V I R G I N I A:

At a recessed meeting of the Washington County Board of Supervisors held Tuesday, May 4, 1999, at 7:00 p.m., at the County Administration Building in Abingdon, Virginia, the following were present:

PRESENT:

Joe W. Derting, Chairman
Jack Barker, Vice Chairman
Bobby D. Ingle
Kenneth G. Mathews
James T. Osborne
John B. Roberts, Sr.
Dulcie M. Mumpower

Mark K. Reeter, County Administrator
Mark W. Seamon, Accounting/Purchasing Manager
Sandra M. Hatfield, CPS, Administrative Supervisor

ABSENT*:*

John A. Martin, County Attorney

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1. Call to Order and Welcome

The recessed 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 – J. T. Osborne**

Mr. James T. Osborne gave the Invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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3. **Approval of Agenda**

On motion of Mr. Ingle, second by Mrs. Mumpower, it was resolved to approve the Agenda adding a discussion of scheduling a presentation of a regional jail facility at the May 11, 1999 meeting.

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

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

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4. **Statement Concerning Purpose of Public Hearing**

Mr. Derting stated the purpose of the public hearing, requesting those wishing to address the Board relative to the proposed and recommended County operating budget for FY 1999-2000 follow the stated procedure, limiting comments to five minutes.

5. **Public Hearing Opens**

At this time Mr. Derting opened the public hearing inviting comments from representatives of departments and agencies relative to their budget requests for FY 1999-2000.

The following persons addressed the Board of Supervisors:

Charlotte L. Parsons, Director, Washington County Public Library
Jeff Grubb, Washington County Fire/Rescue
Richard Rose, Director, Barter Theatre
Greg Morrell, Executive Director, Appalachian Independence Center
Mary Fraysier, addressing 911 Technician and Emergency Services budgets
Tracey Taylor, Virginia Highlands Airport Commission, and Ron Deloney, Director, Virginia Highlands Airport
Dr. David Wilkin, President, Virginia Highlands Community College
Polly Wirt, Senior Services, Inc., along with several members who are program/service providers at the Center
Kay Kovak, Chairman, Executive Director, Children's Advocacy Center
Suzie Dotson, Taylor's Valley Community Club

Ms. Dotson informed the Board that the Taylor's Valley Community Association is working to become certified to operate as a Red Cross emergency shelter and is in the process of preparing their site. She stated the Association has recently purchased a gas generator, and asked if the County could provide the manpower to install it. Mr. Frank Canter, General Services Manager, was asked to explore the means of providing assistance to the Association. At the conclusion of the meeting, the Supervisors gave consensus approval to request assistance from the School Board to install the gas generator in Taylor's Valley.

6. **Public Hearing Closes**

There being no further comments, Mr. Derting declared the public hearing closed.

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

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

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

7. **Consideration of School Board Early Retirement Program**

Mr. James Rector, Director of Personnel, Washington County School Board, addressed the Supervisors reporting on the Early Retirement Committee's efforts to seek clarification of certain legal questions pertaining to an early retirement program for School Board employees.

Mr. Rector presented a revised Early Retirement Proposal showing an investment return of 2% to fund the program, and lower percentages that an individual would received based upon the option selected. He explained that by reducing the percentages an individual would receive, the Early Retirement Program becomes very close to being pre-funded by the original amount placed in the trust fund. Mr. Rector advised that if the program is approved, a trust fund needs to be set up with Wachovia Bank beginning July 1, 1999, and that the Rutherford Company would then begin administering the program on a three year plan.

Mr. Rector reported the Committee looked at making the Early Retirement Program available to Washington County employees. He stated there are discussions currently underway at the state level exploring a deferred retirement plan benefit for state employees to participate in.

During discussions, Mr. Roberts suggested that the Treasurer and the Chairmen serving on the Board of Supervisors and the Washington County School Board be appointed to a trust fund oversight committee.

On motion of Mr. Mathews, second by Mr. Roberts, it was resolved to adopt the Early Retirement Plan for Washington County School Board employees; further it was resolved that the Early Retirement Committee begin exploring the feasibility of adopting a similar Early Retirement Plan for County employee participation.

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

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

Mr. Mathews suggested that the County Administrator send a communication to all County employees conveying the Board of Supervisor's action adopting the Early Retirement Incentive Plan for School Board employees, and the Board's intention to explore a similar early retirement plan for County employees, age 55 and older, who have completed ten years service, and wish to take advantage of the program.

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a. Discussion ensued relative to scheduling a presentation on a regional jail facility before the Board of Supervisors. There was consensus agreement to schedule the presentation for Tuesday, May 25, 1999, at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Mathews reported there is an effort underway to relocate the Duncanville School, a one room school house in Brumley Gap, to the Coomes Recreation Center. He requested the matter be placed on the May 11, 1999 agenda for discussion.

8. **Recess to May 6, 1999 Agency/Departmental Hearing on FY 1999-00 Budget Requests, 7:00 P.M., Board OF Supervisors Meeting Room, County Administration Building**

On motion of Mr. Ingle, second by Mr. Osborne, it was resolved to recess to Thursday, May 6, 1999, 7:00 p.m.

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

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

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Joe W. Derting, Chairman