

**King and Queen County
Board of Supervisors Meeting
Monday, June 28, 2021**

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

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

APPROVAL OF RECURRING WARRANTS

A motion was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Mr. Simpkins to approve the June recurring warrants, subject to audit.

AYES: MORRIS, SIMPKINS, BAILEY

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: ALSOP, BURNS

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT STAFFING REQUEST AND OTHER ISSUES

Sheriff Charboneau and Chief Deputy Balderson provided documentation and gave a presentation on the staffing issues within their department, specifically in dispatch but also in deputy positions. They currently have two vacant dispatch positions and are not having much success in recruiting replacements. They feel it is a combination of pay scale, work schedule and the fact that dispatchers are typically on shift alone with no assistance in busy times or during critical calls.

A motion was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Mr. Simpkins to amend the salary scale for dispatchers to increase the starting salary range for certified dispatchers to \$35,498 minimum and \$39,000 maximum DOQ, with an additional \$1,000 provided at the 12-month anniversary date. The motion included amending the FY22 budget and appropriating a n amount not to exceed \$10,000 to cover this change.

AYES: MORRIS, SIMPKINS, BAILEY

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: ALSOP, BURNS

Further discussion regarding the request for an additional county funded deputy and the additional Compensation Board funded deputy were tabled to the July regular meeting. Staff was asked to prepare a spreadsheet reflecting the funding needed in order to fill both positions.

EMS STAFFING AND OTHER ISSUES

Emergency Services Coordinator Greg Hunter was present to provide an update on the staffing issues within the Rescue Services department. There are currently four EMT positions vacant. He had been able to use the part time labor pool to cover shifts and still maintain coverage at all three locations in the County but due to current circumstances this has not been the case. Since the onset of COVID many fulltime employers have not allowed their employees to work at other places part time and there is a wide spread shortage of EMTs so the competition for these part time workers has increased significantly. If usage of the part time labor pool continues to be an issue, additional fulltime staff will be needed to cover the courthouse location.

It was the consensus of the Board to allow Mr. Hunter to increase the hourly rate for part time staff and to present a spreadsheet of the potential staffing needs at the July regular Board meeting.

Mr. Hunter also suggested moving towards a new hiring model that would hire staff with basic certifications and train in house.

Mr. Hunter also provided an update on volunteer fire department responses. All of the agencies are struggling to turn out crews, especially on week days. Upper Fire is the only agency that is currently able to consistently turn out a small crew for fire events. These agencies are increasingly reliant on county paid staff to respond to calls. This can create issues if the county paid staff are the only ones on scene especially when both fire and rescue is needed such as in the event of a vehicle accident or a fire with injuries. The chiefs have advised him that they will be coming to the county soon with an ask of some kind to assist with this situation.

DISCUSS/APPROVE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

Mr. Hunter was present to answer any further questions regarding the updated plan. The changes that were suggested by Mr. Burns at the previous meeting have been incorporated into the plan. Mr. Hunter also advised that the plan must be adopted soon since the County will be ineligible for future grants if it is not updated on a regular basis.

A motion was made by Mr. Simpkins and seconded by Mr. Bailey to adopt the Emergency Operations Plan as provided.

AYES: MORRIS, SIMPKINS, BAILEY

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: ALSOP, BURNS

AUTHORIZE CHAIR TO EXECUTE MEMORANDUM OF SITING AGREEMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Mr. Simpkins to authorize the Chair to execute the solar siting agreement memorandum.

AYES: MORRIS, SIMPKINS, BAILEY

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: ALSOP, BURNS

CODE CHANGE ISSUES

County Administrator Tom Swartzwelder provided an update on the following code changes made by the General Assembly.

- Marijuana Dispensaries – If the Board does not want to allow dispensaries with in the county once they are legal, it requires a referendum. The time frame is very short with July 2022 being when it opens and a referendum must be held by December 2022.
- Overtime/Comp Time – New legislation appears to require that the county pay overtime to employees who work beyond a 40-hour week. Currently most employees utilize comp time when this occurs. He will update the board once more information is obtained on whether this applies to local government employees.
- DEQ review of Solar E&S Plans

ITEMS BROUGHT UP BY BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Bailey asked for an update on the fiber project. Mr. Swartzwelder advised that according to Riverstreet the project is still on schedule.

IT IS ORDERED THAT THIS BOARD BE ADJOURNED

A motion was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Mr. Simpkins to adjourn the meeting.

Sherrin C. Alsop, Chairman

Clerk of the Board