

**VIRGINIA:**

At a recessed meeting of the Washington County Board of Supervisors held Tuesday, May 15, 2001, at 7:00 p.m., at the County Administration Building in Abingdon, Virginia, the following were present:

**PRESENT:**

Joe W. Derting, Chairman  
 John B. Roberts, Sr., Vice Chairman  
 Bobby D. Ingle  
 Phillip B. McCall  
 Anthony S. Rector  
 Jack H. Barker  
 Dulcie M. Mumpower

Mark K. Reeter, County Administrator  
 Lucy E. Phillips Bright, County Attorney  
 Mark W. Seamon, Accounting/Purchasing Manager  
 Sandra M. Hatfield, CPS, Administrative Supervisor

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1. **Call Recessed Meeting to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Joe W. Derting, Chairman of the Board, who welcomed everyone in attendance.

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2. **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance – Anthony S. Rector**

Supervisor Anthony S. Rector gave the Invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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3. **Approval of Agenda**

*On motion of Mr. Rector, second by Mr. McCall, it was resolved to approve the agenda as presented.*

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

<i>Mr. Derting</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Mr. Roberts</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Mr. McCall</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Ingle</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Mr. Rector</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Mrs. Mumpower</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Barker</i>	<i>Aye</i>				

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4. **Presentation of FY 2001-2002 County Administrator's Recommended Budget**

County Administrator Mark K. Reeter presented the FY 2001-2002 recommended operating budget proposed for Washington County. In his remarks, he made the following points:

- The recommended FY 2001-02 general operating budget for Washington County projects total County revenues at \$89,446,575, relying on \$2,225,000 in unexpended funds as a starting balance, and includes: \$1,500,000 of unexpended General Fund money carried over from FY 2000-2001; \$660,000 carry-over from Capital Improvement Fund; and \$35,000 carried over for projects budgeted but not initiated;
- A three percent across-the-board salary/wage increase for all County-funded positions. He stated the County-funded positions do not include employees funded solely by the State Compensation Board;
- \$350,000 in Reserve for Contingency funds as a beginning balance, and \$183,376 in Uncommitted Contingency funds.
- The proposed School Board budget request calls for \$63,462,486 of which a total of \$61,572,795 is provided for in the recommended budget. He stated the \$61,572,795 in recommended school funding represents 68.84% of the total recommended County Operating Budget for FY 2001-02;
  - The recommended budget for Washington County School Board calls for \$18,479,136 in County funds for a total recommended budget of \$50,440,174 in School General Funds.
  - The recommended School General Fund budget is \$1,889,691 or 3.6% less than the total amount requested by the School Board for FY 2001-02.
  - The recommended School Board budget provides for \$1,100,000 in new County funding above the County funding provided for in the current fiscal year (\$1,585,182). Of this amount, \$264,900 represents the County's share of a 3% average pay increase for school system personnel.
  - The recommended funding for the School Textbook Fund, School Construction Fund and School Cafeteria Fund is the same as proposed by the School Board for the coming fiscal year.
- Within the 15 departments of the Administrative Division of the County government, there are no significant increases in recommended funding over current fiscal year levels. Mr. Reeter commented FY 2001-02 will be the first full year for the new Department of Planning. He stated the Washington County Office on Youth will be charged with the supervision of two Comprehensive Services Act-funded Coordinator positions as part of its role with the Community Policy Management Team program. Funding for these positions will be routed through the County budget. The recommended budget for the Department of General Services includes funding for a second full-time Maintenance Technician position.
- No major changes in funding for the County Constitutional Offices of Commissioner of Revenue and County Treasurer from the current fiscal year are requested or recommended.
  - The Office of Commonwealth's Attorney requested State Compensation Board funding of 6 new positions totaling \$150,744. Mr. Reeter stated the recommended budget contains \$20,000 in County funding for a part-time Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney.
  - The Washington County Sheriff's Office requested \$3,814,924 in non-grant expenditures for the coming fiscal year, of which \$3,673,675 is recommend for funding. Overall, the proposed total budget request from the Sheriff's Office including all grant-

funded budgetary departments but excluding Jail Operations totals \$3,969,597; the total recommended budget is \$3,828,348. The requested \$3,969,597 is slightly less than the \$3,982,293 budget requested for the current fiscal year. A new County-funded Information Technology Assistant's position within the Sheriff's Office is requested and recommended for funding. Funding in the recommended budget has been provided for the purchase of 5 new cruisers, 2 new 4WD vehicles and a pickup truck for a total recommended expenditure of \$169,553. \$25,000 is provided for new field communication equipment, and \$50,000 provided for new computer equipment purchases needed by the Sheriff's Office. The recommended budget for Jail Operations of \$406,000 has decreased by about \$20,000 under the originally adopted budget for the current fiscal year. This decrease is attributable to a reduction in funding for part-time jailers.

- The E-911 Communications budgetary department within the E-911 Project Fund has been increased due to the required overhaul of County Central Dispatch's computer-aided dispatch and radio communication technologies.

In his presentation, Mr. Reeter commented on the E-911 system cost deficit, emphasizing at the current \$0.65 per month E-911 levy during fiscal year 1999-2000 the County received a little over \$201,000 in revenue with which to fund E-911 system operational expenses. In addition, he stated, the assumption of E-911 street address assignment and mapping responsibilities by the County's GIS Department has also contributed to the operational deficit. Mr. Reeter stated he is recommending the E-911 levy for the coming FY be increased by \$0.35 to \$1.00 to be made effective January of 2002.

- Several of the County's independent boards, authorities and commissions have requested significant additional funding for the coming fiscal year:
  - The recommended funding for the IDA includes \$334,000 as the final installment payment on the Westinghouse property, \$172,869 as the second of three installment payments for the recently acquired Burris property, \$275,000 in property improvement costs and \$50,000 for IDA operations; the Smyth-Washington Regional Industrial Facilities Authority (SWIFA) requested is recommended to receive \$93,900 in County funding covering Washington County's share of annual installment payments for the Glade-Highlands Regional Industrial Park property, funding for the shell building to be constructed within the Regional Park and SWIFA operations; \$1,375,000 in state grant funds for the development of the Glade-Highlands Regional Industrial Park is budgeted within the Special Grant Projects Fund and will be expended by the County on behalf of SWIFA in the coming fiscal year.
  - The Virginia Highlands Airport Commission's request of \$246,590 for the coming FY appears less than the \$457,139 approved for the current fiscal year. In actuality, the reduced request represents a \$232,500 decrease in restricted land acquisition funds escrowed by the County on behalf of the Commission for a number of years that were disbursed and expended this year. The Commission requested beginning a new restricted escrow fund with a \$50,000 County contribution toward a future runway extension project that is not recommended for funding in the coming FY. The recommended budget meets the Commission's request for County funds to support airport operations, capital improvements and debt service.
  - The Washington County Public Library requested funding for an additional Children's Specialist position as well as \$100,000 for Library Main Branch improvements. These requests are not provided for within the recommended budget.

- Recommended funding for volunteer fire departments and emergency medical and rescue departments for FY 2001-02 have been increased by 3% across the board over current fiscal year levels.
  - Recommended funding for senior citizen organizations for FY 2001-02 has been increased by 3% across the board over current fiscal year levels.
  - Funding for community centers is largely level-funded with the current fiscal year.
  - Contributions to athletic groups follow the recommendations of the County Recreation Advisory Board.
  - Recommended funding for cultural enrichment for the coming fiscal year is about the same as for the current fiscal year. \$10,000 is provided for the White's Mill Foundation.
- Regarding the Road Improvement Fund, \$66,503 in unexpended County funds originating in the current fiscal year for subdivision street improvements affecting Flame Leaf Drive and Carroll Street are recommended for carry-over in addition to \$60,000 in new funds for upgrading subdivision roads. Unexpended FY 2001-02 County funds of \$135,000 for right-of-way acquisition for the State Route 1717 Relocation Project are recommended for carry-over. No new County funds for the 1717 Project are recommended for budgeting for the coming fiscal year.
  - In the Capital Improvements Fund, the recommended budget for Minor Water Projects carries over unexpended balances originating in the current fiscal year for Election Districts where no water projects were approved. In those districts where projects were approved, no new funding is provided for the coming FY. Funding in the amount of \$743,709 for the Poor Valley Water Project appropriated beginning in FY 1999-2000 and 2000-01 has been carried over in the recommended budget. Funding for Mock Hollow Sewer Project and the Glade Spring Sewer Project previously approved has also been carried over. No funds for new sewer or other capital projects are provided for in the recommended budget.
  - The Highlands Community Services Board, Washington County Health Department and Washington County Department of Social Services have each requested additional County funding not out-of-line with their usual annual increases. Their requests are funded within the recommended budget.

Discussion ensued relative to the School Board requested budget and recommended budget. It was pointed out that the growth in County revenue over the years does not equal the dollar amount the school board has requested the Board of Supervisors to fund in their annual budgets.

Further discussion ensued relative to increasing the E911 tax levy to cover the E911 operations cost. This is to be discussed further at the May 22, 2001 meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

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**5 Recess to Monday, May 21, 2001 to hear Departments/Agencies Budget Requests**

*On motion of Mr. Ingle, second by Mr. Roberts, it was resolved to recess to Monday, May 21, 2001, 7:00 p.m. to receive departments and agencies relative to their budget requests.*

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

<i>Mr. Derting</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Mr. Roberts</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Mr. McCall</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Ingle</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Mr. Rector</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Mrs. Mumpower</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Barker</i>	<i>Aye</i>				

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Joe W. Derting, Chairman