

VIRGINIA:

At a recessed meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Northampton, Virginia, held in conference room #2 the former Northampton Middle School, 7247 Young Street, Machipongo, Virginia, on the 23rd day of August, 2010, at 5:00 p.m.

Present:

Laurence J. Trala, Chairman

Willie C. Randall, Vice Chairman

Richard Tankard

H. Spencer Murray

Oliver H. Bennett

Samuel J. Long, Jr.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman.

With the concurrence of the Board, Mr. Trala diverged from the agenda and recognized Mr. Bill Shockley, Agricultural Extension Agent (Agenda Item C), who provided the Board with data regarding the recent drought, excessively high temperatures and the resulting crop damage.

Mr. Long arrived at 5:05 p.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Murray, seconded by Mr. Tankard that the following resolution be adopted. All members were present and voted "yes." The motion was unanimously passed.

Said resolution as adopted is set forth below:

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, weather related crop damage to all 2010 Northampton County crops has been observed due to the lack of significant rainfall and the extremely high temperatures experienced over the past sixty days; and

WHEREAS, the potato and corn crops have been especially hard hit resulting in drastic yield and quality reductions estimated to be 50% of the corn crop and 40% of the potato crop; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the dollar loss for these various crops has reached in excess of \$5.5 million.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northampton County Board of Supervisors does hereby request the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia to declare Northampton County an agricultural disaster area and make various state and federal program benefits available to the farmers in Northampton County.

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(A) Chairman Trala recognized the Northampton County School Board who was present and in session.

Both bodies discussed a draft policy agreement which is set forth below.

**POLICY AGREEMENT BETWEEN NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS and SCHOOL BOARD**

**Purpose:**

The intent of this document is to establish and ensure that clear communication is fostered between the Northampton County Board of Supervisors and the School Board; that responsibilities to and from each board are clearly delineated and understood; that the development of a quality education system is done through an efficient and effective use of public funds; that resources are maximized for the benefit of the professional teaching and administrative staff and our students; that increased student achievement is vigorously endorsed and supported; and that there is transparency and accountability to the public regarding the county's education system.

**Policy Statements/Agreements**

1. Sharing of documents between both boards: financial reporting quarterly, student enrollment quarterly, capital fund & QZAB Fund Expenditure Report quarterly, superintendent's report monthly.

***ACTION:*** *Conduct analysis and business review of existing school software (RDA) and County software (New World) with all parties involved and present for the reviews of both software options. Provide full report to our respective boards no later than December 1, 2010 with recommendation.*

Both boards indicated that they considered December 1<sup>st</sup> as a "target" date rather than "carved in stone".

2. 5 Year Educational Plan - distribute and review annually.

Dr. Drury indicated that this document is currently being updated.

3. Annual Budget Document that is clearly tied to the Educational Plan and serves as a Policy Document, Financial Plan, Operations Guide and Communications Device.

***ACTION:** Conduct cost-benefit analysis of the Employee Benefit Packages for both entities and determine cost implications to standardize benefits between the two entities. Provide full report to the respective boards no later than January 1, 2011 with recommendations for consideration during FY12 budget development.*

*The County and the School will develop a plan, based upon the cost benefit analysis report concerning the employee benefits packages, to provide similar benefits plans as possible to each employee group.*

***ACTION:** Appoint a Shared Services Review Committee to study the potential consolidation of services that would result in efficiency of operations, would result in financial savings and would not hamper the operations of either entity. Provide full report to the respective boards no later than February 1, 2011 with recommendations for consideration during FY12 budget development.*

*The County and the School will develop an agreement, based upon the Shared Services Committee report, for implementation of any of the recommended shared services.*

Mr. Tankard and Mr. Randall agreed to serve on a Shared Services Review Committee.

There was also discussion relative to the on-going monthly meetings of the Finance Team. It was indicated that there “would always be two School Board members present at these Finance Team meetings”; there was some conversation among the Board of Supervisors that these were traditionally handled as staff meetings. Ms. Kristen Webb remarked that today’s meeting would not be happening if communications from these “staff meetings” were working.

4. Capital Needs Agreements – develop policy agreement about the development of capital needs (short & long term) and the presentation of said capital needs to both boards for concurrence of the capital plan.

It was noted that the capital plan had been distributed earlier.

### **Expectations**

1. Budget Revision Requests, specifically the categorical transfer requests, need to be submitted with full documentation to the Board of Supervisors as provided to the School

Board and submitted in a timely fashion for inclusion in the regular Board of Supervisors agenda packets.

2. Any changes in financial, personnel or infrastructure conditions or any other relevant information will be communicated as quickly as possible between the Board of Supervisors and the School Board to promote an open partnership between the two entities and ensure that existing conditions are identified, known and responded to efficiently and effectively across all parties.

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Dr. Drury of the School Board read the following statement:

“The School Board has reviewed the Policy Agreement suggestions offered by the Board of Supervisors and find, generally speaking, the concepts are good. We want to foster an atmosphere of collegiality with our community and the Board of Supervisors. We further believe together we can elevate our public schools’ level of learning and academic success while building the future of Northampton County.

“Our suggestion is that most if not all of the Action Items be undertaken by the proposed Share Services Committee and we feel this committee should consist of the current Financial Committees of each Board plus staff. This committee already meets monthly and most of the action items of the Shared Services Committee would have financial implications for the School Board and the County.

“To be effective, this new committee needs representation from both Boards. Currently, the School Board has assigned Ms. Kristen Webb, Chair of our Finance Committee and Ms. Ann Terry, Vice Chair of the Committee, to participate. Additionally, Dr. Bowmaster and Ms. Brook Thomas are members. As such, the Board of Supervisors needs to appoint two Supervisors, along with the County Administrator and Finance Director, to the Shared Services Committee.

“The Superintendent has provided each of you with a packet containing the following:

1. School Board Strategic Plan entitled Pathway to 2015
2. Common Goals of the School Board and Superintendent
3. Capital Improvement Plan, 2007-2017
4. School Board Duties and Responsibilities and Financial Responsibilities, Code of Virginia.
5. Copy of the recent article by Dr. Bowmaster on accomplishments of the School System.

“I would suggest tonight we address the Policy Statements/Agreements and Expectations first and lastly discuss the Purpose.”

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(D) Motion was made by Mr. Murray, seconded by Mr. Randall, that the Board approve the request of Mr. Gordon Campbell to be allowed to host a benefit event sponsored by the NAACP on his airfield property which is contained within an agricultural-forestal district. All members were present and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed.

(B) Mr. Randall indicated that while a representative from Riverside Shore Memorial Hospital had been invited to attend, he was unable to do so and believed that the presentation scheduled for this time on the agenda should be postponed until the September 14<sup>th</sup> meeting when the RSMH representative can be present.

Mr. Tankard noted that he had requested at the last Board meeting that a letter be sent to Riverside, providing that body with the Board’s concerns and questions. He understood that the letter had not been sent yet, pending the above-mentioned presentation. Continuing his comments, Mr. Tankard questioned why the Board of Supervisors had not been notified by its RSMH representative (Mr. Randall) prior to the recent vote to move the hospital and lacking any guidance from the governing body, he questioned how Mr. Randall voted on this issue. Mr. Randall responded that he voted “to keep it here”. It was the consensus of the Board to direct the County Administrator to write a letter to the Hospital, expressing the Board’s concerns and questions.

In a matter not on the agenda, Mr. Murray noted that at the last meeting, he agreed to work on securing the remaining \$3.3 million in regional jail reimbursement funding from the Commonwealth. He provided the Board with two draft resolutions which would seek to explain the situation to the State and our legislators. Motion was made by Mr. Murray, seconded by Mr. Long, that the following resolution be adopted. All members were present and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed. Said resolution as adopted is set forth below:

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the County of Northampton entered into an agreement with the Virginia Department of Corrections for the construction of the Eastern Shore Regional Jail; and

WHEREAS, in June 2008, the Northampton County Board of Supervisors requested reimbursement of the additional funds required for the construction of such facility; and

WHEREAS, in May 2009, the Department of Corrections approved \$3.3 million in additional funds as requested by Northampton County and requested appropriation of same from the General Assembly.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northampton County Board of Supervisors does hereby formally request the Honorable Governor Bob McDonnell to appropriate the remaining \$3.3 million due Northampton County from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

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Motion was made by Mr. Murray, seconded by Mr. Long, that the following resolution be adopted. All members were present and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed. Said resolution as adopted is set forth below:

**RESOLUTION**

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WHEREAS, in June 2008, the Northampton County Board of Supervisors requested reimbursement of the additional funds required for the construction of such facility; and

WHEREAS, in May 2009, the Department of Corrections approved \$3.3 million in additional funds as requested by Northampton County and requested appropriation of same from the General Assembly.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northampton County Board of Supervisors does hereby formally request the Honorable Senator Ralph Northam and the Honorable Delegate Lynwood Lewis to petition the General Assembly for the remaining \$3.3 million due Northampton County from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

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In another matter not on the agenda, Mr. Long presented materials to the Board describing a proposed zoning ordinance text amendment to, “facilitate the launch of a fifty billion dollar annual industry [wedding industry] in Northampton County”. The text amendment proposes to modify Appendix A – Use regulations, Category 2 (Agricultural), with the addition of a by-right use entitled, “agritourism: private special events, 5 acres or more”. Mr. Long also provided several proposed conditions such as all parking to be on-site, but was cautioned by the County Administrator that by-right uses typically do not contain conditions.

Mr. Tankard noted that general Board procedures called for items to be placed on the agenda one month for Board consideration followed by action the next month. Following some discussion, Mr. Long agreed to place this matter on the September 14<sup>th</sup> agenda for consideration.

Closed Session

Motion was made by Mr. Tankard, seconded by Mr. Murray, that the Board enter Closed Session in accordance with Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended:

Paragraph 3: Discussion or consideration of the condition, acquisition, or use of real property for public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held property.

*Selma Farm*

All members were present and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed.

After Closed Session, the Chairman reconvened the meeting and said that the Board had entered the closed session for that purpose as set out in paragraph 3 of Section 2.1-3711 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended. Upon being polled individually, each Board member confirmed that this was the only matter of discussion during the closed session.

Adjourn:

Motion was made by Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Murray, that the meeting be adjourned.

All members were present and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed.

The meeting was adjourned.

\_\_\_\_\_ CHAIRMAN

\_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR