

King and Queen County  
Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting

Monday, April 11, 2022  
7:00 P.M.

King and Queen County Courts and Administration Building  
General District Courtroom

“Minutes of the Meeting”

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Mr. Simpkins provided the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States. It was noted that supervisor R.F. Bailey was absent.

**APPROVAL AND SIGNING OF THE FEBRUARY 22, 2022, FEBRUARY 28, 2022 AND MARCH 14, 2022 MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. Burns and seconded by Mr. Simpkins approving the February 22, 2022, February 28, 2022 and March 14, 2022 minutes as presented.

AYES: J. L. SIMPKINS, J. M. BURNS, D. H. MORRIS, S. C. ALSOP

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: R.F. BAILEY

**APPROVAL OF APRIL 2022 WARRANTS AND APPROPRIATIONS**

- 1) A motion was made by Mr. Simpkins and seconded by Ms. Alsop to approve the County warrants and payroll for the month of April 2022, subject to audit.  
AYES: J. L. SIMPKINS, J. M. BURNS, D. H. MORRIS, S. C. ALSOP  
NAYS: NONE  
ABSENT: R.F. BAILEY
- 2) A motion was made by Ms. Alsop and seconded by Mr. Burns to appropriate the December 2021, January 2022 and February 2022 revenue to the School Fund in the amount of \$2,036,324.74, subject to audit.  
AYES: J. L. SIMPKINS, J. M. BURNS, D. H. MORRIS, S. C. ALSOP  
NAYS: NONE  
ABSENT: R.F. BAILEY
- 3) A motion was made by Ms. Alsop and seconded by Mr. Simpkins to appropriate the final local share for FY22 to the School Fund in the amount of \$500,000, subject to audit.  
AYES: J. L. SIMPKINS, J. M. BURNS, D. H. MORRIS, S. C. ALSOP  
NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: R.F. BAILEY

- 4) A motion was made by Mr. Burns and seconded by Mr. Simpkins to approve the quarterly appropriation to the School Food Services Fund in the amount of \$94,408, subject to audit.

AYES: J. L. SIMPKINS, J. M. BURNS, D. H. MORRIS, S. C. ALSOP

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: R.F. BAILEY

## **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Bette Albert, representing the King and Queen Garden Club, advised the Board of the Middle Peninsula Historic Garden Tour that will be held in King and Queen County on April 29<sup>th</sup>. There will be five historic homes included on the tour. She thanked Poroporone Baptist Church for serving as the ‘headquarters’ for the tour. She also thanked the Sheriff’s office and Captain Balderson for litter pick up in the area as well as signage and presence in the area for the event day.

## **PUBLIC HEARING/ELECTION ORDINANCE**

Chairman Morris advised that the Board will hold a public hearing on an amendment to the Election Ordinance that corresponds with the redistricting map changes resulting from the 2020 Census. She asked the County Administrator to provide proof of publication and background information.

Mr. Swartzwelder advised that the public hearing was properly advertised in the Tidewater Review and the Rappahannock Times with a courtesy copy placed in the Country Courier.

Mr. Swartzwelder further provided that the district changes were made to accommodate population shifts within the county as well as the new senate district lines which split the county into two districts at the state level. All five districts have some changes but the most significant change is moving a portion of the St. Stephens district back into the Newtown district which put them back as they were before the prior to the last census and approximately forty citizens in the Mascot area are being moved to the Shanghai district from the Stevensville district.

Chairman Morris opened the public hearing for comments.

Hearing no comments, the hearing was closed.

A motion was made by Mr. Burns and seconded by Ms. Alsop to approve the amendment to the County Election Ordinance as presented.

AYES: J. L. SIMPKINS, J. M. BURNS, S. C. ALSOP

NAYS: D.H. MORRIS

ABSENT: R.F. BAILEY

## **PUBLIC HEARING/FY2023 BUDGET**

Chairman Morris advised that the Board will hold a public hearing on proposed FY2023. She asked the County Administrator to provide proof of publication and background information.

Mr. Swartzwelder advised that the public hearing was properly advertised in the Tidewater Review and the Rappahannock Times with a courtesy copy placed in the Country Courier. He further advised that the proposed budget presented tonight represents the last several months of work by the Board and includes the continuation of capital projects undertaken by the Board as well as the operational budget for county offices, departments and agencies.

Chairman Morris opened the public hearing for comments.

There being no comments, the public hearing was closed. Chairman Morris reminded those present that the Board will not be taking action on the proposed budget tonight, that they cannot do so for at least seven days after the hearing.

## **PUBLIC HEARING/2022 TAX RATES**

Chairman Morris advised that the Board will hold a public hearing on proposed 2022 tax rates. She asked the County Administrator to provide proof of publication and background information.

Mr. Swartzwelder advised that the public hearing was properly advertised in the Tidewater Review and the Rappahannock Times with a courtesy copy placed in the Country Courier. He further advised that the proposed include an increase of .02 on the real estate rate and rates associated with it. There is no change in any other rates proposed.

Chairman Morris opened the public hearing for comments.

There being no comments, the public hearing was closed. Chairman Morris reminded those present that the Board will not be taking action on the proposed tax rates tonight, that they cannot do so for at least seven days after the hearing.

## **QUARTERLY REPORTS**

The following department heads and agencies provided quarterly reports to the Board:

- Sheriff – The Sheriff provided his report in advance of the meeting. Captain Balderson was present to answer questions. Mr. Burns requested information on the number of juvenile arrests.
- Commonwealth Attorney – No report.
- Treasurer – Report was provided in advance.
- Commissioner of the Revenue – Provided her report in advance and was present to answer any questions.

- Clerk of Circuit Court – Provided her report in advance and was present to answer any questions.
- Director of Social Services – Provided her report in advance and was present to answer any questions.
- School Superintendent – Dr. Carter provided the following update on school activities:
  - Current ADM is 817, budget was based on 803.
  - KQES is hosting a Family Engagement Night on April 13<sup>th</sup> focusing on the arts.
  - JROTC is having their first Military Ball since COVID on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Great Wolf Lodge. Essex is currently sending students to participate in JROTC and will do so again next year. They have also reached out to other neighboring districts to potentially offer the same to them. Tuition is \$3,000/student.
  - Junior/Senior Prom will be May 7<sup>th</sup>
  - CHS Graduation is June 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - Writing SOLs were administered in February, results are looking favorable despite learning loss due to COVID.
  - Many districts in the state are looking for guidance from DOE on the affect that attendance will have on accreditation due to COVID absences.
  - Thanked the Board for funding the track project and advised that it should be complete at the end of May.
  - CHS 7<sup>th</sup> grade student Oakley Reischeinder First Place in the VSBA Eastern Regional Art Contest for his artwork submission. He competed against students from seventeen districts.
  - Teachers of the Year are: Rochelle Pullman, a 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at KQES; Jewel Balderson, a PE teacher at Lawson Marriott and Sherry Mae Cecil, a middle school science teacher at CHS
  - During Farm Bureau week, Howard Hill read to students at LMES and Jean Carlton read to students at KQES.
  - Ronnie Sidney, Essex native and author of “Nelson Beats the Odds” came to each school and read to the students and signed their books during family engagement nights.
  - Shared a story of good sportsmanship by one of the female student athletes on the girls basketball team as well as one of the cheerleaders who was acknowledged for assisting in cleaning up after an away ball game.
- Republic Services – Jeff Davison provided his report in advance and gave an update on activities at the landfill.
- VDOT – A report was provided in advance. Sherrin Alsop asked the County Administrator to reach out to them regarding how bad the pothole situation is countywide.
- VA Cooperative Extension – Provided their report in advance.

## **APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

Economic Development Authority/Stevensville – Tabled  
 Bay Consortium Workforce Development Board - Tabled

Pamunkey Regional Library Board – A motion was made by Sherrin Alsop and seconded by Mr. Simpkins to appoint Ms. Alda Norris to fulfill the unexpired term of David Litchfield.

Planning Commission/ Stevensville – Tabled

Planning Commission/Newtown – Tabled

Planning Commission/Newtown – Tabled

Social Services Advisory Board/Stevensville District - Table

## **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS**

Mr. Swartzwelder had the following comments:

- Security upgrades at the county complex have begun.
- Asked the Board for guidance on whether or not they wanted to have the optional budget workshop on April 18<sup>th</sup>, it was the consensus to cancel that meeting.
- Mr. Burns requested an update on the fiber project. Riverstreet is beginning to hook up people in Phase I and construction is moving along quickly in the Phase II areas.

## **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COMMENTS**

**Mr. Burns had the following comments:**

- Advised that he will not be able to attend the June meeting.
- He attends Poroporone Baptist Church and is glad they are able to assist with the garden tour and hopes they have good attendance.
- Advised that Mr. Bailey is not in attendance due to having surgery, but he is doing well.

**Ms. Alsop had the following comments:**

- Thanked everyone for coming.
- Asked that people still be careful due to COVID, she has been getting out more but it is still concerning.
- Thanked everyone for their thoughts regarding her health concerns, she is feeling great.
- Expressed her unhappiness with the state regarding budget issues as well as the redistricting that split the county into two districts.

**Mr. Simpkins had the following comments:**

- Thanked everyone for coming.
- Thanked people for their reports and participation in the budget. The Board does listen even though it may sometimes feel like they don't. Having the information is helpful and the Board depends on it when making decisions.
- Encouraged everyone to attend the garden tour, there is a lot of history in the homes that will be toured. He also reminded everyone that Ms. Albert's (who spoke on behalf of the Garden Club) father Mr. John Jones and Mr. Richard Gwathmey served in WWII and

were a part of the invasion at Normandy and the Battle of the Bulge. Neither of them talked about their service.

- Asked everyone to be careful going home and see all next month.

**Ms. Morris had the following comments:**

- Expressed appreciation for the work by the Garden Club for the tour and encourage people to attend.
- Thanked everyone for their faithfulness in providing quarterly reports, they give the Board lots to think about and she agrees with Mr. Simpkins that the Board does listen.
- Asked everyone to be careful going home and you see next month.

**IT IS ORDERED THAT THE BOARD BE ADJOURNED:**

A motion was made by Ms. Alsop and seconded by Mr. Burns to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

---

**Doris H. Morris, Chairman**

---

**Thomas J. Swartzwelder, Clerk**