

The Carroll County Board of Supervisors held a meeting on July 22, 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
- Steve Durbin, County Attorney

Mr. Rex Hill reconvened the meeting and confirmed having a quorum.

CLOSED SESSION – PURSUANT TO VIRGINIA CODE SECTION 2.2-3711

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

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 | Not Present |
| 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. Martin, seconded by Mr. Phillip McCraw and passing, the Board came out of Closed Session.

VOTES

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Mr. Webb | Not Present |
| 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 Not Present
Mr. Phillip McCraw Yes
Mr. Hill Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw Yes
Dr. Littrell Yes
Mr. Martin Yes

Mr. Hill told we are in a continuation of our meeting two weeks ago. There will not be Supervisors Time or Citizens Time, we are just continuing a Business Meeting.

Mr. Robbie McCraw lead in invocation and pledge.

Mr. Hill told if you will notice we are doing a little bit different agenda and business type stuff. There will be a little more information provided to the public such as payroll and invoices.

(Order)

PAYMENT OF INVOICES

Upon motion by Mr. Robbie McCraw, seconded by Phillip McCraw and passing, the Board accepted the invoices and payment of invoices for Payroll and the AP Register.

VOTES

Mr. Webb Not Present
Mr. Phillip McCraw Yes
Mr. Hill Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw Yes
Dr. Littrell Yes
Mr. Martin Yes

(Order)

ROBINSON FARMER COX – FINANCIAL FORECAST & CASH FLOW ANALYSIS

Mr. Martin asked if we basically need to approve the pay structure for doing that?

Mr. Hill replied yes, we are hiring Robinson Farmer & Cox for a Financial Forecast and Cash Flow Analysis. They will be looking at our financials and giving us a report.

Upon motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Robbie McCraw and passing, the Board approved to hire Robinson Farmer & Cox to perform the Financial Forecast and Cash Flow Analysis.

VOTES

Mr. Webb	Not Present
Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

REQUEST FOR COMMITTEES

Mr. Hill said we have one committee, that is the Personnel Committee which Dr. Littrell and Bob are on. If the Board agrees we need to do one of Economic Development, Building and Grounds and Budget and Finance. Robbie and I have put in for that. What I plan to do, if it is okay with the Board, is to hold off and commit to those committees and carry that to next month. If everybody wishes to approve those committees, I will entertain a motion.

Mr. Durbin stated that you would be forming those committees just not fill them.

Mr. Hill said that is correct. Some have responded and some haven't so it would give everybody an opportunity to respond to those.

Upon motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Phillip McCraw and passing, the Board approved to form committees for Economic Development, Building and Grounds and Budget and Finance.

VOTES

Mr. Webb	Not Present
Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Hill said I am going to wait until we have more opportunity for people to respond.

(Order)

DANNY BOYER – PROCESSING FACILITY

Mr. Boyer said he would like to give a brief update and progress report on some of the things on the Regional Processing Facility. With the help of the Tobacco Commission and ARC we were able to do an extensive feasibility on 11 counties in Virginia and 7 in North Carolina. It would be a USDA inspected facility and it all pointed to the fact that

there is a tremendous need. Our first study was completed in 2011 and you have a copy thanks to Crystal, thank you for doing that. Basically, the feasibility came back and said that the idea place to serve the region that we are talking about was from the Carolina line down to the New River along 77, as close to the interchange with 81 as possible. We have building plan and anchor businesses. When we started, we struggled to have commitment for about 25 head a week and today we currently have commitment of 75 head a week, people wanting to use the facility. That is the two anchor businesses, there are others including A&M, Helen Beamer, Four Winds Farm and others that are interested. This would be a service for fee facility, but it would be USDA inspected. We would handle predominately beef; we would do sheep and goats as needed and then add other animals.

Mr. Martin asked if it would be grass fed?

Mr. Boyer told the anchor businesses right now are marketing grass fed and/or organic. That is the market that seems to be expanding all up and down the East Coast. As a matter of fact, over 50% of the beef from that line is consumed in the East Coast and we just happen to be within a truck haul to get that to them. We have the grass here, we have the climate, we have the genetics and a lot of things that we can provide a healthy food source for a lot of folks. It will be a custom plant so we can serve everybody in the region. We would start out with a capacity of 100 head a week and the building itself would carry up to 200 head a week. We have coolers and freezers and the whole deal. We have been working with the County Administrator and Kevin. We have worked with Virginia Fairs, VDACS, Farm Bureau and a lot of folks that we are talking to trying to cover all the bases. With the amount of infrastructure that is here the hope is that there may be a place near the Industrial Park that we would be able to lease. There are some folks working on a receiving station and they would complement each other. There is a huge need for the facility, and we are situated correctly. Our business plan says that once we get up to 60 head per week then we are over breaking even, and we are starting to pay for all the expenses.

Mr. Martin said most people are not full-time farmers.

Mr. Boyer replied if they have a place that they want to sell to then they can have it processed in a USDA facility and it is eligible for sale.

Mr. Martin said they would get a better price I would think.

Mr. Boyer replied, they should. This market is really growing, and it has since we began, and I have been working on this for about 11 years. One of the anchor businesses right now is shipping somewhere between 60 and 75 head a week and by the end of the year they expect to be at 100 head. When we first started this funding is always a chore. This is not a high return deal, but it is good for the community and it would be good for agriculture for this whole region.

Mr. Martin asked if it would encompass some of North Carolina?

Mr. Boyer replied there would be people in North Carolina that would want to use it. The feasibility study said that we would have to reach out and serve a broad area to keep things going. There are a lot of regulations, but we have got all of that basically worked out. On the funding we had a lot of issues of trying to get our funding together. We have received \$500,000 from Tobacco Commission that we received this past winter. They are very supportive, and we have talked to them several times. We put in about \$150,000 providing all this information and the planning that we have. We had a recommendation to work with Virginia Housing and Community Development, there is an Economic Development Block Grant that we are eligible for \$700,000. The applicant would need to be a municipality or the County. The County has to put something in it, but the land would more than cover that requirement. That would also help match our \$500,000 that we already have from the Tobacco Commission. It is not easy to get one of these started. After we get these steps done the immediate need would be to finalize the lease on the property and get all of that worked out and get the application submitted. We have some consultants hired and they have everything ready to go as soon as they are able to get into

system they can fill out the application and send it to the Supervisors so you can take a look at it and see if it is going to fit in what you all want to do. We have to get that done by September. I have talked to the guy that is over the program in Richmond and he says it is there and we are eligible and there should be no reason that you would not get it if we apply.

Mr. Martin said I think you have been working with the County and the Administrators Office.

Mr. Boyer replied absolutely. After that the same consulting firm and its Matson Consulting and they do a lot of work on these facilities. Just as a note, in the last 40 years, do you know how many processing facilities have been built in the state of Virginia, one.

Mr. Robbie McCraw said in your business plan you speak of a private investor, is there someone in line.

Mr. Boyer responded we are actually working on a capital campaign right now there is just a couple missing parts that we need on that. Some of the anchor groups may come in and put some money in or other individuals have indicated that they may be interested. If we can up the value-added products from agriculture and the beef line then that is going to have a positive impact on everybody else around, whether they participate in it or not. We are thinking that we could get up to 5,000 head a year and then we would have the capacity to go to 10,000. The market is there, and Danny Neil is saying that if we can fill the trucks with the items that they want whether it be organic or grass fed, vegetables and fruits and everything else. We would actually already have a little distribution hub already started and if it grew then we could expand and go to a larger distribution hub so we could serve the Carolinas, North and South and the Virginia grocery industry.

Mr. Martin asked if you would market it under a name?

Mr. Boyer said there is a potential to do that. Right now, this company would be Blue Ridge Plateau Initiative and it is a nonprofit, we have had our status for about 3 years now. We also have Mountain Fresh Meats, for profit company and we would lease it out for the managing of this facility. These other folks have a brand in their name but the Blue Ridge Plateau Mountain Fresh Meats, that will give an idea of the cattle that is grown here in the mountain with the climate and the fresh water just like the cabbage and a lot of the other things.

Mr. Robbie McCraw said kind of like a one stop shop?

Mr. Boyer replied absolutely.

Mr. Martin said he does work with calves and he soon figured out that you are better of taking them to a state sale. For a small person would his price be competitive if he went through this agency.

Mr. Boyer replied it should actually add value depending on who he hooked up with to market his animals. There are a lot of people who are already in the business and they are looking for people to follow their protocols, raise cattle and then finish them to the point they want them. There should be value added when you direct market it to the consumer. If we can get tractor trailer loads of it going to the grocery store chains that is a plus. The group that I am actually with, our biggest customer is Whole Foods and they are buying the big chunks and they are paying the premium. We make sure that they get premium quality items. There is a set of protocols that each marketer has and there is a lot of opportunity for small people to join or create a business. The lacking part in all of this is the USDA certified packing facility. We are basically having to ship cattle to Marksberry, Kentucky or St. Augustine, South Carolina and that is a long haul. It is not a quick and easy thing to make a lot of money. That is why after Dr. Jerry Moles and I looked at it for a long time we decided it needed to be a nonprofit, so we are not having to make money to pay everything back. This will be for the producers out there. In order to stay in business, you have to make a profit and you have to pay your bills and

employees and that is the reason for the for-profit. This is a piece of needed infrastructure that this whole region needs badly. We have a golden opportunity right now, better than I have ever seen. Go Virginia is highly interested, they are saying when is the application coming? There are several grants that we can apply for. We would love to work with you. The things we need in the next little bit would be to finalize a lease on the property and to get this application to VHCD.

Mr. Martin told he was invited to the White House about producing food for the future and I see this being in line with what the President was talking about.

(Order)

COMMISSION OF THE ARTS GRANT

Upon motion by Mr. Robbie McCraw, seconded by Dr. Littrell and passing, the Board approved and appropriated the Arts Grant in the amount of \$4,500.00

VOTES

Mr. Webb	Not Present
Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

VACo COUNTY OFFICIALS SUMMIT

Mr. Hill said this is just for everyone’s information and there is no action needed.

(Order)

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL MEETING

Mr. Hill asked for a motion to approve and set dates for an additional meeting.

Dr. Littrell proposed that we meet on the 4th Monday at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Robbie McCraw asked if we are going to leave the other one as it stands or do we want to change it to a later time also?

Ms. Adams stated that I think Mr. Dalton’s intention was to have one of those meetings during the day and then one in the evening.

Mr. Hill said our Board has different hours for working, some of us are retired and some have to work so we will just have to make adjustments for Mr. Dalton.

Upon motion by Dr. Littrell, seconded by Mr. Robbie McCraw and passing, the Board approved to hold an additional meeting the 4th Monday of each month beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Martin said he would like to see the Chairman work with Mr. Dalton.

VOTES

Mr. Webb	Not Present
Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

Mr. Hill said we can adjust if we so desire at another meeting. We can adjust the other meeting that we normally have at 6:00.

Mr. Martin said I know there is some flexibility built into that because you will sit down with Mr. Dalton and he may say we need to do this because of whatever.

Mr. Hill responded we will have two meetings per month and it will work like this, normally we will have one for the citizens to make comments and address the Board of Supervisors and the rest will be a business type meeting but you will have a lot of information to digest going forward.

(Order)

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT BLOCK GRANT

Upon motion by Mr. Robbie McCraw, seconded by Mr. Phillip McCraw and passing, the Board approved and appropriated the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant.

VOTES

Mr. Webb	Not Present
Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

VICTIM WITNESS GRANT

Upon motion by Mr. Robbie McCraw, seconded by Mr. Phillip McCraw and passing, the Board approved and appropriated the Victim Witness Grant.

VOTES

Mr. Webb	Not Present
Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER GRANT

Upon motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Robbie McCraw and passing, the Board approved and appropriated the School Resource Officer Grant.

Mr. Hill said the School Resource Officer is a pretty good thing that we have in the County schools.

Mr. Martin replied absolutely. It is not only here, it is nationwide. I think it prevents a lot of problems and Lord forbid if you did have somebody unauthorized that entered the building that person would be very much in demand.

Mr. Hill said I think it is an opportunity for our law enforcement to interact with the students and become very familiar with them. I think it is a good expenditure of money.

VOTES

Mr. Webb	Not Present
Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes

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

(Order)

PETTY CASH ACCOUNT

Mr. Martin asked if we are going to discuss this? I move that we approve the Petty Cash Account.

Dr. Littrell seconded the motion.

Mr. Martin asked what the limit in there right now, is it \$500?

Mr. Hill replied I am not sure.

Ms. Adams said that it was \$2000.

Mr. Hill asked if there is a recommendation in there?

Ms. Adams replied that Mr. Dalton requested \$1000.

Mr. Hill said when there is a change like this you close one account and reopen.

Mr. Martin said he would amend his motion to make it \$1000 limit.

Dr. Littrell said he would amend his second if the motion is restated.

Upon motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Dr. Littrell and passing, the Board approved to set up a Petty Cash account in the amount of \$1000.

VOTES

Mr. Webb	Not Present
Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

(Order)

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Martin said I think the Board is moving in the right direction and Cellell Dalton is certainly helping. I don't think anybody on the Board is in favor of doing secret kind of stuff and the more information we can put out there is better.

(Order)

ADJOURNMENT

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

VOTES

Mr. Webb	Not Present
Mr. Phillip McCraw	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes
Mr. Robbie McCraw	Yes
Dr. Littrell	Yes
Mr. Martin	Yes

July 22, 2019

(Order)

Chairman