

April 28, 2009

County of Greene, Virginia

THE CONTINUED MEETING OF THE GREENE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WAS HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2009 AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE RAYMOND C. DINGLEDINE III PERFORMING ARTS CENTER AT WILLIAM MONROE HIGH SCHOOL.

Present were: Steve Catalano, Chairman
Clarence Peyton, Vice Chairman
Jeri Allen, Member
Carl Schmitt, Member
Mike Skeens, Member
Ray Clarke, County Attorney
Barry Clark, County Administrator
Patti Vogt, Deputy Clerk
Tracy Morris, Finance Director

RE: PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED FY 2009-2010 COUNTY BUDGET AND TAX LEVIES

The Chairman opened the floor for public comment.

Mr. Jerry Gore expressed concern and commented on the budgeting process from the federal government to the state government to the local government. He noted the Board did not equalize but did reduce the tax rate this year in view of the increase in assessments. This will still have an adverse affect on some citizens. Mr. Gore also questioned the proposed allocation for the Regional Jail.

Mr. Gore asked why the County doesn't "fight back". He suggested the County could join with surrounding counties to battle with the State.

Mrs. Andrea Wilkinson spoke on the proposed budget and tax levies. She felt it was clear there were cuts and efforts to keep expenditures down. She expressed concern about seniors on fixed incomes and noted there would not be a pay increase for county employees in

the effort to keep the levy at \$.69. Mrs. Wilkinson felt the Board of Supervisors and the School Board both made strong efforts to avoid any more of a tax increase than necessary.

Ms. Carolyn Prato said she had a lot of problems with the tax assessment on her house which was valued at approximately \$190,000 when she moved here in 2004 and since then has increased to \$270,000. She noted she protested the assessment but never received the promised letter. Mrs. Prato said she does not mind paying her fair share but felt assessments should be fair across the board.

Mrs. Michelle Flynn publicly recognized the hard work the Board of Supervisors did this year and expressed appreciation on behalf of the Greene County School Board for the unprecedented level of communication and cooperation. She commended the Board of Supervisors for listening to concerns of the School Board and citizens.

As there were no further comments, the Chairman closed the public hearing.

Mr. Peyton said the County has experienced serious economic downturn and the dwindling revenue stream has mandated frozen wages and benefits for most employees. The Board reduced funding to all agencies county wide. Budget goals were met or surpassed despite a \$1.2 million shortfall in revenue. Mr. Peyton attributed this accomplishment to open communications and the teamwork exhibited, especially by the members of the School Board and members of the Board of Supervisors, in concern for taxpayers.

Mrs. Allen said she appreciated the compliments and felt most of the credit goes to the Schools and all other agencies supported by tax dollars. The budget requests received demonstrated an understanding of the situation the County faces.

Mr. Skeens said you could look at the information provided to see how much budget requests were reduced. He also said thanks to Mrs. Tracy Morris, Finance Director, for her hard work during the budget process. He felt the Board of Supervisors and the School Board worked together very well this year even though there are still things left to be solved.

Mr. Schmitt reviewed the objectives the Board had during the budget process in the face of dismal revenue projections, known cuts and potential future cuts. Among those objective were continuing to provide services to citizens; hold departments and agencies to level or lower funding; avoid layoffs and hold salaries at current levels; reduce the taxes as much as possible for citizens; avoid borrowing money to pay salaries; and to have the ability to absorb future cuts if necessary. The Board will have to take a hard look at cutting the budget when the Governor reduces funding again. He expressed his appreciation to all his colleagues and others who have worked so hard on this budget.

The Chairman noted this is his tenth budget and probably the hardest and easiest at the same time. He felt the cooperation was immense with all agencies working hard and creatively to figure out ways to provide services to citizens.

Mr. Catalano said it is the Board's intention to pass any additional shortfalls directly to departments to protect the "reserve fund". Department budgets will be reviewed on a quarterly basis.

Mr. Catalano said this is a tax increase as the Board did not equalize the rate and noted the preservation of collections is a top priority. He agreed that the battle is with Richmond and citizens should send the message at the polls that we need new, qualified candidates.

Mr. Catalano also noted the increase in allocation for the Jail was reduced as much as possible to assist all the localities involved.

RE: TAX LEVIES FOR FY 2009-2010

Upon motion by Jeri Allen and unanimous vote, the Board set the following tax levies for FY 2009-2010:

Levies on \$100 assessed valuation:

Real Estate	\$0.69
Public Service Corp	\$0.69
Personal Property	\$5.00
Except Farm Machinery & Livestock	\$0.00
Industrial Machinery & Tools	\$2.50

Recorded vote:	Steve Catalano	-	Yes
	Clarence Peyton	-	Yes
	Jeri Allen	-	Yes
	Carl Schmitt	-	Yes
	Mike Skeens	-	Yes

Motion carried.

RE: RESOLUTION – PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF AC TOF 1998

Upon motion by Clarence Peyton and unanimous vote, the Board approved the resolution to reduce the percentage of tax relief for FY 2009-2010 as authorized by the Personal Property Tax Relief Act of 1998 as amended by the 2005 Appropriations Act. (See Attachment “A”)

Recorded vote:	Steve Catalano	-	Yes
	Clarence Peyton	-	Yes
	Jeri Allen	-	Yes
	Carl Schmitt	-	Yes
	Mike Skeens	-	Yes

Motion carried.

RE: BOARD MEMBER JERI ALLEN

Mrs. Allen announced that she will not be seeking re-election to the Board of Supervisors this year.

RE: EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion by Jeri Allen and unanimous vote, the Board entered into Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 Subsection (a, 1-7) of the Code of Virginia.

Contract Matters:

- Recycling
- Health Insurance
- Energy Efficiency Contract
- Park and Ride

Recorded vote:	Steve Catalano	-	Yes
	Clarence Peyton	-	Yes
	Jeri Allen	-	Yes
	Carl Schmitt	-	Yes
	Mike Skeens	-	Yes

Motion carried.

Upon motion by Clarence Peyton and unanimous vote, the Board returned to Open Session.

Recorded vote:	Steve Catalano	-	Yes
	Clarence Peyton	-	Yes
	Jeri Allen	-	Yes
	Carl Schmitt	-	Yes
	Mike Skeens	-	Yes

Motion carried.

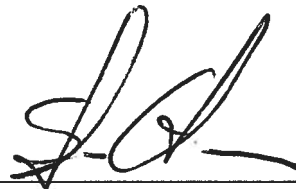
By unanimous vote, all members certified that only public business matters lawfully exempted from the Open Meeting requirement and only such matters as identified by the motion to enter into Executive Session were discussed.

Recorded vote:	Steve Catalano	-	Yes
	Clarence Peyton	-	Yes
	Jeri Allen	-	Yes
	Carl Schmitt	-	Yes
	Mike Skeens	-	Yes

Motion carried.

RE: ENERGY AUDIT AGREEMENT

Upon motion by Carl Schmitt and unanimous vote, the Board authorized the County Administrator to sign the Energy Audit Agreement with Ameresco.



Steve Catalano, Chairman
Greene County Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Personal Property Tax Relief Act of 1998, VA Code Section 58.1-3523 et. seq. ("PPTRA"), has been substantially modified by the enactment of Chapter 1 of the Acts of Assembly, 2004 Special Session I (Senate Bill 5005), and the provisions of Item 503 of Chapter 951 of the 2005 Acts of Assembly (the 2005 revisions to the 2004-06 Appropriations Act, hereinafter cited as the "2005 Appropriations Act"); and

WHEREAS, these legislative enactments require the County to take affirmative steps to implement these changes, and to provide for the computation and allocation of relief provided pursuant to the PPTRA as revised; and

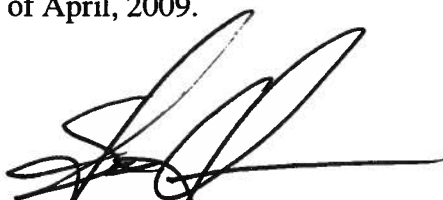
WHEREAS, these legislative enactments provide for the appropriation to the County, of a fixed sum to be used exclusively for the provision of tax relief to owners of qualifying personal use vehicles that are subject to the personal property tax on such vehicles.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Greene County Board of Supervisors that:

qualifying vehicles obtaining situs within the County during tax year 2009, shall receive personal property tax relief in the following manner:

- Personal use vehicles valued at \$1,000 or less will be eligible for 100% tax relief;
- Personal use vehicles valued at \$1,001 to \$20,000 will be eligible for 53% tax relief;
- Personal use vehicles valued at \$20,001 or more shall only receive 53% tax relief on the first \$20,000 of value; and
- All other vehicles which do not meet the definition of "qualifying" (business use vehicles, farm use vehicles, motor homes, etc.) will not be eligible for any form of tax relief under this program.
- In accordance with Item 503.D.1, the entitlement to personal property tax relief for qualifying vehicles for tax year 2005 and all prior tax years shall expire on September 1, 2006. Supplemental assessments for tax years 2005 and prior that are made on or after September 1, 2006 shall be deemed "non-qualifying" for purposes of state tax relief and the local share due from the taxpayer shall represent 100% of the tax assessable.

Adopted in Open Meeting this 28th day of April, 2009.



Steve Catalano, Chairman
Greene County Board of Supervisors