V I R G I N I A:

At a meeting of the Washington County Board of Supervisors held Tuesday, February 25, 1997, at 7:00 p.m., at the County Administration Building in Abingdon, Virginia, the following were present:

PRESENT:

James T. Osborne, Chairman
Bobby D. Ingle, Vice Chairman
Kenneth G. Mathews
Joe W. Derting
Maurice H. Parris
Jackson Barker
Dulcie M. Mumpower

Mark K. Reeter, County Administrator
Joseph B. Lyle, County Attorney
Mark W. Seamon, Accounting/Purchasing Manager
Sandra M. Hatfield, CPS, Administrative Assistant

****

1 **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. James T. Osborne, Chairman of the Board who welcomed everyone in attendance.

2 **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance - Maurice H. Parris**

Mr. Parris called upon ***Reverend Don Lasley***, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Damascus, Va. to give the Invocation and lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3 **Approval of the Agenda**

On motion of Mrs. Mumpower, second by Mr. Ingle, it was resolved to approve the Agenda with the following addition:

14 County Administrator Comments
d.Proposed Revised Calendar of Events for Preparation of FY 1997-98 County Operating Budget

The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)

Mr. Derting	**Aye**	**Mr. Ingle**	**Aye**	**Mr. Mathews**	**Aye**
Mr. Osborne	**Aye**	**Mrs. Mumpower**	**Aye**	**Mr. Parris**	**Aye**
Mr. Barker	**Aye**				

5 **Virginia Highlands Community College Annual Report (Dr. F. David Wilkin,**

President)

Dr. F. David Wilkin, President, Virginia Highlands Community College, addressed the Board of Supervisors giving an annual status report of the enrollment and the College funding. He reported 54% of the students enrolled at Virginia Highlands Community College are from Washington County, and they received $164,000 in financial aid from various federal and state sources.

Dr. Wilkin presented the Supervisors with new brochures of the Community College describing the academic program. He also presented two video tapes describing the Center for Business & Industry and the College academic programs. He expressed his hope that these video tapes could be included with other information presented to industrial prospects.

Dr. Wilkin commented about the Community College budget in general. He reported that the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center project is on schedule and there is scheduled to be five senior colleges to deliver the baccalaureate and master degree programs (University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, Clinch Valley College, Radford University, and Old Dominion University).

Dr. Wilkin advised the Board of the importance of developing a second access road onto the campus to accommodate the increased traffic flow because of the Higher Education Center. He stated he has given communications to the County Administrator that he received from Virginia Department of Transportation relative to an access road.

---

6 **Presentation of Proposed Industrial Shell Building Prospect for Glade Highlands Industrial Park (Russell Owen, Chairman, Industrial Development Authority)**

Mr. Russell Owens, Chairman, Washington County Industrial Development Authority, appeared before the Board of Supervisors requesting that the County apply to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development for a low interest loan under the Marketed Shell Building Program of the Community Development Block Grant Program to construct an industrial shell building to be located in the Glade-Highlands Industrial Park.

Mr. Owens presented a Resolution adopted by the Industrial Development Authority at their February 19, 1997 meeting. He stated the IDA will be responsible for project costs not covered by the loan and will begin to pay back the loan in three years. He stated the CDBG filing deadline is March 28, 1997 and the application will require holding a public hearing prior to submission of the project. He advised the IDA anticipated receiving a letter of credit in the amount of $700,000 from a local banking institution. Mr. Owens responded to questions from the Board concerning the IDA=s long range financial plans to repay the loan.

Mr. Owens stated the IDA proposes to locate an 80,000 sq. ft. industrial shell building that will accommodate an expansion of another 80,000 sq. ft., plus parking, and installation of electrical and natural gas lines.

On motion of Mr. Derting, second by Mr. Mathews, it was resolved to approve County submission of an application to Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development on behalf of the Washington County Industrial Development Authority for a loan in the amount of $700,000 to construct a shell building under the Marketed Shell Building Program of the Community Development Block Grant Program.

The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)

Mr. Derting	**Aye**	**Mr. Ingle**	**Aye**	**Mr. Mathews**	**Aye**
Mr. Osborne	**Aye**	**Mrs. Mumpower**	**Aye**	**Mr. Parris**	**Aye**
Mr. Barker	**Aye**				

7 **Washington County School Board Request for Literary Funds, $960,100 (Dr. George Stainback, Division Superintendent)**

Dr. George Stainback, Division Superintendent, and ***Ron Walls***, Director of Administration, appeared before the Supervisors to request the School Board be authorized to apply for literary funds, if needed, to build an addition to Watauga Elementary School in order to accommodate the increased growth in pupil enrollment.

In their presentation, Dr. Stainback and Mr. Walls presented county-wide enrollment data, both current and projected, spoke of their considerations to rezone attendance areas, and addressed the impact of additional bonded indebtedness on Washington County.

During his presentation, Dr. Stainback expressed the appreciation of the School Board for the continued support of the Board of Supervisors.

On motion of Mr. Ingle, second by Mrs. Mumpower, it was resolved to authorize the Washington County Public Schools to make application for literary funds.

The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)

Mr. Derting	**Aye**	**Mr. Ingle**	**Aye**	**Mr. Mathews**	**Aye**
Mr. Osborne	**Aye**	**Mrs. Mumpower**	**Aye**	**Mr. Parris**	**Aye**
Mr. Barker	**Aye**				

Mr. Barker filed a disclaimer disclosing he has a personal interest in certain aspects of the Washington County Budget related to appropriations to the Washington County School Board; that he is an employee of the Washington County School Board and appropriations to the Board could indirectly affect his position, salary, employment benefits, etc.; that he is a member of a group of employees which is affected by the amount of the appropriation to the Washington County School Board; and, that he can participate in this transaction fairly, objectively and in the public interest.

8 **Request for County Funds for Glade Spring Sewer Project**

Dr. David Dawson, General Manager, Washington County Service Authority, appeared before the Board of Supervisors giving a status report on the Glade Spring Sewer Project. Dr. Dawson advised that due to discrepancies between the budget formats used by U.S.D.A. Rural Development and the Virginia Community Development Block Grant Program, the Glade Spring project budget lacks $309,143.00 for construction contingency. This amount must be committed from local funds prior to the closing of the Rural Development grant/loan funding package for the project. The Service Authority has committed 50% of this amount, and is requesting a commitment by the Board of Supervisors for 50% totaling $142,352.00.

On motion of Mr. Derting, second by Mr. Mathews, it was resolved to transfer $100,000 from Sewer Project, Other, line item, and $42,352 from Reserves for Contingency to the Glade Spring Sewer Project line item.

The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)

Mr. Derting	**Aye**	**Mr. Ingle**	**Aye**	**Mr. Mathews**	**Aye**
Mr. Osborne	**Aye**	**Mrs. Mumpower**	**Aye**	**Mr. Parris**	**Aye**
Mr. Barker	**Aye**				

9 **Request for Funding of County Transit Service, District III Governmental Cooperative**

Messrs. Mike Guy, Executive Director, and ***Jack Blevins***, Transit Manager, District III Governmental Cooperative, appeared before the Supervisors proposing consideration of a pilot transit service for rural sections of Washington County to be offered on a six-month trial basis. Mr. Blevins presented a planned schedule of transportation service they will offer to residents of who live in five sections of the county. He explained transit service will be available once a week for each section on a reservation only basis. He stated District III will charge users $1.00 for this transit service, and that the program would be subsidized with state funds. Mr. Blevins summarized the operational costs and requested the Board to consider making an appropriation of $2,500 to cover start up costs for the service and $7,200 to cover monthly operational costs for a period of six months.

Mr. Barker made a motion to approve a six month pilot transit service program in Washington County provided by District III Governmental Cooperative, and further that $9,700 be taken from Reserves for Contingency for this program.

There was no second. The motion failed.

Mr. Barker commended Messrs. Blevins and Guy, and explained to the Board that there had been time time and study devoted to the project. Mr. Barker asked the Board to reconsider the proposed transit service program during budget deliberations.

10 **Consideration of Washington County Jail Renovation Project, Dewberry & Davis**

Mr. Osborne inquired whether the Board needed to appropriate funds to the jail project at this time. Mr. Reeter responded that the County-s budget presently has appropriated $300,000.00 for this project through June 30, 1997. Estimates from Dewberry & Davis indicate the total anticipated expenditures for project purposes to be $152,000.00 through the end of the current fiscal year. Mr. Reeter indicated that the Board is not required to appropriate any additional funds for the jail project for the current fiscal year, but could do so at is discretion. Mr. Osborne suggested the Board consider an appropriation of $500,000.00 to the project from unbudgeted reserve funds. County Attorney Joe Lyle expressed a concern that doing so may trigger a state statutory requirement that would require a public hearing before such an appropriation could be made. The Board by consensus requested the County Attorney to research this matter and render a formal opinion as soon as possible.

On motion of Mr. Ingle, second by Mr. Mathews, it was resolved to authorize the County Administrator to enter into a contract with Dewberry & Davis to provide design services for the Washington County Jail Renovation Project.

The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)

Mr. Derting	**Aye**	**Mr. Ingle**	**Aye**	**Mr. Mathews**	**Aye**
Mr. Osborne	**Aye**	**Mrs. Mumpower**	**Aye**	**Mr. Parris**	**Aye**
Mr. Barker	**Aye**				

11 **Transportation Planning Committee Recommendations Concerning Primary and Interstate Highway Improvements for Presentation to the Commonwealth Transportation Board**

Mr. Henry Green, Chairman, Washington County Transportation Planning Committee, was present to respond to questions from the Board relative to the Committee's recommended improvements for primary and interstate highways in Washington County which will be presented to the Commonwealth Transportation Board at the 1997 Pre-allocation Public Hearing on March 11, 1997. The recommendations were put forth in the form of a letter to Transportation Secretary Martinez and the Commonwealth Transportation Board, the full text of which is submitted for Board approval. The letter expresses the following: thanks for support of the six-laning of I-81 through Washington County from the Tennessee State Line to Exit 22; for continued support for funding of the four-laning of Route 58 from Abingdon to Damascus; for improvements to Route 91 from I-81 to the Tennessee State Line through Damascus; requests reconstruction of Exits 14 and 17 in advance of the I-81 widening project; supports lighting of Exits 14, 17, 19 and 22 as part of the widening of I-81; requests consideration of a new interstate interchange between present I-81 Exits 10 and 13 and access road for a more direct link between I-81 and the Bristol/Washington County Industrial Park; requests a Corridor Development Study for a future western by-pass of Abingdon connecting U.S. 19 to I-81; requests that I-81 frontage road F-020 (Flaming Leaf Road) be paved; and establishes priorities for improvements to primary highways as follows: First, upgrades and improvements to portions of Route 75 beginning from the Tennessee State Line 3.34 miles into Washington County, and a second, 1.70 mile long section beginning 4.40 miles distant from the Tennessee State Line to 6.10 miles distant from the Tennessee State Line; second, improvement of Route 80 from the Meadowview community in eastern Washington County to the Holston River; third, a project to four-lane Route 11 between Bristol and Abingdon. The letter concludes with an expression of strong encouragement to expedite the development of U.S. Highway 58 between Weber City and the City of Bristol.

On motion of Mr. Parris, second by Mr. Derting, it was resolved to accept the recommendation of the Transportation Planning Committee for presentation to the Commonwealth Transportation Board at the 1997 Pre-allocation Public Hearing on March 11, 1997.

The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)

Mr. Derting	**Aye**	**Mr. Ingle**	**Aye**	**Mr. Mathews**	**Aye**
Mr. Osborne	**Aye**	**Mrs. Mumpower**	**Aye**	**Mr. Parris**	**Aye**
Mr. Barker	**Aye**				

Mrs. Mumpower requested that a statement be added indicating that F-020 (Flaming Leaf Road) which is being requested to be paved serves a residential subdivision development.

12 **Recess**

On motion of Mr. Parris, second by Mr. Mathews, it was resolved to take a brief recess.

The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)

Mr. Derting	**Aye**	**Mr. Ingle**	**Aye**	**Mr. Mathews**	**Aye**
Mr. Osborne	**Aye**	**Mrs. Mumpower**	**Aye**	**Mr. Parris**	**Aye**
Mr. Barker	**Aye**				

13 **Citizen Comments**

At this time, Mr. Osborne asked Mr. Ingle to read the rules for citizen comments, and invited comments from citizens on items that do not appear on the Agenda.

Patrick Mannix addressed the Supervisors on the following topics: tire dump; Attorney General=s Opinion on building officials role; Sheriff=s Office; discrimination.

---

14 **County Administrator Comments**

The following action was taken on County Administrator Comments:

a. **Status Update of Revisions to Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual for Administrative Division Employees**

Mr. Reeter gave a status report on revisions to the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual for Administrative Division employees stating these will be presented at a future meeting for the Supervisors action. He reported at the March 11, 1997 meeting, he will present a request for the Supervisors to schedule a workshop relative to the issue of an employee pay plan.

*****

b. **Washington County Fire/Rescue Inquiry**

Mr. Reeter presented the Supervisors with a letter from Richard Thompson, Chief, Washington County Fire/Rescue who reported on their progress in purchasing a new ambulance, stating the anticipated delivery date is November 1997.

Discussion ensued.

On motion of Mrs. Mumpower, second by Mr. Parris, it was resolved to allow Washington County Fire Rescue to retain and hold $50,000 which was appropriated to the Department for the purchase of a new ambulance from the FY 1996-97 County Budget.

The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)

Mr. Derting	**Aye**	**Mr. Ingle**	**Aye**	**Mr. Mathews**	**Aye**
Mr. Osborne	**Aye**	**Mrs. Mumpower**	**Aye**	**Mr. Parris**	**Aye**
Mr. Barker	**Aye**				

*****

c. **Invitation to Attend the Washington County Local Emergency Planning Committee Get-Acquainted Meeting on March 12, 1997**

Received invitation to attend the Washington County Local Emergency Planning Committee Get-Acquainted Meeting at Abingdon Fire Department on Wednesday, March 12, 1997.

*****

d. **Proposed Revised Calendar of Events for Preparation of FY 1997-98 County Operating Budget**

Mr. Reeter proposed a revision to the Budget Work Session at which the FY 1997-98 Revenue Projections will be presented by the Treasurer and Commissioner of Revenue. By consensus agreement, the meeting date was rescheduled to Thursday, March 27,

1997.

In other matters related to the FY 1997-98 budget preparation schedule, the Supervisors, by consensus, agreed to consider the following matters at their March 11, 1997 meeting: (1) proposal to schedule budget work sessions for 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 17, 1997 and Saturday, May 31, 1997; (2) proposed rules for preparation of the FY 1997-98 County Operating Budget.

Mr. Reeter referenced the Virginia Department of Transportation Revenue Sharing Plan and asked the Supervisors to contact Virginia Department of Transportation Abingdon Area Engineer, Steve Buston, with projects they would like included. He stated he will present the recommended Revenue Sharing Plan to the Supervisors for consideration at the March 11, 1997 meeting.

15 **County Attorney Reports**

Mr. Lyle reported the proposed ordinance imposing a fee for passing a bad check to the county will be considered at the March 11, 1997 meeting.

Mr. Lyle announced his resignation as County Attorney to be effective February 28, 1997 stating he is returning to private practice with the firm of Green & Hale, Bristol, Tennessee. He expressed his appreciation to the Board for their support and commended the staff for their public service.

16 **Consent Agenda**

On motion of Mr. Mathews, second by Mr. Derting, it was resolved to approve the following consent agenda items:

a. **Sheriff=s Department, Contribution to Neighborhood Watch, $25.00, 31200/6019**
b. **Sheriff=s Department, Use of cellular phone, employee reimbursement, $870.00**

The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)

Mr. Derting	**Aye**	**Mr. Ingle**	**Aye**	**Mr. Mathews**	**Aye**
Mr. Osborne	**Aye**	**Mrs. Mumpower**	**Aye**	**Mr. Parris**	**Aye**
Mr. Barker	**Aye**				

17 **Board Member Reports**

There were no reports.

18 **Executive Session Pursuant to '2.1344(A) of the 1950 Code of Virginia as Amended, to discuss personnel matters**

On motion of Mr. Ingle, second by Mrs. Mumpower, it was resolved to go into Executive Session pursuant to '2.1-344.A.1 to discuss personnel, specifically the resignation of the County Attorney.

The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)

Mr. Derting	**Aye**	**Mr. Ingle**	**Aye**	**Mr. Mathews**	**Aye**
Mr. Osborne	**Aye**	**Mrs. Mumpower**	**Aye**	**Mr. Parris**	**Aye**
Mr. Barker	**Aye**				

On motion of Mr. Mathews, second by Mr. Derting, it was resolved to come out of Executive Session and proceed with business at hand in public.

The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)

Mr. Derting	**Aye**	**Mr. Ingle**	**Aye**	**Mr. Mathews**	**Aye**
Mr. Osborne	**Aye**	**Mrs. Mumpower**	**Aye**	**Mr. Parris**	**Aye**
Mr. Barker	**Aye**				

On motion of Mrs. Mumpower, second by Mr. Mathews, it was resolved to adopt the following certification:

WHEREAS, the Washington County, Virginia Board of Supervisors has convened an executive meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, '2.1-344.1 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Washington County, Virginia Board of Supervisors that such executive meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington County, Virginia Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member=s knowledge

(i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the executive meeting to which this certification resolution applies; and

(ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion of convening the executive meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Washington County, Virginia Board of Supervisors.

The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)

Mr. Derting	**Aye**	**Mr. Ingle**	**Aye**	**Mr. Mathews**	**Aye**
Mr. Osborne	**Aye**	**Mrs. Mumpower**	**Aye**	**Mr. Parris**	**Aye**
Mr. Barker	**Aye**				

On motion of Mr. ingle, second by Mr. Derting, it was resolved to accept the resignation of Joseph B. Lyle, County Attorney, effective 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 28, 1997.

The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)

Mr. Derting	**Aye**	**Mr. Ingle**	**Aye**	**Mr. Mathews**	**Aye**
Mr. Osborne	**Aye**	**Mrs. Mumpower**	**Aye**	**Mr. Parris**	**Aye**
Mr. Barker	**Aye**				

On motion of Mr. Ingle, second by Mrs. Mumpower, it was resolved to begin the process of advertising for a full time County Attorney.

The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)

Mr. Derting	**Aye**	**Mr. Ingle**	**Aye**	**Mr. Mathews**	**Aye**

Mr. Osborne	**Aye**	**Mrs. Mumpower**	**Aye**	**Mr. Parris**	**Aye**
Mr. Barker	**Aye**				

On motion of Mr. Ingle, second by Mr. Mathews, it was resolved to enter into an agreement with the law firm of Green and Hale, Bristol, Tennessee for a period of three months effective March 1, 1997, and that their monthly retainer fee be equal to the current salary of the County Attorney.

The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)

Mr. Derting	**Aye**	**Mr. Ingle**	**Aye**	**Mr. Mathews**	**Aye**
Mr. Osborne	**Aye**	**Mrs. Mumpower**	**Aye**	**Mr. Parris**	**Aye**
Mr. Barker	**Aye**				

19 **Adjournment**

On motion of Mr. Parris, second by Mr. Derting, it was resolved to adjourn the meeting.

The vote on this motion was as follows: (7-0)

Mr. Derting	**Aye**	**Mr. Ingle**	**Aye**	**Mr. Mathews**	**Aye**
Mr. Osborne	**Aye**	**Mrs. Mumpower**	**Aye**	**Mr. Parris**	**Aye**
Mr. Barker	**Aye**				

_____
James T. Osborne, Chairman