

**King and Queen County
Board of Supervisors Meeting
Tuesday, February 27, 2023**

6:00 P.M.

**Regular Meeting
King and Queen County Courts and Administration Building
Second Floor Conference Room**

Minutes of the Meeting

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chairman Bailey called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken with members Sherrin Alsop and Jim Burns being absent.

APPROVAL OF RECURRING WARRANTS

A motion was made by Ms. Morris and seconded by Mr. Simpkins to approve the recurring warrants for the month of February, subject to audit.

AYES: MORRIS, SIMPKINS, BAILEY

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: ALSOP, BURNS

EMERGENCY SERVICES BUDGET BRIEFING

Due to a scheduling conflict, Emergency Services Coordinator Greg Hunter was unable to attend the meeting on February 21st that was scheduled for budget presentations. He provided the following information regarding his requests for the departments under his purview:

- Emergency Services – he has requested a salary adjustment in the Coordinator line item. This is to prevent compression between the new Deputy Chief as well as help to offset the cost when the County needs for this position to become fulltime.
- Radio Communications – Changes have been made to reflect the removal of equipment on several of the towers as part of the closing of the wireless internet. There are also increases in the cost of radios, batteries and pagers that reflect inflation. The cost for maintaining generators is increasing as many of the generators for the emergency communications system are starting to reach end of life. Scheduled replacement is included in the Capital Projects budget.
- Rescue Services – He has included increases in costs associated with increased call volume of roughly 30% over last year. He has also requested 4 additional positions that will be a part of the expansion of this department to include fire coverage.
- Other items that were addressed that were not department specific were the improvement of coverage by Mattaponi Rescue, the recent regulatory change by Pharmacy and DEA that will require licensure by the County for the storage and handling of controlled substances and the completion of the Strategic Plan by the Chiefs Committee.

- His final request was that the Board look into the possibility of creating a portable equipment fund for the volunteer and paid agencies for future equipment needs that are expensive but not considered to be Capital purchases such as SCBA and extrication equipment.

UPDATE ON LODA CLAIM

Tina Ammons, Director of Finance informed the Board that VRS has approved the LODA claim submitted for Rory Swanson. \$100,000 has been approved for his beneficiaries. It is expected that these payments will be going out by the end of March.

Greg Hunter advised the Board that Mr. Swanson has been recognized on the National Fallen Firefighters and State Memorials. He requested that the Board place recognition of Mr. Swanson, in the form of a plaque to be placed here in the courthouse, on the agenda for their May meeting. If allowed, he will invite the volunteer agencies to attend.

UPDATE ON LITTER GRANT

This item was requested by Sherrin Alsop in response to the email received from a concerned citizen on Owens Mill Road. Sheriff Balderson advised that they have started using the inmates again and will be able to do more once the weather improves. His department is also pursuing situations that appear to be obvious intentional littering and will continue to do so. He gave statistics of the amount and type of trash that was picked up on Owens Mill Road recently.

UPDATE ON ESSEX COUNTY BOUNDARY LINE REQUEST

Vivian Seay advised that she has met with Director of Community Development Donna Sprouse regarding the information previously provided by Essex County. If the Board decides to proceed with only addressing the one property (the family who came and spoke several months ago) there would be no significant negative impacts. However, it will ‘open the door’ for additional changes that could cause negative impacts. After discussion regarding the specific property as well as others that are already known to be affected, it was the consensus of the Board to continue working with Essex on the single property but advised staff to make sure there would be no unintended consequences before final action is taken.

UPDATE ON DISABLED VETERAN TAX EXEMPTION REFUNDS

Ms. Seay updated the Board on a recent code change that requires localities to refund taxes paid retroactively for several years when a veteran qualifies for the exemption. She explained that the Commissioner of Revenue has already been doing this so it will not create a financial impact for the County.

OTHER ITEMS BROUGHT FORTH BY BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Morris asked that staff reach out to VDOT regarding the condition of the pavement on Route 14. It has not been long since it was resurfaced but it is ‘like a wash board’ already. She also requested Sheriff Balderson to look into whether it is legal for the commercial vehicles to have the amber caution lights on all the time or is it only supposed to be when they are actively working.

Mr. Bailey reported that he recently met a vehicle on Route 33 going in the wrong direction. This is a considerable hazard and advised everyone to be on the look out.

Mr. Simpkins commented on the complaints from citizens regarding speeders in Walkerton. Sheriff Balderson advised that they have placed the temporary speed sign in the area and have also been doing directed patrol in that area.

IT IS ORDERED THAT THIS BOARD BE ADJOURNED

A motion was made by Mr. Simpkins and seconded by Ms. Morris to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Doris H. Morris, Chairman

Clerk of the Board