

V I R G I N I A:

At a recessed meeting of the Washington County Board of Supervisors held Monday, October 7, 1991, at 7:00 p.m., at John S. Battle High School Auditorium, Lee Highway, Bristol, Virginia, the following were present:

PRESENT:

James P. Litton, Chairman  
 Maurice H. Parris, Vice Chairman  
 Kenneth G. Mathews  
 Aubrey E. Brown  
 Charles O. Byrd  
 Thomas Whittaker  
 Cecil K. Simcox

Bruce E. Bentley, County Administrator  
 Cliff Walsh, County Attorney  
 Elaine C. Burke, Acting Secretary

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1. Call to Order

The recessed meeting was called to order by Mr. James P. Litton Chairman of the Board.

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2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance - Rev. Charles Starks, Pastor, Pleasant View United Methodist Church

Reverend Charles Starks, Pleasant View United Methodist Church, gave the Invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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3. Public Meeting - Explanation of Addressing and Numbering System being used in the County and why - Messrs. Henry Becker and George Robinson, MSAG Data Consultants

Mr. George Robinson gave an explanation of the addressing and numbering system being used in the County and the reasons for using this system.

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4. E-911 Committee - Members and Functions - Mary Fraysier

Mary Fraysier, E-911 Coordinator for Washington County, stated the names of the members of the E-911 Committee and described the Committee's functions.

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5. Road Naming Committee - Members and Functions - Mary Fraysier

Mary Fraysier, E-911 Coordinator for Washington County, stated the names of the members of the Road Naming Committee and described the Committee's functions.

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6. Citizen Comments

The following speakers spoke in support of E-911:

Mike Montgomery  
 Joe Bert Rhea  
 Allen Sumner  
 Kemper Meade  
 Joe Williams

The following speakers spoke in favor of the basic 911 system but were opposed to the cost and the road naming/numbering system presently being used in the E-911 system:

Harry P. Brady  
 Edward T. Stevenson  
 Elwood Pittler  
 Billy J. Booth  
 Mike Perry  
 John Baumgardner  
 Sloan Sutherland  
 Jack Sprinkle  
 Austin Cook  
 Michael Brooks  
 Grace Pullen  
 Lewis Heninger  
 Charles H. Combs  
 Jerry Cole  
 Garnett Hearl  
 David Large  
 Linda Colley  
 Warren Lindsey  
 Gail Large  
 Alma Barnett  
 two unnamed individuals

At various times throughout the public hearing, representatives from MSAG, Mary Fraysier, Mr. Bentley and members of the Board answered questions of the citizens.

John College spoke in opposition to E-911 due to the cost. He stated that it was a matter of getting the cart before the horse because response services needed to be improved. He also stated that he felt that the citizens had not been properly represented during the procurement process wherein MSAG was contracted to implement the E-911 system. He further

stated his belief that the County should use the basic 911 system rather than the enhanced version.

Bill Bish spoke in opposition to E-911, stating his objections to the road naming/numbering process and the cost, including hidden costs such as the cost of new road signs. He stated further that he felt that there had been violations in the procurement of the contracts with MSAG and United Telephone System. Mr. Bish also stated that he felt that the County needs to have better emergency services before activating the 911 system.

Phil Boutwell, Manager of the Highlands Retirement Village, stated that he was in favor of the basic 911 system but was opposed to the E-911 system because of the road naming/numbering and the cost. He was concerned about whether or not County agencies would have to bear the costs incurred in changing addresses. He suggested that other alternatives be explored.

Debbie Blevins stated that she had been told by someone in the Emergency Services Office that a call to E-911 from her home in Chilhowie would be long distance and that rescue personnel from Glade Spring rather than Chilhowie would be dispatched to her home. She was opposed to paying \$.65 per month for a service which she could not use. Mary Fraysier advised Ms. Blevins that a call from Chilhowie would not be a long distance call and that the closest responding squad would be dispatched.

Charles Berg spoke several times in opposition to E-911 because of the road naming/numbering and the cost. He voiced his support of the emergency services but stated that the services could be more effective. He questioned why the postal service was a part of the committee. He further stated his feelings that a democratic principle had been violated in the procurement of the MSAG contract.

Bobby Sproles voiced his opposition to 911 because he feels that the County does not have adequate emergency services to back up the system and because of the cost. He stated he was concerned because no one seemed to know how much the system would cost and asked that he be advised as to the expected cost.

Lewis Atkins spoke in favor of 911 but opposed the costs of the E-911 system. He asked why MSAG was contracted to do the road naming function after Mt. Rogers had already been contracted to do the same thing. Mary Fraysier stated that Mt. Rogers had fulfilled their assignment before the E-911 Committee decided to seek bids for the remainder of the work. She further stated that MSAG's proposal was much less expensive than the other proposals submitted.

Patrick Mannix spoke in favor of 911 but was opposed to the cost and the naming/numbering of the roads. He stated that he felt it was not necessary to change mailing addresses. He further stated that he felt the County should have a system customized to fit the needs of the County.

Jason Diggs, with the Postal Service in Roanoke, explained why the postal service was involved in the E-911 process and why it was necessary to change mailing addresses.

Joe Williams asked the Board and/or Mr. Bentley to explain why they support the program. Mr. Byrd spoke in defense of the E-911 Committee and the E-911 program. Mr. Bentley spoke in defense of Mary Fraysier and stated that she was doing the job which the Supervisors had hired her to do.

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Recess

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

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

Mr. Mathews	Aye	Mr. Litton	Aye	Mr. Brown	Aye
Mr. Byrd	Aye	Mr. Parris	Aye	Mr. Whittaker	Aye
Mr. Simcox	Aye				

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Close Public Hearing

There being no further speakers, Mr. Litton declared the public hearing closed.

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7. Adjournment

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

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

Mr. Mathews	Aye	Mr. Litton	Aye	Mr. Brown	Aye
Mr. Byrd	Aye	Mr. Parris	Aye	Mr. Whittaker	Aye
Mr. Simcox	Aye				

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James P. Litton, Chairman