V I R G I N I A:

At a Special Called Meeting of the Washington County Board of Supervisors held Thursday, August 1, 1991, at 7:00 p.m., at the County Administration Building in Abingdon, 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
Sandra M. Hatfield, Secretary

ABSENT:

Mark W. Seamon, Director of Accounting

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1. Call to Order

The Special Called Meeting was called to order by Mr. James P. Litton, Chairman of the Board.

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2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance - Aubrey E. Brown

Mr. Aubrey E. Brown gave the Invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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3. Purpose of meeting is to appropriate funds to Washington County School Board to keep schools in Mendota and Hayter's Gap open

Mr. Litton stated the purpose of the special called meeting is to appropriate funds to Washington County School Board to keep Hayter's Gap and Hamilton Schools open.

Mr. Litton invited comments from the audience.

The following speakers addressed the Supervisors appealing to them to vote in favor of appropriating funds to the Washington County School Board so that Hayter's Gap and Hamilton Schools could remain open:

Hazel Shankle, Mendota
Dan Potter, Hayter's Gap
Kathy Maggio, Mendota
Denise Bowen, Hayter's Gap
Wayne Cunningham
Jennifer & Tom Ilowiecki
Patrick Mannix
Harold Benfield

Speakers expressed their concerns over the children riding long distances on the bus; the busses traveling on windy and narrow roads; schools being the only service the residents receive from their tax dollars. They outlined the advantages of keeping small schools open.

Mrs. Maggio introduced her three children who presented a video they made of the Mendota community highlighting past and present pictures of the community and newspaper articles detailing the school closing.

After hearing all the speakers, Mr. Whittaker stated he wanted to make a motion.

Mr. Simcox addressed the audience concerning the appropriation of funds to the School Board, and expressed his dissatisfaction with being pressured to vote in the affirmative. He stated emphatically that he would not vote to appropriate funds to the School Board before Hayter's Gap and Hamilton Elementary Schools are opened. Mr. Simcox stated that the School Board is responsible for the school closings and not the Board of Supervisors, and further that the matter should be resolved by the School Board.

Discussion among the Supervisors ensued.

Mr. Whittaker made a motion, with no second, to appropriate the funds that were approved by the Board of Supervisors to give to Washington County School Board to keep Hayter's Gap and Hamilton Elementary Schools open, with no strings attached.

Discussion ensued. Mr. Byrd addressed several Supervisors pointing out specific water and sewer needs in their districts which are as important to the residents of the County as is the matter of keeping Hayter's Gap and Hamilton Elementary Schools open. Mr. Byrd emphasized the Board of Supervisors must place a priority on the needs of the County.

The vote on Mr. Whittaker's motion was as follows (3-3-1):

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

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4. <u>Adjournment</u>

On motion of Mr. Mathews, second by Mr. Parris, 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