RICHMOND COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
January 9, 2020

MINUTES

At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors for Richmond County, Virginia, held on the 9th day of January, 2020, thereof in the Public Meeting Room of the County Office Building.

Present:
F. Lee Sanders, Chairman
Richard E. Thomas, Vice-Chairman
Robert B. Pemberton, Member
J. David Parr, Member
William C. Herbert, II, Member

Also Present:
R. Morgan Quicke, County Administrator
Liz Hylan, Admin. Asst.
Hope D. Mothershead, Planning/Zoning
Dr. Smith, Richmond County Public Schools
Alvin Balderson, VDOT
Stephan B. Smith, Sheriff
Mitch Paulette, Chief of Emergency Services
David Thomas, Asst. Chief RCVFD
Kristie Brann, Treasurer
Jennifer Delano, Commissioner
Halle Cullison, Registrar
Approximately 14 others

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sanders gave the invocation, and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MONTHLY STAFF REPORTS

RICHMOND COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Dr. Smith mentioned every year he meets with the Board prior to the Legislative session along with Delegate Ransone and Senator McDougle. Dr. Smith reviewed with the Board three items that were discussed.

Dr. Smith noted the first topic up for discussion was teacher shortages, pre-school program initiatives, mental health services for children and the expenses for those. Dr. Smith mentioned they also discussed the expectations and the issues regarding rural broadband services. Dr. Smith noted local match is a concern for them as a locality but also state wide.
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Dr. Smith mentioned a reminder to Delegates regarding the Labor Day Law and the exception that is being worked on with Senator McDougle as a member for a partner with Northern Neck Technical Center to be exempt from the Labor Day Law. Dr. Smith mentioned that bill dropped, which is Senate Bill 515, in the General Assembly, January 8th and is in process and in front of the Education and Health Committee.

Dr. Smith noted the second item is the Structured Support Classroom Proposal. Dr. Smith mentioned it is their attempt to reduce the number of students that are placed in private schools as result of behaviors and educational needs that they have. Dr. Smith noted after discussion with Senator McDougle it was asked that a pilot be submitted to the Senate. Dr. Smith also noted a pilot was submitted to the Senate and a phone call was received from the Senate Legislation writers and it is his understanding it will be presented as a Pilot project in Richmond County to help in those private placements, which is very expensive. Dr. Smith mentioned this is a pilot that is being considered for an institution in Richmond County.

Dr. Smith mentioned the last item discussed was the proposed RHS track project. Dr. Smith noted this is the last piece of construction for this project. Dr. Smith mentioned this project was started years ago with the intention of the track surface, which was not affordable at the time, due to other issues in the construction project that needed to be addressed. Dr. Smith noted RHS has a thriving track program and has not had a home track meet in 20 years. Dr. Smith mentioned bidding documents are almost complete in hopes to go out to bid in February to find out what this project will cost. Dr. Smith estimated this project to cost $510,000.

Dr. Smith noted the surface of the track would consist of a gravel base with an asphaltic layer and then a synthetic topping. Mr. Thomas asked would this create any drain problems with the existing football field. Dr. Smith noted they have been consulting with the County and Town on any drainage issues and the engineer does not see it to be problematic. Dr. Smith also noted a drainage system would be installed around it to avoid runoff problems.

Mr. Herbert asked how many schools participate in the track program. Dr. Smith noted they have had more than 25 students and less than 10 of those kids qualified for State. Mr. Herbert also asked how many lanes this track would have. Dr. Smith mentioned this track would have six lanes.

**VDOT**

Alvin Balderson introduced himself to the Board and noted he is Acting Residence Administrator for the Northern Neck residency. Mr. Balderson mentioned he is a 29-year employee of the Commonwealth of Virginia for VDOT, and 24-years have been in the Northern Neck or in Tappahannock as the Superintendent.

Mr. Balderson noted he currently is the small bridge and maintenance program manager for the Fredericksburg district, which covers all 14 counties.

Mr. Balderson mentioned VDOT would like to continue having a good relationship with the Board’s and really wants to emphasize that if something is needed please give them a call.
Mr. Parker asked if any of the Board members have any questions or concerns.

Mr. Parr commented on the shaggy areas that were in the East end of Haynesville, and noted how nice it looks cleaned up.

Mr. Thomas noted the Beaver Dam on Beaver Dam Road the water is rising.

**TREASURER**

Kristie Brann, Treasurer, reported the uncollected real estate tax amount for 2019 is $680,213.96.

Mrs. Brann noted after a comparison from December 31st for the previous year, taxes are a little over $96,000 ahead in collections. Mrs. Brann mentioned collections were good.

Mrs. Brann mentioned a little over 2,000 delinquent bills were mailed out Wednesday, January 8th. Mrs. Brann noted a collection process will be started. Mrs. Brann also noted John Hutt will conduct a land sale towards the end of February of less than 10 parcels.

**COMMISSIONER**

Mrs. Delano reviewed the 2020 Reassessment wrap-up. Mrs. Delano reported Fred Pearson finished all of his hearings the end of December and as a result, he mailed out 122-second Reassessment notices with changes and no changes.

Mrs. Delano noted total value roughly is $893 million and does not include land use value deferred and once you take that out your looking at about $818 million of value for the County. Mrs. Delano also noted this does not include new construction that needs to be assessed any split offs, any mergers, any new Board of Equalization changes or any other changes that may happen with the land use program.

Mrs. Delano mentioned the next step for appeals is the Board of Equalization and the deadline to appeal for that is March 1st. Mrs. Delano noted the Department of Taxation has been in contact about getting the Board of Equalization trained. Mr. Quicke mentioned the Board of Equalization training is set up for February 5th.

**PLANNING/ZONING/LAND USE/BUILDING**

Mrs. Mothershead reported 16 new Building projects beginning in December 2019, with $1,846,68 fees collected and total construction cost of $239,559.75 and 7 Zoning permits were issued.

Mrs. Mothershead noted the Planning Commission met Monday, January 6th, Strata Solar was present and introduced the proposed solar project to the Commissioners. Mrs. Mothershead mentioned the next meeting for the Planning Commission will be on February 10th with further discussion on the proposed project.
Mrs. Mothershead noted Anti-Litter will meet Tuesday, January 14th, and will begin planning the second annual cleanup for the month of April.

Mrs. Mothershead thanked everyone who participated in the bell-ringing project for the Salvation Army. Mrs. Mothershead noted the County was assigned December 21st at Food Lion in Warsaw. Mrs. Mothershead also noted Mitch Paulette, Bea Sanders, Gwen Pierson, Libby Trible, Liz Smith, Morgan Quicke, Denise Dunaway and herself participated.

Mrs. Mothershead noted a Building Permit Report and Land Use Permits Comparison Report are included in this month’s packet. Mrs. Mothershead also noted please feel free to reach out with any questions you may have on these reports.

**EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Chief Paulette addressed the Board and gave the following report for the month of December 2019: Richmond County Department of Emergency Services ran 115 calls for service with 66 transports in December. Total collected revenue recovery for the month was $30,593.30.

Chief Paulette mentioned the department has been busy seeing multiple high activity calls. Chief Paulette noted he has been very proud of how providers have handled these difficult calls. Chief Paulette mentioned with us being in a rural area, we do not see the number of severe calls that the metro departments see. Chief Paulette mentioned he would dare put their training and dedication to the citizens of Richmond County against any large metropolitan department. Chief Paulette noted they are very fortunate to have these providers working for Richmond County.

Chief Paulette noted he would like to extend a thank you to both Dr. Smith and the culinary class at the Vo-tech center for the invite to share in the Christmas luncheon on December 11th. Chief Paulette also noted he would like to express thanks to everyone who helped put together another wonderful luncheon for the county staff on December 18th.

Chief Paulette mentioned smoke detectors are still available to county residents who are in need of either replacements or additional units in their homes.

Chief Paulette reported EMT- Basic class started Saturday, January 4th with 15 students enrolled. Chief Paulette noted they had CPR class that morning and regular class met that Saturday afternoon.

Chief Paulette noted EMS had three fly outs in the same day with one call having two patients that had to be flown out and a call right after that with another fly out.

Mr. Herbert asked how many EMT students were enrolled last year. Chief Paulette mentioned 11 enrolled and 8 tested out and passed. Mr. Quicke reported 14 students all together have tested and now have their EMT-basic.

Chief Paulette mentioned if there is some funding towards the EMS class and for the students to be able and get their scholarships to reimburse them up to $500 of their tuition fee are all based
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on Captain McDaniel’s pass rate. Chief Paulette noted Captain McDaniel has been well above the minimum 75% pass rate each year.

RICHMOND COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Asst. Chief Thomas reported December 2019 Richmond County Fire Department ran 41 calls for service with Company 1 (Warsaw) ran 20 calls with 0 EMS assist, Company 2 (Farnham) ran 11 calls with 0 EMS assist, and Company 3 (Newland) ran 10 calls with 1 EMS assist.

Asst. Chief Thomas mentioned RCVFD recently had there election at this past December’s meeting and the new officers effective January 1st stand as: Chief, Randy Passagaluppi; Asst. Chief, David Thomas; President, Ben Lewis; Vice President, Edwin Fallin; Treasurer, Les Clark; Capt. 1, Jonathan Sydnor; Capt. 2, Wayne Mothershead; Capt. 3, Garnet Sanders; Lt. 1, Keith Doak; Lt. 2, J.D. Dawson; and Lt. 3, Troy Sumiel.

Asst. Chief Thomas noted the call tally for 2019 was Company 1 (Warsaw) ran 188 calls, Company 2 (Farnham) ran 82 calls, and Company 3 (Newland) ran 85 calls totaling 355 calls for the entire 2019 year.

Asst. Chief Thomas mentioned December was a busy month with a ton of mutual aid calls into the County for execrations and house fires. Asst. Chief Thomas noted he is very proud of his department and for the guys to get up and take away from their families during Christmas.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jake Buit noted he will be speaking on the Solar panel project. Mr. Buit mentioned 1,212 is the number of football fields that will fit inside this project. Mr. Buit noted he does not know why anyone would want to rip the hearts out of Richmond County for $200,000 per year. Mr. Buit mentioned the solar people said these panels will produce electricity for 30 years, and everything he has read says after 15 years it is negligible. Mr. Buit noted these panels have toxic materials inside, and what if a tornado comes through and disperses these materials everywhere. Mr. Buit suggested putting this solar facility on the Warsaw Bypass or Mount Trash more where the land is already desecrated. Mr. Buit noted the solar people will promise you the world but they do not mention anything that is negligible. Mr. Buit also noted Strata mentioned this project will only affect a few people and he is one of those people it will affect. Mr. Buit mentioned he has spoken with his realtor and is concerned about the value of his property.

Carol Lowery mentioned an article was in the paper regarding a grant given from the Chesapeake Bay Trust of little kids from Rappahannock High School that have planted trees for the environment. Mrs. Lowery noted now a solar farm wants to come in and take these trees out of the environment. Mrs. Lowery mentioned she understands that after these solar panels lay on the ground 25-30 years the land is no good. Mrs. Lowery read ordinance 15703 under special exception uses the proposal use should be in the harmony with the character of the adjacent properties and the surrounding neighborhoods. Mrs. Lowery stated this will be in her neighborhood and she does not think this will be in the harmony and character of her neighborhood. Mrs. Lowery noted she would be surrounded by this project. Mrs. Lowery asked
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If poisons are being used to kill vegetation, where the panels and inverters are coming from, and 30-40 years down the road how the panels will be disposed of. Mrs. Lowery noted it is a known fact that these inverters come from Wildway in China, and could bring harm to our National Security. Mrs. Lowery mentioned they are harming the environment and she is concerned.

Debbie Holbrook noted her family will be surrounded and impacted by the solar panels. Mrs. Holbrook mentioned individuals can't fight these things they are intimidating and takes money. Mrs. Holbrook asked if funds will be provided for people being impacted to have some kind of representation against this huge company where individuals that don't qualify to do studies. Mrs. Holbrook mentioned the water could be impacted, the animals will be killed, and she is concerned about the Eagles. Mrs. Holbrook noted they were not notified when this project started being thought about it and just recently received a letter explaining this would be in the neighborhood. Mrs. Holbrook also noted it sounds like Strata already has the land agreements and feels it is a little late for those being brought into this. Mrs. Holbrook asked if the Board would consider providing representation as a group to negotiate with the solar people instead of killing the project.

John Janson, an attorney representing the Lowery family, reviewed a solar project in Mecklenburg County, VA and the issues that have arisen from that. Mr. Janson noted during that process there was a lot of half-truths in the initial applications and the County didn't realize that it was controlled by the State Corporation Commission. Mr. Janson mentioned the County Building Officials had no input, there were no local building permits, the County tax officials had no local input, there was no assessment, the tax rate and value to be taxed on was dictated by the State Corporation Commission. Mr. Janson mentioned there were issues with erosion and sediment through DEQ. Mr. Janson noted to the Board that once you let this genie out the bottle its nothing the County controls it is all handled outside. Mr. Janson stated his opinion is he feels the County is not prepared and would like to see if this fits the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Janson asked the County to have a proper 2232 hearing with the Planning Commission before any of this is considered.

OLD BUSINESS

EMS BILLING– WRITE OFF INCOME LIMITS

Mr. Quicke noted after consultation, our County Attorney has asked that we hold off on the Public Hearing for this item until a later date. Mr. Quicke mentioned the original resolution on this subject was approved in June 2009 and hasn't been amended since original adoption. Mr. Quicke noted there are concerns over the way it was originally written, and therefore wants to make sure that prior to proceeding further, it is in correct format.

Mr. Quicke mentioned this will not impact anything the County is currently doing through EMS billing department.
VAULT PRIVY DISCUSSION

Mr. Quicke noted the Planning Commission has spent a great deal of time discussing the vault privy issue. Mr. Quicke mentioned the Planning Commission came back with a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors that no changes be made to the current language in the Zoning Ordinance, and that the allowance of Vault Privy’s, with approval of the Richmond County Health Department still be allowed pursuant to Virginia Code.

Mr. Quicke mentioned an additional recommendation that was made was that the County requires a standard water hydrant to be installed outside and near all approved vault privies.

Mr. Herbert noted from the minutes it states some of the Amish locations that have vault privies without a hydrant use coolers for water. Mr. Herbert asked has any of these other localities had any health issues. Mrs. Mothershead mentioned the Department she speaks with is the Building and Planning Department of these localities and no health issues have been shared. Mrs. Mothershead noted the only problem that was mentioned was groups going back after the fact and bringing water to the school, which in turn would void the permit for the vault privy.

Chairman Sanders mentioned Westmoreland County does not allow vault privy’s and if not what is allowed for the Amish. Mrs. Mothershead noted she doesn’t think they have the amount of families that Richmond County has and may not have run into the need of a school yet. Mr. Quicke commented that most of the County’s communication has been with Counties in other parts of the State that have more of an issue.

Chairman Sanders noted he believes these schools should not be built without a bathroom.

Mr. Thomas mentioned by letting one group do something how do you govern from that point on. Mr. Thomas noted from what he read from the discussion it was passed to us to allow with the hydrant, but there are no words of how the grey water will be handled. Mr. Thomas noted a French drain system was in discussion about being putting in but there is no language recognizing that in the motion. Mr. Quicke noted if this language would be included in the ordinance, it would need to go through an ordinance amendment. Mr. Quicke mentioned right now they only have a general recommendation and if the Board of Supervisors wanted to formalize and put in to law that along with these vault privies the hydrant water and drain system would be a part of the ordinance and law, all would need to go to Public Hearing.

Mr. Thomas commented what is put in place is very important for the future, and feels some of the language needs to be tweaked about having a hydrant on site, maybe not connected to the building but on site that takes care of the discharge of the grey water. Mr. Thomas stated the grey water is a huge issue and just for a handwashing station for a day event, he has to make preparations for discharge to get rid of it adequately. Mr. Thomas mentioned he does not understand how the Health Department does not want to be involved when they so adamantly want discharge of grey water on a day event. Mr. Thomas noted he feels the Health Department needs to have input in this whether they have it in code or not.
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Mr. Quicke mentioned he believes not every aspect of life can be regulated and thinks the Health Department, the Legislature, the Board of Supervisors, for every locality does the best they can with their laws and ordinance to handle the safety and welfare of the community. Mr. Quicke also mentioned you can’t know everything that is going to come along.

Mr. Herbert commented he agrees with Mr. Thomas, Mr. Quicke, and Chairman Sanders in certain aspects. Mr. Herbert noted the Amish have been living the way they live for generations and generations and were not going to or nor should we change the way they chose to live. Mr. Herbert mentioned he agrees with Mr. Thomas if we give them permission for the vault privy with some sort of way to make sure it be pumped out every year we should be able to monitor that grey water is not going in that privy. Mr. Herbert also mentioned he agrees with the French drain and believes an engineer needs to tell what kind of drain they need to allow a hydrant for the kids to wash their hands as opposed to using the cooler.

Mr. Quicke noted in a normal environment with a house or a business, there is going to be proper disposal through a septic system.

Mr. Thomas suggested putting language in place stating where vault privies are present, and a hydrant there needs to be drain fields or some type of French drain to dispose of the grey water.

Chairman Sanders noted if a hydrant is placed, someone is going to have to police it and make sure it is done correctly. Mrs. Mothershead mentioned as part of having the vault privy, staff will be monitoring this site at least yearly to make sure the privy’s are pumped and cleaned properly.

Mr. Pemberton mentioned discussing with Mark Brann at the Health Department or DEQ to see what would be needed if they had a hydrant, how deep a stone basin would need to be before anything else is decided.

Mrs. Mothershead mentioned she has spoken with Mr. Brann and he has noted this type of outside hand washing is not regulated through Health Department.

Mr. Pemberton noted getting more information and having it for discussion at the February meeting.

Chairman Sanders asked to do research with the surrounding counties and see who allows vault privy’s and who does not, and if they don’t allow them find out why.

NEW BUSINESS

ELECTIONS SECURITY- NEW MANDATES FOR 2020

Mr. Quicke noted in the 2019 session of the Virginia General Assembly, there were multiple pieces of legislation approved requiring local governments to enact additional security measures for the election process, beginning with the November 2020 election.
Mr. Quicke mentioned Mr. Jett and Mrs. Cullison have been working diligently over the last several weeks to try and interpret these new requirements. Mr. Quicke also mentioned it is possible that the required security upgrades are going to come at a substantial cost to the County.

Mrs. Cullison noted in 2016 with the Presidential election, elections were considered critical infrastructure by the Department of Homeland Security. Mrs. Cullison mentioned in recent years since that election they have gone to the process of trying to have triple seals of security. Mrs. Cullison noted the bill gives State the power to limit the access for the locality if they do not comply with the regulations that are expected to be set.

Mrs. Cullison mentioned they are being told by February they need a formal policy. Mrs. Cullison noted they have a formal policy but it is not in depth, as the State would like to impose on the locality. Mrs. Cullison mentioned they have had to start accessing there selves with base line assessments. Mrs. Cullison noted Mr. Jett along with herself have both been involved in an assessment that was targeted more so with her and her machines and what is done with the State system, called Verus. Mrs. Cullison mentioned the State’s concern with cyber security policy being formalized, is that if there’s any way that someone could hack into the County’s system, someone could hack into the State system.

Mrs. Cullison noted this is still a big question mark, until further guidance is given from the State on the formal policy and what is expected.

Mr. Jett mentioned there is no clear understanding of the cost to the locality and what procedures they will go through. Mr. Jett noted there are a few different milestones that have to be met one being assessments and the second step due by the end of February, a formal information security plan procedures in place. Mr. Jett also noted that plan is something the electoral board has to adopt and once that is in place every year by March 1st a review will have to be done to the plan and show it’s in compliance.

Mr. Jett noted there was a committee that was formed after the house bill was adopted and that committee has put together security standards that was adopted at the end of November. Mr. Jett mentioned that is a 57-page document with 21 sets of standards that are to be complied with. Mr. Jett also mentioned the final step by mid-August they have to be in compliance with 17 of those 21 standards, then another 4 that have to be in compliance by March 2021.

Mrs. Cullison noted they would touch base back with the Board at the February Board meeting with more updates.

**RICHMOND COUNTY IDA BUILDING-DISCUSSION**

Mr. Quicke mentioned about two months ago he began working with Resource International on getting a plan together to look at the re-paving of the parking lot at the IDA building. Mr. Quicke noted they sent out environmental engineers to take core samples of the existing pavement, stability, stone depth, etc. to begin weighing the options for improvements.

Mr. Quicke noted engineers came back to Resource International with four options:
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- Option 1- Do Nothing
- Option 2- Remove and Replace All
- Option 3- Partial Removal
- Option 4- Full Depth Reclamation

Mr. Quicke mentioned after discussion with Resource International, option three seemed like the best path moving forward. Mr. Quicke noted this option includes partial removal of the deteriorating areas of the parking lot, rather than a complete re-paving operation of the entire site.

Mr. Quicke noted Resource International prepared a cost of what option three would cost for the County, which came in at $237,410 substantially higher than the County can pay for at this time.

Mr. Quicke mentioned he began thinking of the building as a whole. Mr. Quicke noted there are three tenants in the Building: The Head Start Day-Care, the Richmond County School Board and the County. Mr. Quicke noted the portion of the building that the County uses is used for County and Community Storage of many different items, as there are no bathrooms associated with the middle portion of the building. Mr. Quicke also noted the bathrooms in the facility are located in the School Board section of the building and the day care portion of the building.

Mr. Quicke mentioned several years ago, this building could be a potential site for Richmond County Department of Social Services at some time but is not sure that space and location would be best suited for Social Services.

Mr. Quicke asked should the County begin preparing a master plan for this site that would include building renovations as well as the parking lot improvements to make the site more useful than it currently is.

Mr. Quicke noted this building is owned by the Industrial Development Authority, not the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Quicke mentioned this building receives three revenue sources a year: $10,000 rent the County pays, $10,000 rent from School Board and $18,000 rent from Head Start. Mr. Quicke mentioned this revenue handles the water/sewer bill from the Town of Warsaw, Dominion electricity bill and the security system.

Mr. Thomas suggested the County look into the future of this building.

Mr. Quicke mentioned Dr. Smith has reached out to him several times and is in need of a larger conference room as a part of the School Board building. Mr. Quicke noted Dr. Smith asked the possibility of putting a door back in from the School Board section along with another wall in to accommodate another office and a larger training room.

Mr. Thomas asked to see a layout. Mr. Thomas noted plans need to be made to move forward with making the building as friendly as it can be for whatever may come down the road as far as usage. Mr. Thomas mentioned looking into roof top solar panels.
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Chairman Sanders noted he could not see putting money in the middle of the building with another marketable building 100 yards from it.

Chairman Sanders asked would it be worthwhile to bid it out. Mr. Quicke mentioned it worries him to put a bid out as a bluff.

Mr. Quicke noted the engineer’s estimate of $237,410 needs to come down with a more accurate figure. Mr. Quicke mentioned scaling down some of the things that Resource International was looking at.

RETAIL STRATEGIES- DISCUSSION

Mr. Quicke mentioned Retail Strategies is a company located in Birmingham, Alabama and specializes in helping localities in their economic development endeavors by providing analytical data on the locality through specialized software and analysis. Mr. Quicke noted through their software they are able to track spending in the area through credit card processing, as well as foot traffic based off a cell phone location and data.

Mr. Quicke mentioned they have an incredible amount of resources and contacts across the Country in areas such as retail, business and food services. Mr. Quicke noted they have a track record of working with localities in the South East as well as retail establishments and working to get them located in areas where there is a demonstrated need through data, population and traffic counts.

Mr. Quicke noted he has spent several hours on the phone with Retail Strategies over the last several months learning more about their programs and offerings and think they would be an asset to Richmond County as we move forward in 2020 with a more aggressive economic development strategy.

Mr. Quicke mentioned Retail Strategies offers two programs to localities. Mr. Quicke noted their first program in which they essentially move into an area, profile the area and begin reaching out to their retail partners about the potential move to an area. Mr. Quicke mentioned they essentially become a County’s economic development team for a course of time, and work diligently in helping that locality attract additional investment into the area. Mr. Quicke also mentioned this option will cost the County roughly $40,000 annually.

Mr. Quicke noted their second option, would be more in line with what the County would be looking for, is known as their Retail Academy. Mr. Quicke mentioned a representative from the locality travels to Birmingham, Alabama for two days to go through an intensive training and learning exercise put on by the team, specific to the locality. Mr. Quicke noted they go over prepared data and analysis as well as site identification of what their data shows a locality needs and could support, such as new business, retail and dining. Mr. Quicke mentioned they help with phone numbers and contacts of site selection developers for these companies, and work with you on putting together a strategy to move forward with their analysis in contacting these companies to have them look favorably upon Richmond County. Mr. Quicke noted the cost option is $10,000.

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Mr. Quicke mentioned he believes this would certainly be money well spent over the course of a few years as we try to enhance our economic development in Richmond County.

Mr. Herbert asked Mr. Quicke if he was thinking about or has anyone in mind in place to be involved with this economic development. Mr. Quicke noted he does not and at this time, it is just himself, and he is looking to find ways to get more economic development in the budget.

Mr. Herbert mentioned he thinks this is a great idea, but the right person needs to be in place and goals need to be set to be reached.

Mr. Quicke noted sitting this topic aside and working with the budget to see where it fits.

**ONGOING PROJECTS**

**RADIO SYSTEMS**

Mr. Quicke reported all Fire, EMS and Sheriff’s Office units have been fully switched over to the new radio system. Mr. Quicke mentioned with the exception of some final bugs to be worked out as everyone grows accustomed to the new system, everything is complete.

Mr. Quicke noted there are a few issues with radio coverage losing service while in structures.

Chief Paulette noted there are about five hand held radios that when the buttons are pushed you hear the RF cycling through the speakers. Mr. Jett mentioned it could possibly be a bad batch of hardware that may need to be replaced.

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

Mr. Quicke noted there is still one outstanding Board Appointment for Complete Count Committee, District 3.

**MONTHLY APPROPRIATIONS- RICHMOND COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

"On a motion made by Richard E. Thomas, the Board voted: F. Lee Sanders – aye; Richard E. Thomas – aye; William C. Herbert, II – aye; J. David Parr – aye; Robert B. Pemberton – aye: To approve the February 2020 appropriation of Richmond County Department of Social Services for $85,000.00."

**MONTHLY APPROPRIATIONS- RICHMOND COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD**

"On a motion made by Robert B. Pemberton the Board voted: F. Lee Sanders – aye; Richard E. Thomas – aye; William C. Herbert, II – aye; J. David Parr – aye; Robert B. Pemberton – aye: To approve the February 2020 appropriation of Richmond County School Board for $1,410,178.00."
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APPROVAL OF MINUTES – DECEMBER 12, 2019

"On a motion made by William C. Herbert, II, the Board voted: F. Lee Sanders – aye; Richard E. Thomas – aye; William C. Herbert, II – aye; J. David Parr – aye; Robert B. Pemberton – aye: to approve the minutes from December 12, 2019 meeting as presented."

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Thomas mentioned the pigs in Farnham, two have seemed to have paired off and have stretched from Farnham Manor to a Totskey Creek development. Sheriff Smith reported all the pigs have been taken care of but those two.

Mr. Parr recognized and thanked Law Enforcement for their service for Law Enforcement recognition month.

Chairman Sanders noted Tayloe Emory recently reached out requesting to change his Bluegrass event to Saturday, July 11th, due to conflict with another festival. Chairman Sanders also noted there would only be two bands, the festival would run from 6-10 p.m. and expects approximately 300 paying guest. Sheriff Smith noted he does not see a problem with the date change and there have been no issues at these events in the past. The Board gave Chairman Sanders consensus for Mr. Emory to change his Bluegrass event date.

Mr. Quicke reported there are three interviews for the assistant IT position. Mr. Quicke noted Chris Jett, Denise Dunaway, Chief Paulette and Lt. Conkle would be conducting those interviews Thursday, January 9th and Friday, January 10th.

Mr. Quicke mentioned Legislative Day for Virginia Associations of Counties will be Thursday, February 6th if anyone is interested in going.

Mr. Quicke noted Mr. Parr, Mr. Herbert, and himself attended the VACO VML finance meeting Monday, January 6th in Richmond on the upcoming State budget that’s been recommended and proposed by the Governor.

Mr. Quicke updated the Board of Supervisors with the proposed application for the Solar project. Mr. Quicke noted this is a project that was brought to the County in Fall of 2018. Mr. Quicke mentioned Strata began doing diligence in property in the County and signing leases with property owners. Mr. Quicke noted the County did not pick the site and have had very little input. Mr. Quicke mentioned an ordinance was adopted three or four years ago to help guide through this process as well as help from the County Attorney, Vivian Giles.

Mr. Quicke noted the Planning Commission heard the Solar presentation Monday night the 6th introducing this project from Strata Solar and a public hearing has not been set by the Planning Commission at this point. Mr. Quicke mentioned he is anticipating another work session in February with a public hearing set up in March or April to officially receive public comment.
Mr. Quicke mentioned their interest is making sure this process is done according to what the Code of Virginia requires and the County Ordinance requires.

**CLOSED SESSION**

"On a motion made by Robert B. Pemberton, the Board voted: F. Lee Sanders – aye; Richard E. Thomas – aye; William C. Herbert, II – aye; J. David Parr – aye; Robert B. Pemberton – aye: as permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1), a personnel matter involving the salary or other compensation for a specific employee or employees."

**CERTIFICATION MOTION AFTER RECONVENING IN PUBLIC SESSION:**

"On a motion made by Robert B. Pemberton, the Board voted by roll call: F. Lee Sanders – aye; Richard E. Thomas – aye; William C. Herbert, II – aye; J. David Parr – aye; Robert B. Pemberton – aye: that the Board certifies that, in the closed session just concluded, nothing was discussed except the matter or matters (1) specifically identified in the motion to convene in closed session and (2) lawfully permitted to be so discussed under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act cited in that motion."

**ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION**

"On a motion made by Robert B. Pemberton, the Board voted by roll call: F. Lee Sanders – aye; Richard E. Thomas – aye; William C. Herbert, II – aye; J. David Parr – aye; Robert B. Pemberton – aye: to approve a supplement to the salary of three (3) employees, in a total amount of $6,000, effective for the remainder of FY20."

**RECESS**

Chairman Sanders recessed the meeting until 7 p.m. Public Hearing.

**RECONVENE- PUBLIC HEARING 7:00 P.M.**

Present: F. Lee Sanders, Chairman  
Richard E. Thomas, Vice-Chairman  
J. David Parr, Member  
William C. Herbert, II, Member  
Robert B. Pemberton, Member

Also Present: R. Morgan Quicke, County Administrator  
Hope D. Mothershead, Planning/Zoning  
Trevor Johnson, Captain, RCSO

Mr. Quicke read the following public hearing notice:

- Pursuant to Section 15.2-1427 of the Code of Virginia, 1950 as amended, the Richmond County Board of Supervisors hereby gives notice that a Public Hearing will be held
Richmond County Board of Supervisors Minutes:  
01/09/2020

starting at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, January 9, 2020 in the Richmond County Public Meeting Room, 101 Court Circle, Warsaw, Virginia 22572 to receive public comment on a proposed new Electronic Summons System Ordinance which would impose a $5.00 fee as part of the costs for each criminal and traffic case in both the Richmond County General District Court and the Richmond County Circuit Court, and to consider adoption of said ordinance.

Mr. Quicke noted this ordinance was prepared with the help of Sands Anderson and brought to the Board by the Sheriff’s Office asking to consider.

Mr. Quicke mentioned they had a couple conversations with the County Attorney to clarify a few items:

1. $5 would be on each charge.
2. This would be for both criminal and traffic cases brought into District or Circuit Court.
3. Should the Board wish to adopt this, put an effective date of April 1st, 2020 to give District Court and Circuit Court Clerk’s Office time to work with the Supreme Court through maintains and computer systems.

Chairman Sanders asked was this $5 per ticket. Mrs. Mothershead noted it is $5 per charge. Captain Johnson explained it would be a $5 charge per violation.

Mr. Herbert asked if the defendant is charged with each violation; if they are found not guilty do they still have to pay the $5 fee. Captain Johnson mentioned this would be charges only if found guilty and would be tied to the court cost/fine.

Captain Johnson mentioned currently the courtroom security money is done the same way, and it would be an additional for the e-summons.

Mr. Quicke asked if this would include tickets written inside the Town of Warsaw. Captain Johnson noted it does include Town of Warsaw, unless the Town adopts their own ordinance.

John W. Lewis asked if this is only for cases that come in front of the Judge or if it would be assessed on those tickets that are paid in advance of court. Captain Johnson noted that it would be assessed on all charges. Mr. Quicke also noted there is a current maintenance fund that can be spent on facilities, security that can be spent on security, and this is one that the code allows to be collected and spent on electronics.

Captain Johnson mentioned this includes computers, printers, docking stations. Captain Johnson also mentioned the Sheriff’s Office only has four cars without a data terminal, everything else is old or not working anymore and new ones need to be purchased. Captain Johnson noted with the new RMS system all the deputies will need a data terminal in their car. Mr. Quicke mentioned Chris Jett’s top priority in the next couple month’s will be getting the deputies car up to date.
Mr. Quicke asked if the e-ticketing system more efficient than the current way. Mr. Johnson mentioned Richmond County will be the first County to go on this system. Mr. Johnson noted e-ticketing was included in the RMS cab that other counties would have to buy.

Captain Johnson explained that the officers would use the driver’s license/ ID card in a card reader which would prefill the summons with the name, address, height and weight, and the only other information necessary would be the charge(s). Captain Johnson noted once the summons was submitted, it would do directly to the court and a copy to the secretary in charge of records.

Captain Johnson mentioned this is a system the offenders pay for and not the taxpayers.

Chairman Sanders opened the public comment period.

John W. Lewis stated to error is human, we are all not machines, we do not have a button to push that says we are going to do something illegal today. Mr. Lewis mentioned we all make mistakes and we all get punished for them when we get caught. Mr. Lewis noted set aside the criminals of the world they get what’s coming to them and deserve what they get. Mr. Lewis mentioned the person who is just trying to make ends meet, who has more important things then keeping their car up to date, letting their tires go, or there inspection stickers a month or two overdue, not by intention but by error, should they be charged any extra fees on top of the penalty they are already getting. Mr. Lewis also noted on felonies, criminal complaints, DUI, and moving violations that’s pretty intentional, you should be in control of your vehicle at all times. Mr. Lewis mentioned he understands an extra fee to cover the cost of a system that’s designed and implemented to save money in the first place, and it is being looked at for creative ways to add money to the coffer is very offensive. Mr. Lewis also mentioned he does not believe the average citizen that makes an error once in a while should be subjected to the initial $5 fee.

Chairman Sanders closed the public comment.

Mr. Parr asked what is the back up if the summons doesn’t go through after submitting. Captain Johnson mentioned a copy will print out for the subject to sign and a paperless copy would be sent to the clerk.


OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Quicke noted that he would be attending Legislative Day on February 6th in Richmond and extended an invitation to the Board members.
ADJOURNMENT

After no further business, Chairman Sanders adjourned the meeting.

F. Lee Sanders, Chairman
Richmond County Board of Supervisors
ORDINANCE

ASSESSMENT OF COURT COSTS TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION AND MAINTENANCE OF AN ELECTRONIC SUMMONS SYSTEM

A. As authorized by Section 17.1-279.1, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended: A local fee of five dollars ($5.00) to support the implementation and maintenance of an electronic summons system is hereby imposed in each criminal or traffic case brought in the district or circuit courts in which the defendant is charged with a violation of any statute or ordinance.

The Clerks of the district and circuit courts shall charge and collect this assessment as a part of the fees taxed as costs.

B. After collection by the Clerk of the court in which the case is heard, the assessment shall be remitted to the County Treasurer and held in an interest-bearing account subject to appropriation by the Board of Supervisors.

The Electronic Summons System assessment and interest derived shall be held in a separate account outside of the general fund and shall not revert to the general fund at the end of the fiscal year.

C. The retained assessment and any interest shall be administered by the Sheriff’s Office and shall be used solely to fund software, hardware and associated equipment costs necessary for the implementation and maintenance of an Electronic Summons System as selected by the Sheriff’s Office in accordance with the record keeping and reporting requirements formulated by the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

D. The assessment imposed by this section shall be in addition to all other costs prescribed by law, but shall not apply to any action in which the state or any political subdivision therefore or the federal government is a party and in which the costs are assessed against the state, a political subdivision thereof or the federal government.

Adopted this 9th day of January, 2020.

F. Lee Sanders, Chairman
Richmond County Board of Supervisors

Effective April 1, 2020.