**V I R G I N I A**:

At a recessed meeting of the Washington County Board of Supervisors held Thursday, March 7, 2013, at 6:00 p.m., at the County Administration Building in Abingdon, Virginia the following were present:

**PRESENT:**

Dulcie M. Mumpower, Chairman
Phillip B. McCall, Vice Chairman
Odell Owens
Randy L. Pennington
C. Wayne Stevens, Jr.
Joseph C. Straten

Mark K. Reeter, County Administrator
Lucy E. Phillips, County Attorney
Mark W. Seamon, Director of Budget & Finance
Naoma A. Norris, CAP, Executive Assistant/Recording Clerk

**ABSENT**:

William B. Gibson

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## 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Dulcie Mumpower, Chairman of the Board, who welcomed everyone in attendance.

## 2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Dulcie Mumpower gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## 3. Approval of Agenda

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

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

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| ***Mr. Gibson*** | ***Aye*** |
| ***Mr. McCall*** | ***Aye*** |
| ***Ms. Mumpower*** | ***Aye*** |
| ***Mr. Owens*** | ***Aye*** |
| ***Mr. Pennington*** | ***Aye*** |
| ***Mr. Stevens*** | ***Aye*** |

**4. Public Hearings:**

**a. Public Hearing pursuant to Section 15.2-2506 of the 1950 Code of Virginia as amended for the Purpose of Permitting Public Comment upon the Requested & Recommended County Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2013-2014**

Ms. Mumpower provided a statement concerning the purpose of the meeting for the benefit of the audience and commented about the work the Board of Supervisors will be doing in the coming weeks in regards to the Requested and Recommended FY 2013-2014 County Operating Budget. Ms. Mumpower explained the requirement to establish a real property tax rate for the coming fiscal year by the end of March. She announced that the complete Requested and Recommended County Operating Budget is available on the County's website.

Ms. Mumpower opened the public hearing and invited comments regarding the Requested & Recommended County Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2013-2014.

The following individuals addressed the Board:

Mr. Todd Lawson, President, Little Rebel Football, addressed the Board asking for financial support from the County for this little league program. Mr. Lawson explained the organization lost County funding a few years ago because they did not have a non-profit status. The organization has spent the last two years and about $1,200 to become a non-profit. Since the organization has met the County's requirements, they submitted a FY 2013-2014 budget request and received a letter back from the County informing them they would not be funded. Mr. Lawson stated Little Rebel Football has 148 kids participating and is a good program.

Ms. Jeanne Preston, President, Booklovers Club of Abingdon, addressed the Board speaking in support of the Washington County Public Library's budget request. Ms. Preston specifically requested Board consideration of funding to purchase new computer software and provide funding for annual support of the software, and for salary adjustments for library employees to be equal to those of other County employees in the Administrative Division in regards to skills, education and service. Ms. Preston provided statistics about the number of people that use the library services each year.

Mr. Steve Roland, Chairman, Highlands Community Services Board, addressed the Board asking the Board to fully fund their FY 2013-2014 budget request. Mr. Roland explained that Highlands Community Services requests their FY 2013-2014 budget be increased by $21,704, which is a 6.11% increase over current fiscal year for a total request of $369,806. He further explained that Highlands Community Services request is based on a funding formula used for many years that takes into account the value of services provided to the citizens of Washington County and City of Bristol and is figured from preceding three year period. The total value of services over the three year period is used to establish a percentage applicable to each locality. This percentage is then applied to the total request to determine each locality's share. Mr. Roland commented that for every dollar given by the County to Highlands Community Services more than $35 of services are provided to County residents. He talked about the economic impact that Highlands Community Services has on Washington County.

Mr. Eddie Copenhaver addressed the Board speaking as a citizen and asked the Board to keep all citizens in mind when they make decisions regarding the FY 2013-2014 County Operating Budget. Mr.

Copenhaver stated that many of the County's citizens are just getting by and a tax increase, even a small one, would hurt. He encouraged the Board to be fair to everyone.
There being no further comments, Ms. Mumpower declared the public hearing closed.

**5. <u>Adjourn or Recess</u>**

***On motion of Mr. Stevens, second by Mr. Owens, it was resolved to adjourn the meeting.***

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

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| ***Mr. Gibson*** | ***Aye*** |
| ***Mr. McCall*** | ***Aye*** |
| ***Ms. Mumpower*** | ***Aye*** |
| ***Mr. Owens*** | ***Aye*** |
| ***Mr. Pennington*** | ***Aye*** |
| ***Mr. Stevens*** | ***Aye*** |
| ***Mr. Straten*** | ***Aye*** |

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**Prepared by**:

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Naoma A. Norris, Recording Clerk

**Approved by the Washington County Board of Supervisors:**

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Dulcie M. Mumpower, Chairman