commerce holds a meeting with the Board.

Stephanie Lillard, Director of Community & Economic Development, said she has meet with some of the Congressman Goodlatte staff and started discussions regarding economic development. Delegate Gilbert mentioned that if the County develops a lead or prospect and they want it elevated to a higher level, then that is where he and the Senator can facilitate that. Senator Obenshain also mentioned a new program called "Go Virginia" that is focused on economic development.

County Attorney Miller suggested the Board narrow down the strategic plan to the top priority items and then get back to the legislators with the specifics to they can get the appropriate agencies involved. He said that the strategic plan is too broad and too diverse to try and deal with all at once.

Public Comments on Agenda Items:

There were no speakers during Public Comments on Agenda Items.

Action Matters:

Tower Lease Agreement/Gray Television:

Mrs. Moler explained that the lease agreement with Gray Television, Inc. is due for renewal. The lease provides the County with space on the Big Mountain tower for two antennas; one for fire and rescue and the other for the Sheriff's Department/ECC. The rental fee is increasing from \$330 to \$400 per month. This amounts to an \$840 increase annually, over the two-year period.

Supervisor Guzy said he would like to request that they consider extending the contract for three years rather than two. Mrs. Moler said she would ask Gray Television if they would consider.

Motion: Supervisor Guzy moved to approve the renewal of the Tower License Agreement with Gray Television Group, Inc. for a three year period from August 1, 2016 through July 31, 2019. Supervisor Stroupe seconded and the motion carried by a vote of 6-0. Aye: Wiatrowski, Stroupe, Foltz, Pendley, Woodward, Guzy. Nay: None.

Board and Commission Appointments:

Shenandoah Valley Partnership:

Regina Miller, Assistant to the County Administrator, said Mark Stroupe's term on the Shenandoah Valley Partnership Board of Directors expired on June 30th. He is eligible to be reappointed and is willing to continue serving. His new term would be for two years through June 30, 2018.

Motion: Supervisor Pendley moved to reappoint Mark Stroupe to the Shenandoah Valley Partnership Board of Directors. Supervisor Wiatrowski seconded and the motion carried by a vote of 6-0. Aye: Stroupe, Foltz, Pendley, Woodward, Guzy, Wiatrowski. Nay: None.

Consent Agenda:

Motion: Supervisor Guzy moved to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- Financial reports for the period of June 1-30, 2016;
- Accounts payable checks, payroll checks, payroll direct deposits, and payroll tax related electronic fund transfers totaling \$2,320,286.79 for the month of June 2016;
- Minutes of June 7, 2016 and June 21, 2016.

Supervisor Foltz seconded and the motion carried by a vote of 6-0. Aye: Foltz, Pendley, Woodward, Guzy, Wiatrowski, Stroupe.

Old Business:

There was no Old Business for the Board to consider.

New Business:

Quarterly Chairman's Corner:

Mrs. Moler asked the Board what topics they would like to have in the quarterly Chairman's Corner. The Board suggested the following topics: ribbon cuttings, Stanley Sandlot Baseball Team, Legislator's Visit, and the landfill spring clean-up.

Departmental Review:

Supervisor Guzy indicated that the Board previously discussed having the Treasurer coming to give the Board a monthly report. County Attorney Miller stated that this can be accomplished by requesting the Treasurer to give such an update. He further stated that he has discussed with Mrs. Moler the formation of a finance/investment committee with the Treasurer, two members of the Board, the County Administrator and the Finance Director. He said he was working on a plan for the Board to form the committee and develop guidelines. Supervisor Guzy remarked that he would like to have the Treasurer at every work session for the remainder of the fiscal year to update on the cash flow and revenue anticipation note. Secondly, every month staff will generate a report on the status of departmental spending and if any department is overspent then they will need to come before the Board and indicate why they are over budget and their plans to get back within the budget. County Attorney Miller said a Resolution would need to be put in place to give Mrs. Moler the authority to enforce. Supervisor Guzy asked to have the Resolution prepared for adoption at the August work session.

Strategic Plan:

Chairman Woodward said that the strategic plan needs to be updated, then the Board needs to meet with the EDA. He would like to put the review of the strategic plan on the August work session agenda.

Open Public Comments:

Donnie Wilson talked about the trip to Cooperstown and said the ball team will pay back the \$5,000 the Board voted to give them. He said they are forming an organization and any money received will be put back into the County. He mentioned the editorial in the *Page News & Courier* and hoped for an apology.

RoseAnn Smythe, Community Affairs Coordinator for Syntelligence Analytics, shared a success story. Syntelligence Analytics is one of Luray's Hub Zone Companies. She wanted the Board of Supervisors to know Page County Hub Zones were featured on Capitol Hill last week. She pointed out that 27 employees work in this Hub Zone Company from Page County.

Administrator's Report:

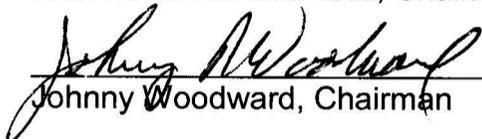
Mrs. Moler said Doah Fest has brought a lot of business into Page County and she was excited about the positive comments received from the festival. She said she received an email from Mr. Plum requesting the Board reconsider giving Page Valley Cycling a contribution from TOT funds and wanting it to be put on the agenda again. The Page Animal Shelter has a cat virus which is very contagious, and the Shelter cannot take cats at this time, but the staff is handling it and it should be back to normal soon. Next, she informed the Board that she received a letter from VACO outlining that the state is not going to fund the 2% pay increase given to Compensation Board employees, which is about \$62,000 the County will not receive from the state. It would amount to \$157,000 for the schools, but they have planned to cover the cost in their budget because contracts have already been sent to employees for the upcoming school year.

Supervisor's Time:

Chairman Woodward and all the Supervisors thanked everyone for coming.

Adjourn: 9:03 p.m.

With no further business, Chairman Woodward adjourned the meeting.



Johnny Woodward, Chairman



Amity Moler, County Administrator