V I R G I N I A:

At a recessed meeting of the Washington County Board of Supervisors held Thursday, December 9, 1993, at 7:00 p.m., at the Greenway Haven Party House, Whites Mill Road, Abingdon, Virginia, the following were present:

PRESENT:

Joe W. Derting, Chairman
James T. Osborne, Vice Chairman
James P. Litton
Maurice H. Parris
Jackson Barker, Jr.
Cecil K. Simcox

Bruce E. Bentley, County Administrator
Mark Reeter, Assistant County Admin./Economic Dev.
Cliff Walsh, County Attorney
Rebecca K. Patrick, Personnel Adm./Legal Assistant

ABSENT:

Kenneth G. Mathews

Sandra M. Hatfield, CPS

Legislators present were:

Senator William Wampler
Senator Jackson Reasor

Delegate Joseph Johnson
Delegate Terry Kilgore
Delegate Barnes Kidd

The following Supervisors-Elect were in attendance:

Dulcie M. Mumpower
Bobby D. Ingle

Also present was Thomas G. Taylor, Legislative Liaison; Joe Bert Rhea, Virginia Department of Transportation Board of Directors; Randy Eades and Randall Eades, Esquire, of Abingdon, Virginia.

Legislators invited but unable to attend were:

Delegate Ford Quillen
Delegate G. C. Jennings

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1. Call to Order

The recessed meeting was called to order by Mr. Joe W. Derting, Chairman of the Board.

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2. Invocation - Joe Derting

Mr. Joe Derting gave the Invocation.

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3. Introduction of Legislators, Supervisors, Other Guests - Joe Derting

Mr. Derting introduced Legislators, Supervisors and guests.

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4. Dinner

Mr. Derting invited all participants to dine prior to conducting the business meeting.

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5. Informal Discussion of Top Priorities:

The following agenda topics were introduced for discussion by Mr. Derting with legislators commenting on the status of the issues and speculation of 1994 General Assembly actions:

Unfunded Mandates:

Delegate Joe Johnson discussed his opposition to unfunded mandates stating he supports providing full funding to pay for mandates, and opposes any state mandates on local governments without sufficient funds to cover the cost of mandated programs.

Disparity in Education:

Senator Jack Reasor and Delegate Johnson discussed their concerns regarding disparity in education stating that money may not be the only cause for disparity. They commented that courses offered in more prosperous communities far outweigh those offered to less affluent areas, and stated that interactive technology may promote equality.

Senator William Wampler addressed the issue of educational disparity referring to access to Head Start programs, literary funds, vocational education and enrollment loss. Mr. Wampler suggested trying to close the gap through fundamental changes.

Mr. Randall Eades addressed the group voicing his concerns of the cost of higher education in Virginia as compared to that of neighboring states.

Economic Development:

Mr. Derting expressed his concern that Virginia is not competitive in recruiting businesses, and he suggested Virginia should look at ways of attracting business.

Senator Jack Reasor spoke about coordinating efforts across the State to attract new business and assist existing businesses to improve and expand.

Transportation:

The group discussed Route 58 and Route 58-A through Washington County. Mr. Joe Bert Rhea stated his beliefs that the Governor elect will complete Route 58 and further that Route 58 can be the life blood of this region. Senator Wampler suggested a delegation meet with Mr. Rhea to further discuss Route 58.

Annexation:

Mr. Bentley advised the group about a meeting in Richmond in January to discuss annexation. Prince George County is organizing the meeting.

Other: There were no other issues discussed.

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6. Adjournment

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Derting expressed appreciation to the legislators, Messrs. Taylor, Rhea and Eades for attending the meeting and sharing their views on various issues of concern to Washington County.

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

The vote on this motion was as follows (6-0):

Mr. Litton	Aye	Mr. Derting	Aye	Mr. Simcox	Aye
Mr. Osborne	Aye	Mr. Parris	Aye	Mr. Barker	Aye

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Joe W. Derting, Chairman