

The Carroll County Board of Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on, February 11, 2019 in the Board Meeting Room of the Carroll County Governmental Center.

Present were:

- Rex L. Hill
- Dr. Tom Littrell
- Bob Martin
- Phillip McCraw
- Robbie McCraw
- Joe Webb
- Steve Truitt, County Administrator
- Nikki Cannon, Assistant County Administrator
- Steve Durbin, County Attorney

Mr. Rex Hill called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION – PURSUANT TO VIRGINIA CODE SECTION 2.2-3711(A1, A5, A7)**

Upon motion by Mr. Robbie McCraw, seconded by Mr. Martin, and passing, the Board convened a Closed Session for the discussion, as authorized by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A1, A5, A8).

Mr. Durbin explained the reasons for entering Closed Session.

1. Discussion or consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body; and evaluation of performance of departments or schools of public institutions of higher education where such evaluation will necessarily involve discussion of the performance of specific individuals. Any teacher shall be permitted to be present during a closed meeting in which there is a discussion or consideration of a disciplinary matter that involves the teacher and some student and the student involved in the matter is present, provided the teacher makes a written request to be present to the presiding officer of the appropriate board.

5. Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community.

8. Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter.

VOTES

- Mr. Webb                    Yes
- Mr. Phillip McCraw    Yes
- Mr. Hill                    Yes
- Mr. Robbie McCraw    Yes
- Dr. Littrell                Yes
- Mr. Martin                Yes

(Order)

**COME OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

Upon motion by Mr. Webb, seconded by Mr. Robbie McCraw and passing, the Board came out of Closed Session.

VOTES

Mr. Webb	Yes
Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

**CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION**

Upon motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Robbie McCraw and passing, the Board adopted the following Resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Carroll County Board of Supervisors convened a Closed Session this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and on the motion to close the meeting in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act;

**WHEREAS**, Section 2.2-3711(D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board of Supervisors that such Closed Session was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Carroll County Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member’s knowledge, (I) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were heard, discussed or considered in the Closed Session to which this certification applies, and (II) only such business matters as were identified in the motion by which this Closed Session was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting to which this certification applies.

VOTES

Mr. Webb	Yes
Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

Mr. Robbie McCraw lead in invocation and pledge.

(Order)

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. Martin told that he would like to add something referring to the Governor of Virginia.

Mr. Hill told we can put that after Committee Appointments.

Upon motion by Mr. Robbie McCraw, seconded by Mr. Phillip McCraw and passing, the Board approved the agenda including the request by Mr. Martin.

VOTES

Mr. Webb	Yes
Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Robbie McCraw told he would like to amend or pull out the budget calendar and also, the Airport Taxes to get some more information on it. With the budget calendar it is an issue with the date and Nikki is going to correct it. We can leave it in and correct it. I would like to pull the Airport Tax out and get some questions answered on that.

Upon motion by Mr. Robbie, seconded by Mr. Webb and passing, the Board approved the Consent Agenda with the changes just mentioned.

VOTES

Mr. Webb	Yes
Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon motion by Mr. Robbie McCraw, seconded by Mr. Webb and passing, the Board approved the minutes of the meeting on January 14, 2019, the Organizational Meeting and the Joint Meeting.

VOTES

Mr. Webb	Yes
Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

**2019 MEETING DATES**

Upon motion by Mr. Robbie McCraw, seconded by Mr. Webb and passing, the Board approved the 2019 Meeting Dates below.

January 14, 2019 February 11, 2019 March 11, 2019 April 8, 2019 May 13, 2019  
June 10, 2019 July 8, 2019 August 12, 2019 September 9, 2019 October 15, 2019  
November 18, 2019 December 9, 2019

VOTES

Mr. Webb	Yes
Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

**BUDGET CALENDAR UPDATE**

Upon motion by Mr. Robbie McCraw, seconded by Mr. Webb and passing, the Board approved the Budget Calendar Update with the change of the Public Hearing to April 22, 2019.

VOTES

Mr. Webb	Yes
Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

**TOURISM**

Upon motion by Mr. Robbie McCraw, seconded by Mr. Webb and passing, the Board approved an increase in the allocation in the amount of \$35,000 for the sale of artisan crafts. Since the credit machines became utilized and the change of location, sales have increased significantly.

VOTES

Mr. Webb	Yes
Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

**AIRPORT TAXES**

Mr. Robbie McCraw asked if Nikki could give us an explanation on what that is please.

Ms. Cannon told it is a budget transfer. Every year the personal property tax that is paid by citizens who have aircraft at the airport, those taxes are remitted back to the airport as an investment from the County. The number is larger this year for two reasons, a, it seems like those taxes have gone up significantly because it used to run about \$8000 so it is \$4000 up this year but also fiscal year 17 no tax year 17 and 18 were paid out of this fiscal year. There were no taxes remitted last year.

Mr. Robbie McCraw replied okay.

Ms. Cannon told basically what that is, is a transfer from an overage in another source of the budget which was the land acquisition from BRCEDA.

Mr. Robbie McCraw replied so this is over and above what was budgeted.

Ms. Cannon replied yes sir.

Mr. Robbie McCraw replied, it went up that much?

Ms. Cannon replied yes. Luckily, we did have a savings in land acquisition from BRCEDA to offset that cost so the overall budget will not increase.

Mr. Hill asked if we have a specific agreement with the airport. Do we pay a certain amount or is it just based on the taxes?

Ms. Cannon replied, it is based on the taxes paid.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told this part is based on taxes.

Ms. Cannon replied yes.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told I think what Rex was asking and correct me if I am wrong, we give them a set amount each month.

Ms. Cannon replied for debt service, previously approved debt service and for an expansion, I think there were two items, an expansion of the runway and there was another capital expenditure out there that we pay a portion of. That is outside of the return of the personal property taxes. That was basically a board agreement, I don't remember the year, but this has been in practice for several years, returning the personal property taxes.

Mr. Hill replied I have some issues with..., I understand that they stopped selling gas to the citizens out there for off road type vehicles and stuff like that and I am not too happy about that.

Dr. Littrell told I can answer that if you'd like.

Mr. Hill replied alright.

Dr. Littrell told our fuel supplier does not allow that to happen number one, and number two, that fuel is not designed to be used in automobiles. There is no road tax paid on it or anything of that nature. It has been a courtesy in the past but because we have a new fuel supplier, they have asked us not to do that.

Mr. Hill told that doesn't apply to lawn mowers and things and boats. That does apply to vehicles, you can't put it in vehicles, correct?

Dr. Littrell told we don't have any idea of where its going when we sell it in a can.

Mr. Hill told the other issue I have is we purchased a bunch of sewer line for the airport to hook onto the sewer system and we are stuck with that. Do you know anything why that broke down? The PSA has a bunch of pipes.

Dr. Littrell told I can't answer that.

Mr. Robbie McCraw asked if Steve could look into that please?

Mr. Hill asked if I have a motion to approve this expenditure line item.

Upon motion by Mr. Phillip McCraw, seconded by Mr. Martin and passing, the Board approved the Airport taxes expenditure.

Dr. Littrell asked if being on the commission effected his vote?

Mr. Durbin told it is not a personal interest.

VOTES

Mr. Webb	Yes
Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

**BENNY ROBINSON**

Mr. Robinson, Mr. Chairman congratulations on the recent Board elections and thank you for the joint working session between the Board of Supervisors and the PSA this January past. That meeting is why I come to speak. We listened attentively and although we were at an audible disadvantage and lacking financial handouts, we pieced

conversations into the summary. We believe meeting notes and feedback serves as a useful critique. Being slightly imperfect we have summarized what we think we heard and notice that I am speaking in third person plural, we as in several of us have collaborated to arrive at this summary. Here is what we heard, clarifications are in order and welcomed. It would be our desire to have you comment and that corrections would be substantive in an objective criteria format, so here we go.

Number one, we can not conclude that a single PSA project is now nor has ever been financially self-sufficient. Simply put, none are paying their way individually or collectively.

Number two, I would ask that you note Ms. Montgomery's comments regarding a financial gap being placated by an infusion of money by the IDA. We really need to understand that. Given the fact that the IDA does not generate revenue on a steady repetitive basis. Further curiosities blossom given the repetitive statements from Dr. Littrell that County taxpayers do not subsidize the PSA. We would respectfully request financial data that vilifies or denies the IDA gap and Dr. Littrell's assertion of no taxpayer subsidies. If the IDA gap makes up the shortfall then where does that money come from? An explanation is in order.

Number three, I would ask that you note Ms. Dalton's comment to a real-life example of door to door canvassing for user sign up attempts and its reported failure. In her words, none could get close to 51% participation. Could this be the reality check asked by one supervisor that maybe more people do not want water than those who do. Said in a little different way, could this be the contributor as to why the PSA did not bother to talk to potential customers taking the easy path of invoking mandatory non-users while declaring to the USDA as having done differently. We heard the plea for a marketing strategy and we also heard the plea for a kindler, gentler PSA. One that bothers to explain things.

Number four, we acknowledge Mr. Meredith's concern. We as Carroll County taxpayers know we're on the hook for repayment of debt. That, Sir, is our secondary biggest concern. Our ability to repay existing loans before committing to more debt. Note our first concern is transforming the PSA to do the morally right thing to all citizens concerned.

Number five, please note Ms. Montgomery's comment regarding promoting our water. From an unintended observation we concluded it is more about promoting overall project expansion than getting water to those areas that need it most, with economic multiplicity in mind. That causes us to raise eyebrows. It could be a revealing audit to follow the money of projects and let that examination speak for itself.

Number six, we heard that it is fair to conclude that the Cliffview Project has 60 users financing 260 potential users. Understand what we are saying, 60 paying users for 260 potential users. That is 23%, not near the 51% requirement.

Number seven, we heard supervisors repeatedly ask for budget information that either does not exist or when it does is incomplete. Perhaps, a balance sheet, an inclusive cash flow and a budget analysis would yield the financial examination being sought after. Hypothetically that could clarify the gap and remedy many unanswered questions.

Number eight, we like many of you do not believe 51% signup will ever yield a financial health and repayment of money without taxpayer subsidies or unaffordable water rates. Clearly, 51% is a doubtful breakeven point and yields a less than self-sustaining venture while the USDA men have offered such guidance. That is just what it is, guidance. Board actions make financial soundness which must carry the day where guidance leaves off. We summarize by conjecture; Carroll County is not living up to the USDA loan terms and conditions. Projects are not self-sustaining; sign ups do not meet the minimum standard. The PSA has not treated all customers in a fair and reasonable manner. Carroll County has been warned, the later is a violation of USDA loan guarantees and Virginia statues. Financial audits are only one way of determining fiscal compliance. Conformity to loan terms and conditions are yet another. Could it be Carroll County is in default as we speak.

Number ten, we have heard hand wringing over lost revenue from 79 non-users, allow me to share some reality. A fair number of those 79 non-users are not paying anyway. Evidenced by their admission here in the past and liens having been attached to some properties. Money you never receive is not revenue lost, simple accounting. It is however, an opportunity loss of capital offsetting is not required.

Number eleven, I would ask that Mr. Durbin present his progress on modifying the USDA loan agreement language which caused such a fuss in the repeals deferred effectivity.

Number twelve, I would ask Mr. Durbin to explain why creating subcommittees to work toward unraveling and providing solutions to this quagmire places us in harms way with the Freedom of Information Act. Open, honest, public meetings cannot be a violation, can it? There is an old catchphrase worth repeating. If you don't know where you are going, any road will get you there and when you get there will you know that you have arrived. Together we can solve anything but if we attack each other we will never solve anything. Thank you very much.

(Order)

### **COUNTY DEBT POLICY**

Mr. Hill told each of you have a copy of the policy that Robbie and I have been working on for several years. It is kind of taken from Henrico County. The majority of counties have debt policies, Carroll County does not and that is kind of why we brought it forward. I want to know what each and every one of the Board of Supervisors thoughts are.

Mr. Martin asked if this came from the Virginia Association of Counties Supervisor Workshop?

Mr. Hill replied yes, well, we had budgeting. I think everybody was passed out some of that information. The majority of counties have a debt policy. When we consider debt, we should do several things. Number one, we should do a debt analysis and should have a policy to cover that debt going forward. This is how we got to this position now, my thoughts anyway. I think you ran some numbers on it Nikki?

Ms. Cannon replied, I did. Dr. Littrell had asked me where we were in relation to the requirements in the policy. I will say that the 7.5% could be a little lower, we are allowed up to 10% on state code. It is better to have less than. According to my calculations we were within the guidelines that are set forth in this policy with the general obligation debt.

Mr. Hill told that does not include the PSA.

Ms. Cannon replied, that is correct.

Mr. Hill told the document that I produce included the PSA debt.

Mr. Robbie McCraw asked why PSA is not included. I know that they carry that debt, but we pay that debt. We are financially responsible for that debt if they don't pay it.

Ms. Cannon told we are financially responsible for the availability fee.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told if the PSA cannot make a payment on their loans, we don't have to stand behind that.

Ms. Cannon replied I would imagine that we do.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told that in his opinion that should be included as part of our debt because their part was somewhere close to \$19 million.

Ms. Cannon replied we don't consider revenue and expenditures for the PSA in the calculation because they do collect user fees.

Mr. Hill told we have a million going to the PSA each and every year to use to go into their debt service fund to pay the debt.

Ms. Cannon replied yes.

Mr. Hill told we may just need to make a definition for what we consider debt.

Mr. Durbin told a significant amount of what we are talking about with the PSA debt and the county's obligation probably falls under moral obligation data or revenue bonds as opposed to general obligation. You can consider moral obligation in addition to general obligation.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told his thought is if it is something that we could be held liable to have to pay it should be included in our debt policy.

Ms. Cannon told we have more than just the PSA. There are more moral obligations out there besides the PSA.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told I understand that.

Mr. Hill told we have the School Board.

Ms. Cannon told that debt is included.

Mr. Hill asked what debt is not included.

Ms. Cannon replied PSA, the moral obligation we have on Wildwood, there is some IDA debt that is not included.

Mr. Martin told Solid Waste.

Ms. Cannon told that is another one.

Mr. Hill replied we don't pay Solid Waste any money.

Ms. Cannon told we still have a moral obligation in the event of failure.

Mr. Martin told they sometimes have to borrow millions of dollars to open up one of the cells. They don't have a surplus of several million dollars, right?

Mr. Truitt replied they are in pretty healthy shape.

Ms. Cannon told that it is just a definition of what you want included in those calculations. What would help is gathering all of the moral obligations that are out there because you also have Regional Water.

Mr. Truitt told we can separate into different classifications of debt.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told I think because we contribute money to that IDA, I mean to the PSA, debt that is probably something we should consider debt.

Dr. Littrell told we should get credit for the revenue that comes in also.

Mr. Robbie McCraw asked if they can support their self? That's coming down to the question. If something happens with the PSA, they can't support themselves.

Dr. Littrell told the only thing that can happen is we lose all these customers. The Board is working in that direction possibly.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told I don't think you are understanding, they cannot support themselves. Can they make those loan payments without the County providing this money?

Dr. Littrell told make sure you understand that \$1 million that is mentioned over and over again,  $\frac{3}{4}$  of that was not PSA initiated.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told that it goes to the PSA.

Dr. Littrell told we didn't ask for it. It is Regional Water and...

Mr. Robbie McCraw told there is a separate line item for Regional Water.

Mr. Truitt told it was that and so-called shovel ready projects from back 8-10 years ago.

Mr. Hill told that has been portrayed as economic development.

Dr. Littrell told the Board approved all of that money.

Mr. Hill told that it is still debt that we have to pay, correct?

Mr. Martin told if you are going to count debt are you going to count the revenue.

Mr. Hill told that is in their budget. We have to supplement their budget for one point so-many million dollars.

Ms. Cannon asked if it would be possible to count in the calculation the \$1 million in the debt service payment that we send or are you talking about the whole \$40 million. Some of that they are paying outside.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told he guesses his biggest concern is the \$1 million that we supplement that goes to debt service for the PSA, ultimately what loans does that protect.

Ms. Cannon replied it is the CIP.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told that should be in my opinion because that is something we are supplementing, we should recognize that as debt to the County General. Am I right or am I wrong?

Ms. Cannon asked if she could give you another example. On the Wildwood payment that we send for the \$5.2, we are under moral obligation in the event of failure. It sounds to me like you included.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told I think it should be.

Ms. Cannon told that it will extraculate out into some really large numbers.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told to him that is our raw debt.

Ms. Cannon told as the accountant in her, typically we are looking at debt service alone. Can we meet our obligations currently and within the next year? When you look at a debt policy and include moral obligations that are spread out we end up with some really large numbers that can be alarming.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told that debt is what we are going to, I'm having trouble explaining what I'm looking at here. If we are making a payment on it, it should be considered as our debt.

Ms. Cannon replied I understand.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told I don't care if you include the total debt or what the amount of our payments are for a year.

Mr. Truitt asked if your concern is total exposure or our payments as a function of our ability to pay.

Mr. Robbie McCraw replied the ability to pay.

Mr. Truitt told maybe we should take another stab at the language.

Mr. Durbin asked if you want to see all the moral obligations to which the County has signed on or the share of it.

Mr. Robbie McCraw replied our share. I think that was lost in translation. I am not an accountant by no means, I can balance a checkbook but no accountant. I look at it as a common man out here on the street. If there is a possibility that I am going to have to pay it then it is part of my debt. That \$1 million is what I am more concerned about as part of our yearly debt.

Ms. Cannon told that is actually in the expenditures itself.

Mr. Hill told I don't know how many times we've tried to get all this debt together and we find out there is another one here. When we make a determination to borrow money again for water line, to build an elementary school or whatever we need to know where we stand debt wise. We should have a debt analysis and we should have a debt policy. If Mr. Durbin could just look at the language and recommendations for that at the next meeting. I think we would be better off if we get semantics figured out here.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told it would help us a lot to know what our moral obligations are and how much they are.

Mr. Martin told the County may, I don't want to talk about stuff in executive session. It is possible we may get some grant money in the future. Do you include that as revenue?

Ms. Cannon replied, not in a debt policy.

Mr. Truitt told that would be for a specific purpose and usually there is a performance agreement. You can't use it to pay debt or anything else.

Mr. Hill told that is why we need semantics on how we determine it. Maybe separate it out with different terminology.

Mr. Durbin told the purpose of the debt policy is to evaluate whether the County can afford to carry that debt in a responsible way.

Mr. Martin told if you only look at the debt you get a misleading picture.

Mr. Durbin told you look at other things than the debt but what goes into the debt policy is limited to general obligation.

Ms. Cannon told they are typically referring to tax supported debt.

Mr. Hill told you look at the County and the School Board and look at the debt service per capita, per person in Carroll County and assessed value. My number was different from yours, there was something that I hadn't excluded, what Fran gives us each year.

Dr. Littrell asked just for clarification, about halfway down it says all debt which is secured by the general obligation of the county must be approved by public referendum. Are you talking about an election or are you talking about a public hearing?

Mr. Hill told if we were to go in debt x number of dollars then we would have to take it and have a referendum.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told kind of like Pulaski County done on the Middle School.

Mr. Truitt asked if they were talking about going into debt to bus some school buses.

Mr. Hill told that is where we will get into terminology.

Mr. Robbie McCraw asked if it includes an amount.

Dr. Littrell replied, it says all debt.

Ms. Cannon told that depending on definitions that could include the leases on the Sheriff's vehicles and I don't think you would want a public referendum on \$160,000.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told that Mr. Durbin looking over this would be a very good idea.

Mr. Hill told it is a step in the right direction.

(Order)

### **COUNTY POSITION PAPER**

Mr. Hill told that essentially all this is if people come to the Board or staff wants to make a recommendation for certain things, it is kind of like guidelines with purpose. Why they are requesting board action, background, pros and cons, staff recommendations, impact, statute or authority. We have had several people come forward asking for things and I think it would be good if we had this. I think we should utilize this if anybody requests money or a change.

Ms. Cannon asked if this is outside of the budget process.

Mr. Hill replied included in the budget process in the future. If someone comes forward and says we need x number of dollars they fill this out.

Mr. Truitt asked instead of the letters we get.

Mr. Hill told this is more specific.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told it gives us more information.

Mr. Martin asked what about a capital outlay on a fire truck?

Mr. Hill replied yeah, but that is going to be in the CIP.

Mr. Martin told what is debt is debt whether it be \$500,000 water line or a fire truck either one.

Mr. Hill told I look at this as more something presented to the Board. This is what the staff does with most state agencies. Anything that goes to the General Assembly, this is what they utilize.

Upon motion by Mr. Robbie McCraw seconded by Mr. Webb and passing unanimously, the Board approved implementing the County Position Paper for request for Board action as presented.

Dr. Littrell asked when you say Board action is this a fiscal action any action.

Mr. Hill told anything that would be brought to us.

Dr. Littrell asked if someone wants to abandon a road.

Mr. Hill replied yes. I think this would be sufficient for all of it.

Mr. Martin asked what happens if, Lord forbid, Carroll County lucked out and got an industry coming in but sometimes you got to spend money.

Mr. Hill told that would be up to us to make a determination. I'm not sure whether that would be required. This is essentially for us, people bringing stuff to us, we spend money, its just a simple form to fill out.

VOTES

Mr. Webb	Yes
Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

**PUBLIC HEARING – REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR DISABLED VETERANS**

Mr. Hill opened the Public Hearing at 6:54 p.m. on the Real Property Tax Exemption for Disabled Veterans.

Mr. Benny Robinson told that he does support disabled veterans with property tax relief. Our veterans gave us the freedom that we enjoy and the comfort to sleep at night so in my opinion this is a small token to their honor. I would offer these, keep it simple but specific guidelines to establish exemptions. For any service connected or latent related disability as determined by the Veteran Administration, I would like for you to consider the following would apply; full tax exemption for 100% or a prorated exemption and I don't know if you know or not but the VA establishes a percentage of disability, so lets use an example, if you are 25% disabled you would get a 25% exemption. A full tax exemption for 100 percent or a prorated exemption based on a percentage level of disability as established by the VA for all service related disabilities. Such applies to the disabled veteran's primary residence or any primary residence for special disability adapted housing. I don't know if you are familiar with that or not, but it is a term that the VA uses for people who are confined to wheelchairs and have loss of limbs and so forth. Surviving unmarried spouses and surviving underage children qualify for this stipulation, but I would like to carry this one step further. To be inclusive I would ask that this be extended to unmarried spouses and underage children of veterans killed in action, veterans missing in action, of gold star parents and prisoners of war. Thank you, I would ask that we pay homage to our veterans by adopting this into the Carroll County Code.

Mr. Hill asked if this is a change from last year in the General Assembly that we have to enact this?

Mr. Durbin told that he has a brief draft of what he anticipates the ordinance would look like if the Board wishes to take action. As you are aware, the Constitution of Virginia was amended by the voters at the last election in November. There was an issue where the Constitution provided for a tax exemption for 100% service related disabilities for veterans and their surviving spouses. There was a provision that wouldn't permit the surviving spouse to move to another residence other than the one that he or she occupied with the veteran at the time of their death and that seemed unfair because it sort of penalized surviving spouse if as they get on in years they might want to downgrade to a more manageable residence or move for any other reason. This would allow them the freedom to move to another residence. The County already has an ordinance in place that provides for this tax exemption, what we would be doing is just add the ability of a surviving spouse to move to another residence and keep their tax exemption status.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told that we are basically following what state code is allowing us to do.

Mr. Durbin replied state code and the Constitution of Virginia provides.

Mr. Webb told that Mr. Robinson brought up some other things other than what the states requesting, is that correct or what the state is requiring or the state code.

Mr. Durbin told the only thing that was advertised for tonight was specific 100% service disabled. I am happy to look at the state code to see if you can expand that. I know for killed in action that is another exemption that we can take up at a later time. As far as MIA and gold star I am not aware of specific authorization in the state code that would allow us to do that, but I would be happy to look at it and report back to you.

Mr. Webb told so you could look at it and Carroll County could go that further step.

Mr. Durbin told if we can find some statutory authorization for that.

Mr. Webb told that what we are doing tonight is just supporting what Richmond has sent down.

Mr. Durbin told that we are conforming to state code.

Mr. Webb told we can look at the other later.

Mr. Durbin replied certainly. It is appreciated as far as the sacrifice that the veteran made.

Mr. Hill told this is just a public hearing, if we vote it would be next month, correct or can we vote now.

Mr. Durbin told that it has been advertised so you can take action tonight or you could take the comments under advisement and take action at a later time.

Mr. Robbie McCraw asked if it causes any problems with the Commissioners Office or the Treasurer if we put it off to get some further information.

Ms. Zimmerman replied no, we are just conforming to state code.

Mr. Hill closed the Public Hearing at 7:02 p.m.

Upon motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Dr. Littrell and passing, the Board approved to conform with State Code on the Real Property Tax Exemption for Disabled Veterans.

VOTES

Mr. Webb	Yes
Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

**PUBLIC HEARING – TWICE PER YEAR TAX COLLECTION / REAL ESTATE**

Mr. Hill opened the Public Hearing at 7:03 p.m. on Twice Per Year Tax Collection on Real Estate.

Mr. Bob Spencer told I think twice a year tax collection is a bad idea. Seems to me that collecting twice a year will put an extra burden on the taxpayer. One reason being that you got one more deadline for the taxpayer to have to keep up with and if the taxpayer forgets this new deadline then he or she suffers the penalty for not paying on time. I admit that I am prone to forget deadlines, I expect my wife to keep up with deadlines but unfortunately, she never does either, except for her birthday. Another way it creates a burden on the taxpayer is the likely timing of this extra payment. This new payment would likely be due in June. Now the reason I suggest that is a burden is that it would come shortly after the IRS income tax payment is due and on top of that you have your state income tax. So that means you would have three tax payments coming due at

the same time. I can understand how twice per year collections might help smooth the revenue inflow to the County. I also understand that other counties do it this way, but I would hope that we all would agree that just because someone else does things a certain way is not necessarily a good reason for us to do it. Also, collection cost has to be considered. Surely going to twice a year collection cost will increase, I mean it will actually increase the staffing cost. Some of you may recall a few years back that there were delays in the Treasurers Office processing our real estate payment checks. In fact, the Carroll News published an article about these delays on February 28, 2001 and the Treasurer at that time, Bonita Williams was quoted as saying that the only solution to the delay problem is more staffing. I can't believe that twice a year collection would not create more staffing costs. Finally, I wonder if going to twice per year might create a slippery slope, for instance let's say we go to twice a year and supposedly that's better than once a year. What is to prevent someone from down the road saying let's go to quarterly. I appreciate the opportunity to speak and I hope you take these factors into consideration.

Ms. Judy Jones told she is opposed to the twice per year tax collection and I think it will increase as the gentleman just said, operating costs, mailing cost we just went up 5 cents on a stamp. Also, my fear is that it could be used as a vehicle to increase taxes in the future. An example is if anyone remembers Appalachian Power, you used to get billed every other month for your power and then it went to every month. A year or so later that bill ended up being just as much as the every other month was. I'm not sure why there is a need to do twice a year unless it is from bad management of the money and you don't have enough. I would ask that the Board please vote against this twice a year collection. Thank you.

Ms. Leanna Surratt told she is the Treasurer for the Town of Hillsville. I was asked how this change would affect the Town so I am here to share a few ideas of the effect on the Town for billing twice a year. First, I want to make sure that we let you know that the Town really enjoys our working relationship with the County and we will respect whatever decision that you each decide. At this point we are unsure, but since the Commissioners Office does do our assessment it may be necessary for us to be consistent with the tax billing that the County elects as well. If we were to move to the twice a year billing, just like the previous people had spoken, the mail cost such as envelopes and postage, those will double for us. Software conversion costs will also double which is a large amount of our tax billing cost and personnel to collect these revenues will be difficult for us as a Town. We all wear multiple hats, we have tax billing, utility billing, payroll, accounts payable, budgeting and that time of year is very busy for us. It would probably be necessary that we do additional personnel. Essentially these costs would more than double to collect the same amount of revenue that we collect with the one a year tax billing. That would mean that our tax payers' dollars are not going to reach as far as they do currently. This change could present other numerous logistical and financial challenges for our office. Our Town Council unanimously hopes that the billing will continue once per year, however we want to work with the County and comply with whatever is necessary to make our tax billing as seamless as it has been in the past. Thank you each for the time to speak and share my humble opinion of how the potential effects could be on the Town of Hillsville and we greatly appreciate your consideration.

Ms. Linda Montgomery told I don't think I have to tell you all my name, I think you know it from the past, but I've come tonight personally speaking for myself and also for my sister. I thank you for your time and consideration. Also, I express my appreciation for your service to the taxpayers of Carroll County and I have told you all that before. As a tax payer I came to express an opinion on the issue of paying taxes two times a year. There is a biblical scripture in Joshua 24:15 and this will sum up myself and my household. In Joshua 24:15 it reads, as for me and my house, and this is where I am going to paraphrase okay, as for me and my house we do not want to pay taxes two times a year. Each year after we have paid the taxes we begin to save a little each month for the next year and I might add that we always pay on time. As a matter of fact, I looked it up today and the receipt says we paid on October 10<sup>th</sup> almost two months early. Once we have paid those taxes we begin to save for the next year. Once they are paid we breathe a sigh of relief to know it is finished for another year. Also, we know that other things have to be done as the years go by such as I live in Town and have to pay those taxes,

then along comes vehicle insurance and homeowner's insurance. This is spaced out during the year and I'm going to say, please gentlemen do not ruin my summer in June because Christmas is already a financial bust because of the real estate and personal property tax. I look so forward to June and July, no homeowner's policy, no town taxes, no other taxes. When things are divided into two payments it is usually when you want to go up. It doesn't seem like it is quite as bad if it is in two payments. Two things I request, if this is being done because of cash flow then please, I know you can prepay but who in the world can pay it and then prepay it for the next year. If this is because of cash flow, then by all means I request that you have a plan for those of us who still want to just pay in December. If this is being done because of a shortage of funds at the end of the year and you need the tax revenue coming in to pay the bills or have to borrow to pay the bills, then consider making some cuts in the budget and I could probably tell you where that you could start. The one thing that I would say about cutting in the budget, cuts in my past employment and what I did for a living for 20 some years, cuts should begin at the top and not at the bottom. I don't think you should start at the bottom and get the little man on the totem pole, they should start at the top. Those of us that live in Carroll County, most of us live here by choice. We know what the job situation is, you know it's a struggle to live in this county, but we live here because we want to. Each and every one of us must live within our means because of the situation in the county. Just as the citizens have to live within their means, so should the departments within the county government. It is the taxpayer who is paying the bill. Thank you and I do appreciate you.

Ms. Kathy Patterson told thank you for letting me talk today. I do oppose the adoption of the bi-yearly tax receipts that is proposed by Carroll County Supervisors. In an attempt to stave off your cash flow problem and this was quoted from the Galax Gazette on February 8<sup>th</sup>. Based on that article, one could elude that Carroll County staff members and supervisors feel that if 2/3 of all the counties in Virginia practiced such a thing then Carroll County should follow suit. Do that instead of looking at the real problems, notice I said real and underlined that causing the cash flow problem and develop a proactive, notice I said the word proactive, solution to solve that cashflow problem. In a democracy budgets and financial management of those budgets are openly discussed so that taxpayers, that is all of us who provide money to keep your organization going, are well informed and our money is well and appropriately spent. We have a basic question here, why is there a problem with cash flow? Once again, each year you develop and implement a budget that is well advertised and covers all cost the county will incur during the upcoming year. The budget is based on current revenues, the current tax collections, past expenditures patterns and even past trends in revenue collections. I'm terrible about remembering my taxes, but this year doggonit I got them in and I paid double. We know that the expenditures need to be made based on that revenue cycle. We need to know that the bulk of that revenue comes in December. There shouldn't be any unexplained or unexpected costs at all. All of that was taken care of in your annual budget. Receipts are collected, payments are dispersed on a monthly basis and based on state code and based on all the things that we believe in and it is preplanned. We know each month that bills will be paid. We know that each month where things come in and things go out. We also know that there are emergency costs and often on those costs we should have line items to take care of those. Most budgets and this budget included has that built in. If there are things beyond those emergency costs then that department should absorb those costs through layoffs, freeze of funding or a temporary reduction in services. In some cases, departments may have to wait until the next year to get the adequate funding to fix their problem but once again it can be done and it has been done. All spending is planned, its prescribed, its routine and its based upon historical data trends of collection and revenue receipts. By yearly receipt of the tax money is not going to leave in it alleviate a system that does not stick to budgetary allocations and by yearly receipts of tax monies will not alleviate a system that does not afford equal pay or equal benefits for all staff members across the board. By yearly receipts of money won't eliminate the need for legal, high tech and emerging industries in our County and by yearly receipts of tax money will not, and I repeat will not, eliminate poor, inconsistent or non-standardized budget processes and management. As a taxpayer whose family has been here for over 200 years, we traced back to 1790 and probably before that if you look at when they were trying to get their land. We have always trusted the supervisors to do the right thing but right now you're the supervisors. We have entrusted this in you, you

need to do a better job. You need your staff to do a better job. As an administrator once told me, your lack of planning is not my problem. Thank you so much.

Ms. Debby Goad told thank you for letting me come before you tonight. I guess I am in the minority here tonight because really and truly when you address this, two times a year taxation, it's a smart move. Anytime that the Board that we have elected is looking for ways to save the taxpayers money, then it's a good thing. Anytime that you have to borrow general obligation money and pay interest on it, it is hurting all of us. I own land in Patrick County and they have been with twice a year taxation for at least 10 or 12 years. The only year that it was a bother to us was the very first year that it was implemented because you paid in December and then you have your next installment due in June. There is no double billing, you get one statement and you tear off and send part with your June payment and the other part for December. They always send me two windowed envelopes. I really don't think that this and I'll go this much further, someone said its probably a tool to raise our taxes. Since the time that Patrick County has implements twice a year collection there has not been a raise in our taxes. I have never called into the Patrick County Treasurers Office and there been any more staff. I don't know that for a fact, but it always seems like it is the same two or three people. I actually think it was a good idea and thank you for letting us come tonight.

Mr. Benny Robinson told I would ask that you vote no on this proposal. Here's why, you are unassumingly placing the county's planning in capabilities on our citizens, businesses and especially those with cyclical flat cash flow occupations such as farmers. It is difficult to appreciate this challenge. What is the scale of the problem. I couldn't find a better analogy so I'm going to use it anyway. Is this the size of a bread box or a bread truck? Cash flow peaks and valleys are not an uncommon occurrence in governments and especially some friends of mine who have dealt with being government contractors and dealt with the recent government shutdown. Businesses and households deal with cash flow problems every day. Highly problematic to me is the fact that we pay highly competitive five fortune 500 salaries to County Administrators that cannot yield a solution to this common occurrence. You are simply throwing the problem over the wall and admitting your own incompetence. Other alternatives, why not give the people and businesses a choice that compliments their specific cash flow? Yearly, bi-annually, quarterly, monthly, in today's electronic banking you might offer an incentive for early pay. That could be a win-win and cheaper than anticipation revenue notes. There is a plethora of techniques and electronic solutions. Could it be inabilities to work together within the County Administrators Office, the Treasurer and the Commissioner's Office impede solutions? My prediction is that twice yearly tax collections will not remedy this problem. Without financial skills this initiative becomes provisional. You are simply treating the symptom and ignoring the disease. Replace this philosophy that we have got to bring in what you spend, lets turn that around, lets spend what we collect and launch a rainy-day fund. Perception almost always overpowers reality. Thank you.

Mr. Hill closed the public hearing at 7:27 p.m.

Mr. Phillip McCraw told when this was first mentioned I was against it. I have talked to a lot in the Fancy Gap District and they are farmers. I think the collection time would be February and August. Some of them buy cattle in the spring and sell them in the fall. The orchard people, they pick the peaches and paying labor and they don't have the money to pay taxes in August, so they are opposed to it. I don't really feel like it is going to solve our problem. If we are falling short in a year and we start collecting twice a year eventually it is going to catch us there. I oppose twice a year.

Mr. Webb told when this was brought before the Board of Supervisors I listened intently to the idea of twice a year tax collection. At first, I was totally against it for reasons that people have brought forward but when we got to talking about it I thought it was going to be a better plan for citizens in Carroll County. My understanding and we haven't adopted anything yet, we are listening that is why we had a public hearing. My understanding was this was going to relieve the December burden of 100% taxes, you could break them up in twice a year. We are not going to collect more taxes, we are not going to collect the same amount twice a year. I think a lot of people thinks well I pay \$1000 in December and they want \$1000 in June and \$1000 in December. We are

talking about cutting that in half. There was also a mention when we talked of setting it up on monthly payments which we thought would be a relief to the citizens, so they didn't have to cough up that huge amount by December 5<sup>th</sup>. Maybe I am wrong, but that was my intake. That was the reason that I even considered going to twice a year. There is probably some more things I need to hear but as far as I stand on this, no we are not going to double or tax rates and we are not going to use this as an avenue to collect more taxes off of you. I promise you that from the Laurel Fork District. This was the thing that was brought to my attention that I thought would help citizens spread out their money. There is a lot of people in this county that is on monthly fixed incomes. I thought that by you finding out in the early spring of 2020 what your tax obligation was for 2019, you would have more time to come up it than the way the system is now. I thought this was a better plan to allow people to be able to budget their money and manage their money easier. Maybe I need to do some more checking on this. If 2/3 of the state of Virginia is doing it and then the one lady spoke up and said she deals with it because she has land in a different county. I think there has been a misconception of what we are trying to do. I think people took it and ran with it to the bad side, the dark side. Thank you all for being here and listening and sharing your ideas with me. It has given me something to think about.

Mr. Martin told he swore he would never speak at another public hearing, however, one of the things that hits the Board of Supervisors that is impossible to budget for is the Regional Jail. We were ahead of Montgomery County in the number we had down there, and they have four times the population. Then when you arrest them, and I'm not saying turn the criminals loose, when you arrest them and they go to the Regional Jail, many times that affects the family. CSA comes into play so we send mom or dad to jail then somebody has got to take care of the children. How much more than what we have budgeted for are the cost for Regional Jail?

Ms. Cannon asked if he is asking for this year?

Mr. Martin replied yes. For both of those areas.

Ms. Cannon told for the New River Valley Regional Jail, it is trending as if its going to be \$140,000 over budget and Child Services with Social Services combined are trending almost a million more in expenditures over last year.

Mr. Martin told the two-pay system, the thoughts of us coming up with a million dollars and it has already happened in the past. We have desperately tried to save money and build up a rainy-day fund but it is hard to build up when you get hit with million dollars items that haven't been budgeted for. I agree with everything that has been said but I'm just telling you, I'm scratching my head. I guess we could double the taxes for next year and we could build up a big surplus, but I would guarantee the jail would go to \$2 million so it wouldn't accomplish anything.

Ms. Cannon told it is already at \$2 million and when I started 10 years ago the total annual cost was \$700,000.

Mr. Webb told those are three categories that we cannot say no to. That is state rules and state regulations. If they send us a bill for an extra million we have to find it and come up with it. I didn't realize that until I got on the Board. Those categories are costing this county a lot of money and we cannot sit here at our budget meeting next month and say that we need \$2 million and they come up and say we need \$3 million, we will have to come up with the other one. Our hands are tied.

Mr. Robbie McCraw replied I want to expand a little on what Bob said about CSA. I serve on the local Social Services Board, so I have a hard education on how the CSA works. Rex is on the CPMT and so is Steve. What happens just to explain a little more information, these kids go into foster care and we are mandated by state law to provide for that foster care. I think right now there is about 90 in foster care and those kids have to be seen by a member of Social Services staff every month. There is not enough homes in Carroll County to take these foster kids in. They have to place these kids wherever they can find. With state laws, you can't let someone in the other locality go check on

these kids. Typically, Northern Virginia and Eastern Virginia are where a lot of these kids end up. They have to have contact with everybody that child comes in contact with that month so it is hard for them to do it in a days' time. You have to pay travel expense for them to go do that. My thought is the state ought to allow us to be able to let someone in that area do it, but the state will not come across with that yet. It makes it extremely hard to budget because you never know how many kids you are going to have in foster care. We have increased these budgets over the last couple years, it's not like we just left them alone. Not defending anything, I agree that there are lots of things that could be done to make our budget a lot better. Those are the two things that bother me the most is our jail expenses and CSA. We can't control those two things. I guess we could ask the Sheriff to quit arresting people, but I don't think that is something anybody wants to do. I just wanted to share that, I am neither here nor there with the twice a year tax collection.

Mr. Martin told personally I would like to see a two-pay system that the first pay is optional where if you wanted to pay it you could and if you paid it maybe you got a 5% discount but that is not our choice. State regulations lay things out as to what we can do.

Ms. Bonita Williams told quiet a few years back I spoke to the Board about giving an incentive to early payers. I checked on it with the state and because Virginia is a Commonwealth, there is no incentive that can be offered because they are ruled by what's called the Dillon Rule. You can pay every month, its just optional. The one thing that is going to impact you and this is your decision totally, but you are going to have to set your budget levy by April 1<sup>st</sup> in order to get the billings out and tax tickets out. That is with giving people a 30-day window. By code you don't have to have the tax tickets out but 14 days prior to the due date. I have always like the 30 day at least.

Mr. Hill told that is one of the reasons we did the fund balance policy. We have money set aside to cover shortage between when taxes are due or when they are finally paid. Back several years ago, probably 10 or 15 they didn't follow the fund balance policy. Also, we incurred considerable debt that is another reason I would like to have a debt policy. These are two other tools that we have to try to solve this. There is nothing that prevents people from going and paying their taxes monthly, you can do that anytime you want to.

Mr. Phillip McCraw told if we get them early and we spend them early its like getting two paydays in one month and not getting one next month, we are out of money.

Mr. Hill told I think there is probably stuff that we could do, maybe set a drop-dead date on spending in June so it doesn't carry over to the next year. That is something I think staff should look at. I don't know anything else.

Mr. Hill closed the Public Hearing at 7:43 p.m.

(Order)

**COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

Upon motion by Mr. Robbie McCraw, seconded by Mr. Phillip McCraw and passing, the Board approved to table the Committee Appointments until next month.

**VOTES**

- Mr. Webb Yes
- Mr. Phillip McCraw Yes
- Mr. Hill Yes
- Mr. Robbie McCraw Yes
- Dr. Littrell Yes
- Mr. Martin Yes

Mr. Robbie McCraw told with the committee appointments while there is still a decent crowd here, if anybody would like to serve on a committee there is a form on the website you can fill out. I know right now we are looking for IDA and Library. Just fill out the form and we will get you involved in the county if we can.

Mr. Hill told if you want to assist the county in any way, they don't pay you much it is more of a volunteer thing, but it is kind of how I started out.

(Order)

**GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA**

Mr. Martin told a stated fact, when I die I am not going to demand justice, I'm going to ask for mercy because when you are born into this world you are a sinner and until you ask for forgiveness you are not okay. I have sat on the fence too long and ignored stuff that I knew wasn't right as a Christian person. I find it amazing that the Governor is in hot water moreover because he blacked his face than what he said about abortion. For folks that haven't paid attention, what our esteemed Governor said what he wanted was a post birth abortion meaning that mom was on the table and delivered a baby. He wanted to give the mother time and discussions with the doctor to abort the baby. My understanding is that liked one vote coming out of committee and then the whole House or Senate would have had to vote on it. That is wrong, and as a Christian person it is wrong. All the people in here and on the Board, we need to will it do any good to do what I am going to propose, I doubt it. You have to start with yourself.

Mr. Martin moved that we authorize the County Administrator to send the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and the Attorney General and the people involved on that committee with the strongest disagreement that we can possibly give for abortion in the state of Virginia and this murder for a baby that's born and he or she is peeing on the table and trying to focus and look around, his heart is beating and he is breathing and somebody says well I think we should abort. It isn't abortion, it is murder and my motion is that we authorize the County Administrator to send his letter in the strongest possible word to this committee that voted and those three government leaders in the state. I am a republican, but this is Republican and Democrat. My prayer is as a Christian person how can we sit still, and a Governor proposed to have a baby born laying there breathing and they take a rod and run it up the back of their head into their brain.

Ms. Donna Peery told I just have to say something, I am sorry but the publicity that this has been getting is not correct. It is a very limited time that these procedures are done. As a woman and as a mother of girls, that has to be an option. I will never sacrifice my daughters that I have raised and loved for a grandchild that I do not know. You do not know what kind of medical conditions that can happen that can jeopardize a woman's life. Babies are diagnosed as anaclitic and they have no brains and it is not found out until late term. This whole thing has been blown completely out of proportion and I respectfully suggest that my Laurel Fork person not sign on to this. This has nothing to do with Democrat or Republican, it has nothing to do with murder. This is a medical procedure that is between a woman and her doctor. It is a moral decision between a woman and her God. We have no right as citizens of this county and I'm sorry Mr. Martin, I love you to death.

Mr. Martin replied, I love you and your two daughters and husband.

Ms. Peery told I will never sacrifice my children.

Mr. Martin told it is wrong.

Ms. Peery told it may be wrong in circumstances, but this is not something that women just decide at 8 ½ months pregnant, that I don't want to be pregnant. That is bull crap. That is propoganda that the people in this state are feeding y'all. This is not something that women just up and decide.

Mr. Martin told I have a motion on the table.

Mr. Phillip McCraw seconded the motion.

Mr. Hill asked if he would prefer a resolution.

Mr. Martin told a resolution would be fine. If we want to do the will of the people in this county that has been said at several meetings in the past. I can tell you what overwhelming majority of the citizens and people in this county will say about this procedure.

Mr. Hill told you said a letter. Would you prefer a letter or a resolution?

Mr. Martin replied a resolution.

Mr. Durbin told if we are doing a resolution, I would ask the motion and second to be withdrawn and make a new motion for a resolution. What is on the table right now is a letter.

Mr. Martin replied, I will withdraw my motion.

Upon motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Phillip McCraw to send a resolution in to the heads of our Virginia government and to the people on the committee condemning the act of post delivery murder.

Dr. Littrell told I can not vote on a resolution I have not seen.

Mr. Martin asked if the County Administrator can design one and we can vote on it at the March meeting.

Mr. Hill told if the second can adjust to the change in the motion to be presented at the March meeting

Upon motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Phillip McCraw and passing, the Board approved for the County Administrator to make a resolution to the heads of the Virginia government and the people on the committee regarding the post-delivery abortion.

Mr. Webb told I agree with Dr. Littrell, I can't vote for anything that I haven't read. I have a lot of mixed emotions on this whole thing. It is at a state level right now and I have read that they have tabled it for another year. I think they are very mixed about it also. I would like to agree with Dr. Littrell that I won't sign anything that I haven't read.

Mr. Martin told I don't think we saw anything on this 87 people about the water thing. Its just a motion and I guess it's all right to vote for that you haven't seen but murdering a baby, hello that is a minor thing.

Mr. Webb replied, wait just a minute, you are putting words in my mouth.

Mr. Martin replied, that is what you said, you didn't see anything on it.

VOTES

Mr. Webb	Yes
Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

Mr. Martin told if the rest of the Board doesn't feel comfortable with it that is fine, but I am going to speak out.

(Order)

**CITIZENS TIME**

Mr. John Woodly told he lives on Millstone Road as do these people behind me. We live on an area between Joy Ranch and Sandy Level, near Crooked Creek. The condition

of our road is terrible. There are ruts that are a foot deep on both sides, the gravel is gone, and it is a muddy mess that is dangerous to drive on. It is a curvy road and there are some places where if you slide off the road your two wheels are in a ditch that you are not going to get out of without a tow truck. There are some areas where if you slide off the road you are going down 15 feet into a creek. We would just like to let you know that we think the conditions area abysmal and we would like something done about it as soon as possible.

Mr. Hill asked if that is the road behind Crooked Creek Fee Fishing.

Mr. Woodly replied yes. He told there are other areas that are bad too but I am speaking for our area.

Mr. Hill asked if they have contacted VDOT.

Mr. Woodly replied they have contacted them several times.

Mr. Webb told I have a couple good friends that live on Millstone and they have expressed their concern about the road too. I understood that you were not getting anywhere with the 1-800-forroads. I did, three weeks ago talk to the Carroll County residency agent engineer. He did go out and drive the roads and did meet with John and Diane a couple weeks ago and he agreed totally that your roads are in horrible shape. I'm just passing on what was told to me and that is they are going to do temporary fixes this winter, but they are going to address the whole road this spring. He agreed that it is dangerous. In March or April, you can have your supervisor put Millstone on the Six Year Road Plan. He did say there is not a lot they can do this winter but they were going to try to fill in the holes, but they will be on it this spring when the weather breaks.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told I was through there the other day and it is terrible.

(Order)

### **SUPERVISORS TIME**

Mr. Webb thanked everyone for being here tonight. I hope that we both learned something, I learned a lot of things tonight about the way citizens feel about things. A lot of people don't understand what we try to do because and we don't understand how our decisions affect you. I appreciate the communication and civility and together we will get things fixed. We can't fix it today or tonight or tomorrow but one of the things is this Board hears people and we are trying to do the right thing. I think a lot of people maybe learned tonight about the budget. I thought you set a budget and that is all they get. There is areas in our budget where we don't have that say so and I hope you understand that and work with us. We are diligently in this budget season looking at making things better in this county. I promise you as far as I am concerned we are working very hard to make things better. Thank you.

Mr. Phillip McCraw thanked everyone for being here. I agree we do get surprises from the jail and CSA. That bill just keeps increasing but until we get more money collecting it is not going to solve the problem. Thank you for coming out and speaking tonight and I hope we do the right thing.

Mr. Robbie McCraw told he is a lot like Joe, I'm on my fourth year and still learning a lot. I thoroughly enjoy what I have done, and it does take time to make things better. Without feedback we don't know which way to go. To look out and see a group of people here, it makes it more inspiring. Sometimes you look out and there are only the faithful three. I appreciate you all and the patience and also the input that we get. Sometimes we disagree with things, but we are all here to try to make this a better place for us all. Our budget issues, to look at CSA and jail sometimes just absolutely kills me. It is a vicious cycle and it is what our society has become. These people have kids and the parents get locked up and the kids have no where to go and we can't leave the kids hanging. They have to be taken care of.

Dr. Littrell told it was good to see such a crowd tonight, I think it was a good interchange of information back and forth. I think all of you do understand that a budget is not set in concrete, it is basically an educated guess what is going to happen the next year as far as expenditures and revenue. It is a forecast and sometimes we do have to make adjustments in both directions. We do the best we can, and Nikki works very very hard to get the numbers as correctly as we can but sometimes we get surprises. I pay taxes in two counties also and one is twice a year and once is once a year. I actually prefer the twice a year because it spreads it out over a period of time instead of all at once. I also understand the arguments that you made that you did not like it, so we will take it all into consideration. I do think that no matter what we decide it is too late to do anything this year. I personally think we should take it under advisement and get some more input from other people. That is my opinion, that is not a vote. I do appreciate everyone that was here tonight, and I made notes. Millstone I think is actually in my district and I will also send an email to Lisa Hughes and see what she has to say. I had a citizen talk about one of our newest industries or businesses in town, the Dollar General on 58 and the intersection of 620. He said since they have opened it has been a nightmare trying to get out of Forest Oak or Coulson's Church onto 58. He asked if it would be possible to get a study for a traffic light. I personally don't like traffic lights, but I know how difficult it is to get onto 58 so I am asking staff, how do we do that.

Mr. Truitt told we would talk to Lisa about that.

Dr. Littrell replied he can do that. I didn't know if we had to start it as a county or not. It is a difficult intersection to negotiate.

Mr. Martin told Mr. Webb, if I was short with you I apologize.

Mr. Webb replied, no problem.

Mr. Martin told I really feel that I am under conviction about speaking out about this issue. I am overpowered with my feelings about it and I'll be quiet and wish everybody a happy week coming up.

Mr. Hill told Robbie and I had a discussion with some folks the other night about some ways that we might be able to address the jail and other things maybe as a combination of everybody in the county as far departments. We talked to Nathan tonight and so I am going to ask Robbie if he would chair a committee and whoever he needs to invite to look at things and see what we can accomplish. There is a lot of stuff out there that we may or may not be able to address but at least we will try. If anybody else is interested in serving just let him know. I am also going to create an ad hoc committee, I guess it's replacing the old Personnel Committee and put Joe Neil and myself on that to look at personnel issues with the county. I'm going to put Robbie and Phillip on a transportation committee, one of the things that was brought up was marking county vehicles. Bob and Tom, if you are interested in the past we have met with the School Board members you could initiate that. I appreciate everyone coming in. This is the most informative night we have had as far as participation from the public about your ideas on a number of things. I really appreciate you coming out.

Dr. Littrell told if anybody is interested in the CSA we are going to have a representative from the Richmond coming at the next meeting to give us a presentation that I think you would find very informative. Invite everyone to come back again and hear that gentleman next meeting.

(Order)

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion by Mr. Robbie McCraw, second by Dr. Littrell and passing, the Board adjourned.

### **VOTES**

Mr. Webb                      Yes

February 11, 2019

Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

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Chairman

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Clerk