

April 26, 2011

County of Greene, Virginia

THE GREENE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MET ON TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2011
AT 5:30 P.M. IN THE COUNTY MEETING ROOM.

Present were: Steve Catalano, Chairman
Clarence Peyton, Vice Chairman
Jim Frydl, Member
Carl Schmitt, Member
Mike Skeens, Member
Ray Clarke, County Attorney
Barry Clark, County Administrator

RE: EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion by Clarence Peyton 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.

Recorded vote:	Steve Catalano	-	Yes
	Clarence Peyton	-	Yes
	Jim Frydl	-	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
	Jim Frydl	-	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
	Jim Frydl	-	Yes
	Carl Schmitt	-	Yes
	Mike Skeens	-	Yes

Motion carried.

RE: PUBLIC SESSION

The Chairman opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

RE: PUBLIC HEARING – BUDGET AND TAX LEVIES

The Chairman said action on the budget will be taken at the next meeting of the Board on May 10, 2011.

The floor was opened for public comment.

Scott Wills – spoke as college student/teacher/parent/taxpayer – time for a raise – need extra money to get that raise – asking for \$120,000 additional - urged the Board to dip into the “rainy day fund” – raise needed to keep teachers

Michelle Flynn – Chairman of School Board – proposed allocation for schools is \$30,873,847 (includes federal, state and local funds) - includes Board of Supervisors recommended increase of \$300,000 – Schools originally asked for \$599,298 in new money – subsequently identified other possible cuts and are now requesting \$419,391 or \$119,391 more than what is proposed – local composite index adjustment eliminated \$589,000 from school funding meaning that the Commonwealth of VA believes the County can absorb that amount in the local budget – ask that the Board listen, put aside any set in stone convictions, any prepared in advance speeches, any long resentments against the school division and really listen to what the public has to say – also asked that the Board listen and grant the school division \$419,391 in new money for FY 2012 - the Board of Supervisors recently agreed to allow the school division to retain \$374,556 in retiring capital improvement debt service to be used for the facilities improvement project – the Board acknowledged the need for improvements and asked the School Board to explore ways to make it happen in a budget neutral fashion – these funds may be referenced in discussion – while the overall facilities improvement project represents \$5.39million, the actual annual impact on the budget is \$132,780 this year and \$241,775 the following year – the School Board has worked diligently to provide a needs based budget – the amount being allocated will only meet some of the needs – urged the Board to allocate an additional \$119,391

Kim McInturff – agreed with previous comments – requested additional funds needed – dip into “rainy day reserve fund” – What are we saving \$10million in reserve fund for? – What kind of disaster is expected? - Please give funds requested

Sharon Belt – parent, grandparent and school employee – has been really proud of school system – taken enough cuts over past couple years – keep cutting and we will lose the quality of schools we have

Mary Hintermann – Piedmont Regional Dental Clinic – nonprofit organization designed to provide affordable dental care to low-income families in Greene, Madison, Culpeper and Orange – thanked the Board for interest over past year and urged the Board to support for their mission – year ago this week hosted Mission of Mercy project in Barboursville – served over 425 low-income individuals and provided more than \$475,000 worth of free dental care – focus has been on raising enough money to start a fulltime dental clinic with a dentist on staff to serve the same population year round – very close – will start treating patients in July – would appreciate support

Cathryn Kloetzli – VA Cooperative Extension Agent – agriculture, natural resources and 4H program – have support from VA Tech for part-time administrative assistant – asking for

additional funds to make it full time – really need a consistent presence at office – she’ll be here one day a week and Kathy Alstat is out of office a lot working with programs

Susan Heyer – Extension Office – volunteer help would not be allowed in the VA Tech bookkeeping system – requires an approved receiver and requester – is currently emergency temp person at office and will have to apply for position as her contract ends in eight weeks

Don Pamerter – thanks on behalf of JABA – appreciates support

Pauline Hovey – resident of Ruckersville district – thanks for fiscally responsible decisions that have placed the County in current position – big supporter of schools in the past – very frustrating for her, at times, to watch what goes on between the Board of Supervisors and the School Board – still senses a lack of trust which disturbs her – feels the School Board and Superintendent make the best decisions for the school system and respects that the Superintendent makes the best decisions he can based on the money he is given – our county is continuing to grow but the school budget has been cut significantly – they have to make very tough decisions – reconsider allocation for schools

The Chairman closed the public hearing.

Mr. Peyton said qualified disabled veterans may apply for tax exemption status. Applications are available at the Commissioner of Revenue Office. Of the eighteen qualified veterans in the County, three have applied for tax exemption status. He also noted there is a tax relief for elderly/disabled program. Currently, 240 individuals participate in the program with an exemption of approximately \$65,400

Mr. Peyton noted allocations in the proposed budget for County Administration, Reassessment of Taxable Property and Solid Waste decreased by over \$500,000. Law enforcement, E911, Emergency Medical Services, Regional Jail, Planning Department, Capital Outlay increased by approximately \$1.6 million. Capital outlay provides for some much needed equipment as well as additional medical services to support the Rescue Squad

In regards to the School budget, Mr. Peyton noted the State allocated an increase of \$265,278 while the County contributed \$300,000 in additional new funds. There is also the carryover of \$212,029 that the School Division was allowed to retain. A grand total of \$512,029 is allocated to the budget. He felt this is a significant contribution considering the sluggish economy while still having State mandates that must be met. Mr. Peyton felt this is a good, fair budget.

Mr. Schmitt said the Board had to weigh all requests while considering what the taxpayers will pay. Because of strict budgets in the past, the County has come through the hard times in reasonably good shape. The County has put off capital investment in the past in order to fund the schools and other activities and it is time to shift. There will be some revenue to invest in the future of the County in capital improvements. The allocation of \$800,000+ will be used to purchase school buses, rescue squads, fire trucks, etc. These are things the County has to do and includes \$460,000 for new school buses. While that money is included in capital projects it is still a school expense.

Mr. Schmitt felt funds need to be allocated in a fair and reasonable way. It is the Board’s job to keep taxes at a minimum level and that is what is being proposed in this budget.

The School Board and Board of Supervisors do work together but Mr. Schmitt said there is a natural friction which will always and should be there. He said no one should get too upset if the Boards don’t seem to agree with each other. Members should not be afraid to argue with

each other in a nice way. Mr. Schmitt said it should not be expected for him to always agree with the School Board.

Mr. Skeens said he has requested information from the Schools some time ago and still hasn't received it. He noted the school division will be going down from a double A to a single A school. Research indicates that salaries are a little bit less for a single A school.

Mr. Skeens said the Board has given a lot of the school division this year and noted he plans to visit the schools more often in the future. He was a member of the School Board in the 1980s and visited the schools often. Mr. Skeens urged current School Board members to be more visible. He supported the budget as is.

Mr. Frydl said he appreciates the tough decisions the School Board has to make. It is not a simple thing to raise taxes. A one cent increase of the levy would not generate enough revenue to really help with the school situation but could put some people out of their homes.

Mr. Frydl said the reserve fund is not a rainy day fund. There are other needs in the County that have not been addressed. Money that, in the past, may have gone to replenish the reserve will be used this year for capital improvements. The point of the reserve is to protect the County from unexpected cuts from the State, to protect taxpayers from fluctuations in the tax rates and to be able to afford unexpected capital needs. The Board will be developing policies for that reserve to make sure all those needs are met. Next year, some of that reserve may be needed for the operating budget.

Outside of money allocated for capital projects, the overall spending on the County side dropped. On the schools side, because of wise spending by Dr. Jeck, the schools are able to carryover federal money. The Board also was able to reallocate some funds, which is a policy change, to add some State rollover money that Dr. Jeck wisely held back to insulate this year. The school budget this year is \$865,000 more than last year which is basically a 3% increase.

Mr. Catalano said the County has been through a series of tough budgets and is very fortunate to be solvent. The Board wants to keep as much expendable income in the taxpayers pocket as possible. He supported the budget and felt it is a reasonable level of funding for all concerns.

The Board has tried to re-label the reserve fund which does give the impression of a pot of money that is sitting there to dip into. The reserve is funds in the audit that are unencumbered, to a certain degree, by debt. There has to be cash flow.

The County is in the middle of major infrastructure projects in Ruckersville. Even though developer funded, the County must be able to cover them if there is a problem.

Mr. Catalano said the County has deferred a lot of things that need to be attacked in a systematic fashion. The Board has decided to develop policies that will govern the reserve fund such as a set percentage over cash flow that will be maintained.

The Board will take action on the proposed budget at the May 10th meeting.

RE: TAX LEVIES

Upon motion by Carl Schmitt and unanimous vote, the Board approved the following tax levies for FY 2011-2012 as follows:

Levies on \$100 assess 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
	Jim Frydl	-	Yes
	Carl Schmitt	-	Yes
	Mike Skeens	-	Yes

Motion carried.

RE: RESOLUTION – PPTRA

The Chairman read the proposed resolution regarding personal property tax relief.

Upon motion by Clarence Peyton and unanimous vote, the Board approved the resolution as proposed. (See Attachment “A”)

Recorded vote:	Steve Catalano	-	Yes
	Clarence Peyton	-	Yes
	Jim Frydl	-	Yes
	Carl Schmitt	-	Yes
	Mike Skeens	-	Yes

Motion carried.

RE: DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY

The Chairman read the proposed resolution.

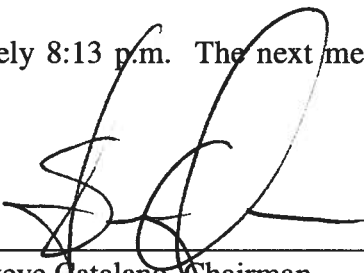
Upon motion by Carl Schmitt and unanimous vote, the Board approved the resolution as proposed. (See Attachment “B”)

Recorded vote:	Steve Catalano	-	Yes
	Clarence Peyton	-	Yes
	Jim Frydl	-	Yes
	Carl Schmitt	-	Yes
	Mike Skeens	-	Yes

Motion carried.

RE: ADJOURN MEETING

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:13 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for May 10, 2011.



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

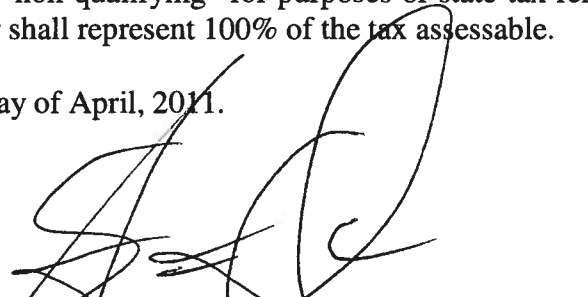
WHEREAS, these legislative enactments provide for the appropriation to the County, of a fixed sum to be used exclusively for the provision of tax relief to owners of qualifying personal use vehicles that are subject to the personal property tax on such vehicles.

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

qualifying vehicles obtaining situs within the County during tax year 2011, 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 57% tax relief;
- Personal use vehicles valued at \$20,001 or more shall only receive 57% 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 26th day of April, 2011.



Steve Catalano, Chairman
Greene County Board of Supervisors

**RESOLUTION FOR THE DECLARATION
OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY**

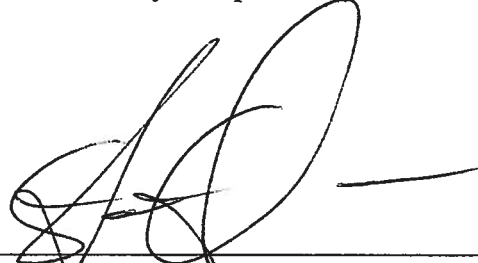
WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Greene, Virginia, does hereby find as follows:

1. That due to the occurrence of heavy rain on April 16, 2011, the County of Greene is facing a condition of extreme peril to the lives, safety and property of the residents of Greene County;
2. That as a result of this extreme peril, the proclamation of the existence of an emergency is necessary to permit the full powers of government to deal effectively with this condition of peril.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY PROCLAIMED by the Board of Supervisors of the county of Greene, Virginia, that a local emergency now exists throughout the County of Greene; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of this emergency the powers, functions and duties of the Director of Emergency Management and the Emergency Management organization and functions of the County of Greene shall be those prescribed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the ordinances, resolutions, and approved plans of the County of Greene in order to mitigate the effects of said emergency.

Affirmed and adopted in open meeting this 26th day of April, 2011.



Steve Catalano, Chairman
Greene County Board of Supervisors