

VIRGINIA:

At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Northampton, Virginia, held in the auditorium of the former Northampton Middle School, 7247 Young Street, Machipongo, Virginia, on the 12th day of October, 2010, at 4:00 p.m.

Present:

Laurence J. Trala, Chairman

Willie C. Randall, Vice Chairman

H. Spencer Murray

Oliver H. Bennett

Richard Tankard

Absent:

Samuel J. Long, Jr.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman.

Closed Session

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

(A) Paragraph 1: Discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees or employees of any public body.

Appointments to Boards/Commissions

(B) 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
Eastville Inn*

(C) Paragraph 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.

(D) Paragraph 7: Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members, consultants, or attorneys pertaining to actual or probable litigation, and consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by the Board of Supervisors regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by counsel.

All members were present with the exception of Mr. Long 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 paragraphs 1 and 7 of Section 2.1-3711 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended. Upon being polled individually, each Board member confirmed that these were the only matters of discussion during the closed session.

Mr. Trala offered the invocation.

The Chairman read the following statement:

It is the intent that all persons attending meetings of this Board, regardless of disability, shall have the opportunity to participate. Any person present that requires any special assistance or accommodations, please let the Board know in order that arrangements can be made.

Board and Agency Presentations:

(1) Dr. Rick Bowmaster, Division Superintendent, Northampton County Public Schools, provided the Board with a written report detailing enrollment, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, School Accreditation Status, Jobs Education Bill, and Shared Services.

Consent Agenda:

(2) Minutes of the meetings of September 14 and 27, 2010.

Mr. Tankard asked that the map referenced on the last page of the September 27th minutes detailing areas of hospital coverage be included with the minutes. The Board concurred. Motion was made by Mr. Tankard, seconded by Mr. Murray that the minutes of the meetings of

September 14 and 27, 2010 be approved as amended. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Long and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed.

County Officials’ Reports:

(3) Ms. Glenda Miller, Director of Finance, distributed a memorandum detailing proposals received for the FY 2011 lease purchase of sheriff and animal control vehicles, noting that Bank of America Leasing provided the lowest interest rate of 2.0202% and overall costs. Motion was made by Mr. Murray, seconded by Mr. Randall, that the Board accept the foregoing recommendation and award the FY 2011 lease purchase to Bank of America Leasing. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Long and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed.

Ms. Miller then distributed the following Budget Amendment and Appropriation which stated in part,

“Following the consideration last month of a proposed budget amendment to create the School System’s new Capital Project Fund, projects have been redistributed as requested by the Board of Supervisors between QZAB funding and the Capital Project Fund. Attached is an amendment to transfer to a Capital Projects fund \$343,401 of the \$604,494 reserved for capital for the projects listed. A list of projects underway from QZAB funding is attached as well. Also included is a list of identified projects for which funding has yet to be identified.”

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
910-9600-57280	Transfer – School Capital Project Fund	343,401.00	
910-0045-49000	Appropriated Fund Balance	343,401.00	
395-0044-48100	Transfer from School Operating Fund	343,401.00	
395-9700-59905	HVAC Chiller Replacement – Occ.	180,401.00	
395-9700-59906	HVAC System Software Upgrade – Kipt.	43,000.00	
395-9700-59907	Painting – Kiptopeke (labor & mats.)	20,000.00	
395-9700-59908	Walk-in Freezer Condenser – Kipt.	2,000.00	
395-9700-59909	Walk-in Freezer Condenser – High Sch	2,000.00	
395-9700-59911	ADA Compliance Upgrades @ NHS	93,000.00	
395-9700-59910	Tree Removal & Cleanup	3,000.00	

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Motion was made by Mr. Tankard, seconded by Mr. Murray that the Board approve budget amendment and appropriation for the following three projects with the remaining four projects considered as maintenance issues and can be revisited by the School Board. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Long and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed. Said three projects as approved for budget amendment and appropriation are:

Project #1 - \$180,401

Project #2 - \$43,000

Project #3 – \$93,000

When questioned by Mr. Tankard, Ms. Brook Thomas, the School Division’s Director of Finance, indicated that in the past years, painting has been paid for through the QZAB projects and Mr. Tankard responded that the remaining QZAB funds could be used for this purpose. Dr. Bowmaster indicated that the project separation as outlined by the Board would not be hardship.

Ms. Miller then distributed the following Budget Amendment and Appropriation which stated in part,

“Included is a request to fund the transfer from FY 10 Transient Occupancy Tax receipts to the Purchase of Development Rights Fund to complete funding for the purchase of development rights at Nottingham Farm. Documentation is attached. Based on actual Transient Occupancy Tax receipts during FY 10 and updated preliminary year-end estimates, the County Administrator and I recommend funding the request at this time in order to leverage the other necessary funding sources for this purchase.

“A total of \$110,000 will be appropriated from interest earnings on financing proceeds for the purchase of lots at the Selma Estates auction. These funds will be transferred from Fund

302 to Fund 303 for this purpose.

“Finally, I am requesting a budget amendment to reflect the “grossing up” of the refinancing which was completed last fall for the Literary Loan Anticipation Note. During the auditors’ preliminary visit, they suggested this change to more accurately reflect the payoff of the one-year note and the issuance of the new three-year note. This amendment will reflect the receipt and payment of \$1,378,350 which was needed to pay off the original interim financing.”

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
303-6300-57900	Property Acquisition	110,000.00	
303-0044-48075	Transfer from Capital Project Fund	110,000.00	
302-0015-40925	Interest on Investments	110,000.00	
302-9600-57375	Transfer – Admin, Landfill Cap. Proj.	110,000.00	
100-9600-57077	Transfer – Devpt. Rights Fund	48,478.00	
229-0044-48000	Transfer from General Fund	48,478.00	
100-0045-49000	Appropriated Fund Balance	48,478.00	
229-8102-56860	Purchase of Development Rights	48,478.00	
391-0043-47050	BQ Lease-Revenue Proceeds	1,378,350.00	
391-9600-57150	Transfer – School Debt Service	1,378,350.00	
490-0044-48300	Transfer from Literary Loan Proj.	1,378,350.00	
490-9800-59000	Principal	1,378,350.00	

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Motion was made by Mr. Murray, seconded by Mr. Tankard, that the budget amendments and appropriations relative to the Transient Occupancy Tax and the Purchase of Development Rights Fund be approved as set out above. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Long and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed.

Motion was made by Mr. Tankard, seconded by Mr. Randall, that the budget amendments and appropriations relative to the purchase of the Selma Estates lots be approved as set out above. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Long and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed.

Motion was made by Mr. Murray, seconded by Mr. Tankard, that the budget amendments

and appropriations relative to the refinancing of the Literary Loan Anticipation Note be approved as set out above. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Long and voted “yes.”

The motion was unanimously passed.

When questioned by the Board, Mrs. Miller replied that staff was being very watchful but that she believed that the County would not have to access the Line of Credit.

(4) In the absence of Ms. Sandra Benson, Director of Planning, Mr. Peter Stith presented the Planning & Zoning departmental update including activity reports for the following projects: Board of Zoning Appeals, Staff Activities, Town Edge Planning and Northampton County Planning Commission.

The Board recessed at 6:15 p.m. for a dinner break.

At 7:00 p.m., the Chairman reconvened the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

(5) Ms. Katie Nunez, County Administrator, presented the following work session agenda schedule for the Board’s information:

- (i) 10/25/10: Work session – EMS Status
- (ii) 11/22/10: Work session – Topic to be announced
- (iii) 12/27/10: Work session – Topic to be announced

The County Administrator’s bi-monthly report was presented as follows:

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Katie H. Nunez, County Administrator
DATE: October 7, 2010
RE: Bi-Monthly Update

I. PROJECTS:

A. Regional wastewater/water projects- Subcommittee Report:

The Project Management Team (PMT) continues to focus on completion of surveys in the project areas and to finalize the project area for the northern node. The next meeting of the PMT is Wednesday, October 13, 2010 @ 7:00 p.m. As part of the agenda, we will have representatives from DEQ, DHCD

and USDA to discuss grant opportunities for both projects and the means of structuring the financing between grants and loans from these respective agencies.

Enclosed is correspondence received from DEQ indicating that our application for the Southern Node has been tentatively authorized for loan assistance. As I receive more details regarding the specific parameters of the loan program as well as the amount authorized, I will forward to all parties. We will need to meet with the Public Service Authority and our consultants to discuss this in detail and determine if and how we will proceed with this project.

B. Construction Projects – Status Reports:

- 1.) County Administration Renovations: Bids were received on September 23, 2010 for the renovation of County Admin. Enclosed is a letter of recommendation from our architect, DJG, Inc., regarding the received bids as well as the bid tabulation sheet for all of the bids submitted. Dan DeYoung of DJG, Inc. will be in attendance to discuss the bid results in more detail.

Mr. DeYoung summarized the bid results for the Board and answered questions. Following this discussion, motion was made by Mr. Tankard, seconded by Mr. Murray, that the Board award Base Bid #1 and the identified unit prices for heart pine flooring and roof sheathing to Armada Hoffler for the sum of \$2,545,000 with the time of completion to be 250 days commencing upon the completion of the geo-thermal contract. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Long and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed.

At the recommendation of Mr. DeYoung, the Board also requested that he attempt to get an additional 30-day extension for the other base/alternative bids from the contractor.

As you may recall, the bid specifications were drafted to allow us to receive a base bid for the bulk of the renovation work for the 1899 Courthouse building, the adjacent district court space and the county administration building – this was identified as Base Bid #1. From there, we segregated out several items to determine cost and whether we would proceed based upon a cost analysis and budget impact. Those items are identified as follows in the bid responses:

- Base Bid #3 – Replace roof of 1899 Courthouse
- Base Bid #4 – Replace roof of the 2-story addition
- Base Bid #7 – Landscaping of Courthouse Greens

Base Bid #5 – Renovate 1914 Jail vs. Alternate #2 – Demolish 1914 Jail
Base Bid #6 – Renovate 1899 Jail vs. Alternate #1 – Demolish 1899 Jail

I have enclosed a spreadsheet that lays out the possible options for award and the impact to construction budget, assuming an award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder. Please note that it assumes that Base Bid #1 will be awarded and the option scenarios are based only on a consideration of some award variation of Base Bids #3-7 & Alternates #1-#2. This spreadsheet provides the following options:

1. Option 1: Renovate both jails, replace the courthouse roof & 2-story addition roof and do the landscaping of the court greens.
2. Option 2: Do the landscaping of the court greens, demolish both old jails and do not replace either roof.
3. Option 3: Do the landscaping of the court greens, renovate the 1914 jail, demolish the smaller 1899 jail and do not replace either roof.
4. Option 4: Do the landscaping of the court greens, demolish the 1914 jail, renovate the smaller 1899 jail and do not replace either roof.
5. Option 5: Do the landscaping, demolish both old jails, and replace only the courthouse roof.
6. Option 6: Do the landscaping, demolish the 1914 jail, renovate the smaller 1899 jail and replace only the courthouse roof.

The Board asked the County Administrator to develop objectives to aid in their deliberations relative to the two old jail buildings to include historical significance, funding, current/future needs and uses and timing.

I have requested that the Board tour through the two old jails in order to gauge the condition and future use of these properties before reaching a decision on whether to renovate or demolish the structures.

The Board selected 9:00 a.m., Friday, October 15, 2010 for this site visit.

Regarding the geothermal well installation contract, we have received waivers from the state regarding environmental review and historic review so the project is ready to proceed in compliance with the grant conditions. Contract documents have been executed and a notice to proceed will be issued as soon as the demolition contract is completed, which is anticipated that that contract will finish on October 15, 2010.

- 2.) Court Services/Probation Services Construction: Revised bids and specifications were submitted to the Planning & Zoning Office on Friday, October 1, 2010 and advertisements for the project are scheduled to run on October 9, 2010 with a bid deadline of November 3, 2010.

- 3.) Cheapside Waste Collection Center Construction: The attendant's shed and the oil collection shed should be finished by Friday, October 8; final site grading to be completed this week, including final road grade; installation of the fence early next week and paving scheduled to start on October 13, 2010. Landscaping will commence after paving is completed.
- 4.) Indiantown Park Soccer Field & Parking Lot Improvements: Work is progressing at the park; playground equipment has been ordered with an anticipated installation by mid-November.

C. Ambulance Bid: Bids have been received on this project and are still under review by the Ambulance Review Committee. It is anticipated to bring this to the work session for Board action.

D. VDOT Study for US 13 south of the Cape Charles Light: Included in your packet is the information received from VDOT on construction costs for Cobb Station Road and remaining funds as well as additional correspondence received from VDOT and a citizen regarding the intersection south of the Cape Charles Light.

II. MEETINGS

III. GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

IV. OTHER

ESVA Broadband Authority – Lighting Ceremony: On October 12, 2010, the ESVBA will host a lighting ceremony to officially commemorate the completion of the construction of the backbone of our high-speed broadband network and the lighting of said network for the transmission of data. The ceremony will convene at the Exmore Communications Hut at 11:00 a.m. to be followed by a reception at the ES Community College.

In another matter not noted in the memorandum, the County Administrator informed the Board that the EMS Director would be applying for a grant to purchase defibrillators for all of the County's fire stations and the EMS building. Motion was made by Mr. Murray, seconded by Mr. Bennett, that the following resolution be adopted therefor. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Long and voted "yes." The motion was unanimously passed. Said resolution as adopted is set forth below:

**RESOLUTION OF GOVERNING BODY OF
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY**

The Board of Supervisors, governing Northampton County, consisting of six members, in a duly called meeting held on the 12^h day of October, 2010, at which a quorum was present, RESOLVED as follows:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that in order to facilitate obtaining financial assistance from the United States of America, acting by and through the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture, the County of Northampton does hereby adopt and abide by the covenants contained in the following agreements:

1. Form RD-400-4, "Assurance Agreement"
2. Form RD-400-1, "Equal Opportunity Agreement"
3. Form RD-1940-1, "Request for Obligation of Funds"
4. Form RD-442-7, "Operating Budget"
5. Form 1910-11, "Applicant Certification"
6. Form AD-1047, "Certification Regarding the Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters – Primary Covered Transactions"
7. Form AD-1049, "Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace"
8. Form RD 3570-3, "Agreement for Administrative Requirements for Community Facility Grants"
9. FmHA 1040-Q, "Exhibit A-1, Certification Regarding Lobbying"
10. Form RD 3570-3, Grant Agreement"

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Katherine H. Nunez, County Administrator be authorized to execute, on behalf of Northampton County, the above documents and to execute such other documents including, but not limited to, debt instruments and security instruments as may be required in obtaining the said financial assistance.

This Resolution, along with a copy of the above-named documents, is hereby entered into the permanent minutes of the meetings of this Board.

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Citizen Information Period:

Mr. Robert C. Richardson of Seaview stated that a public hearing will be held on the Hospital's proposed relocation to Accomack County and the issuance of a required Certificate of Need. He said that he hoped that the County residents would attend en masse to oppose this issuance. Mr. Richardson also recommended that the County reduce its staff by 75% and then the renovated space being discussed earlier tonight wouldn't be needed. He also noted that the new ambulance being purchased by the County would be a major deficit and may result in the

loss of volunteers. Lastly, Mr. Richardson said that the new tax system was discriminatory and that the County needed a flat rate tax based on gross income.

Public Hearing:

Chairman Trala called to order the following public hearing:

(6) Receive public comment on the request of the Eastern Shore Area Agency on Aging/Community Action Agency (ESAAA/CAA) to obtain Virginia tax exempt status. The property of the ESAAA/CAA identified as Tax Map 15, double circle A, parcel 125, has an assessed value of \$393,100.00 and is being taxed \$1,926.19 for 2010 for real estate taxes and \$3,493.20 in 2010 for personal property taxes.

The Chairman asked if there were any present desiring to speak.

Ms. Diane Musso, Chief Executive Officer of the Eastern Shore Area Agency on Aging/Community Action Agency, requested the Board's favorable consideration of her request, noting that ESAAA/CAA was a Section 501(c)(3) non-profit agency which provided services to over 3,500 individuals last year.

Mr. Bennett acknowledged that he was a board member of this agency and reiterated Ms. Musso's comments concerning its tremendous asset to the community.

There being no further speakers, the public hearing was closed.

Motion was made by Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Murray that the request for Virginia tax exempt status be approved as requested by the Eastern Shore Area Agency on Aging/Community Action Agency. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Long and voted "yes." The motion was unanimously passed.

Action Items

(7) Consider adoption of a resolution seeking action by the General Assembly and Governor to prohibit all predatory, usurious lending practices in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Motion was made by Mr. Randall, seconded by Mr. Bennett, that the following resolution

be adopted. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Long and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed. Said resolution as adopted is set forth below:

**RESOLUTION
OF
THE COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON, VIRGINIA
SEEKING ACTION BY THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND GOVERNOR
TO PROHIBIT
ALL PREDATORY, USURIOUS LENDING PRACTICES
IN THE
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Northampton, Virginia, represents the citizens of the County of Northampton, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Northampton, Virginia, believes the citizens of the County of Northampton remain concerned over what are perceived to be predatory, usurious lending practices in the County and elsewhere in the Commonwealth, including practices that can exploit dedicated, brave women and men called to serve in the United States Armed Services; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Northampton, Virginia, shares these continuing concerns and intends through this Resolution to express the collective sentiments and will of Northampton citizens that the General Assembly and Governor of Virginia need to take action to prohibit all predatory, usurious lending practices; and

WHEREAS, it is essential that the General Assembly and the Governor of Virginia address this matter as a high priority at the next legislative session, leading to enactment of laws strictly prohibiting and deterring all predatory, usurious lending practices in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of supervisors of the County of Northampton, Virginia, that at the next legislative session, the General Assembly and the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia are hereby requested to enact laws strictly prohibiting and deterring all predatory, usurious lending practices, including but not limited to provisions that would:

1. Impose an interest rate cap of thirty-six percent (36%), calculated as an effective annual percentage rate including all fees or charges of any kind, for any consumer credit extended in the Commonwealth of Virginia;
2. Prohibit a creditor’s use of a personal check or other device as a means, directly or indirectly, to gain access to a consumer’s bank account; and

3. Incorporate into the Virginia Code the protections regarding consumer credit to military personnel as reflected in the Military Lending Act, 10 United States Code Section 987.

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(8) Consider action relative to bids received at the delinquent tax auction event of September 2, 2010.

Mr. Bennett noted that he would be abstaining from discussion on this matter as he was the owner of one of the lots sold during this event.

The County Administrator indicated that while the auction event as a whole did not receive the funds necessary to satisfy all related costs, she was recommending that the Board accept the bids as received. Motion was made by Mr. Tankard, seconded by Mr. Randall, that the Board accept all bids received at the delinquent tax auction event. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Long and voted “yes,” with the exception of Mr. Bennett who abstained. The motion was passed.

(9) Consider a resolution to move the regular November 2010 due to conflict with the annual meeting of the Virginia Association of Counties.

Motion was made by Mr. Murray, seconded by Mr. Bennett, that the following resolution be adopted, to change the regular November meeting from Tuesday, November 9th, to Wednesday, November 10th. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Long and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed. Said resolution as adopted is set forth below:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Board of Supervisors, this 12th day of October 2010, that the regular meeting of the Board, scheduled for Tuesday, November 9, 2010 at 4:00 p.m., in the Auditorium of the former Northampton Middle School, 7247 Young Street, Machipongo, Virginia, be changed to Wednesday, November 10, 2010, at 4:00 p.m., in the Auditorium of the former Northampton Middle School, 7247 Young Street, Machipongo,

Virginia; and

BE IT RESOLVED that, following this meeting, the regular meeting of the Northampton County Board of Supervisors shall revert to the second Tuesday of each month thereafter at 4:00 p.m., in the Auditorium of the former Northampton Middle School, 7247 Young Street, Machipongo, Virginia.

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Matters Presented by the Board Including Committee Reports & Appointments

(A) Discussion of AFDs – Mr. Trala

Mr. Trala noted that during the last round of review and consideration of AFD applications, there was discussion about how much land should be placed into AFDs as well as how much can be the County afford to support land-use taxation. For Fiscal Year 2011, the County has approved and budgeted in reduced taxes for AFDs the amount of \$1,076,348 for 37,819 acres. In addition, the County budgets \$361,120 for Preservation/Conservation Easements which total 11,838 acres. The Tax Levy prior to the consideration of the AFDs and Conservation Easements is \$15,101,470 and, after the consideration of the AFDs and Conservation Easements, the Tax Levy is \$13,664,002 or a reduction of approximately 9%. Mr. Trala requested the Board to consider developing a policy that defines how much land is reasonable to be placed in an AFD as well as how much the Board considers reasonable to support and fund the AFDs.

It was the consensus of the Board to request the County Administrator, Finance Director, County Attorney and Planning & Zoning staff to research available options for Board consideration at the November regular meeting.

(B) Comprehensive Plan Review – Mr. Trala

Mr. Trala stated that with the five-year review period upcoming for the Comprehensive Plan, he would like the Board to consider the appointment of a steering committee to oversee this

review process. It was the consensus of the Board that this matter be discussed at the regular November meeting. The Board also asked that the Planning staff be requested to provide specific targeted areas of the Comprehensive Plan for review.

Mr. Trala then reminded the Board that STAR Transit may need to adjust its Demand Response Route and would be reaching out to other agencies and the community for assistance.

(C) Farm Bureau Correspondence – Mr. Tankard

Correspondence was included in the Board’s agenda packet from the Northampton County Farm Bureau requesting that the Board contact the Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries to change the County’s deer population status from “Stabilize/Increase” to “Herd Reduction”, based on increasing damage to crops, food safety issues presented, herd disease, and the number of automobile accidents caused by deer. Motion was made by Mr. Tankard, seconded by Mr. Bennett, that the Board send a letter as outlined above. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Long and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed.

On a similar note, Mr. Bennett asked that the Board include in the letter to the Game Department his concern that that agency be sensitive to the needs of area citizens who utilize its boat ramp facilities; of specific note was a barge which had been anchored off the Red Bank Boat Ramp which caused some concern to the local watermen.

It was the consensus of the Board to set a time limit of the end of this calendar year for re-evaluation of the continuance of the Eastern Shore Disability Services Board.

Mr. Murray read the following statement:

Hospital Task Force
Authorized by the Northampton County Board of Supervisors
September 27, 2010

Progress report from H. Spencer Murray
October 12, 2010

Mr. Chairman, I have an update on our progress and a couple of brief comments regarding our objective.

First let me say that it should be clear to all by now that due to the tremendous financial losses being experienced, Shore Memorial needed a partnership or affiliation. In fact, given the extent of those mounting financial losses, the local Shore Memorial Board should be complimented for doing so.

Secondly, I continue to believe the decision process as to which larger and more financially stable partner should be chosen could have been more open and transparent, even though it was been made clear that there was no legal obligation for Shore Memorial or Riverside to do so. However, when a local hospital such as Shore Memorial, founded and supported by the community for half a century, suddenly comes under new ownership external to the community, it is inevitable that the community will suffer a sense of loss. We can all agree to disagree on the process and how it could have been made better.

Thirdly, and most important, we cannot simply agree to disagree on the optimum configuration and location of medical facilities to serve the entire Shore population. The issue is too important and the consequences of getting it wrong are truly life and death, as we have recently learned from our Northampton EMS Director. The leadership of Cape Charles, Cheriton, and Nassawadox join the County on this issue. This question alone will be the focus of the Task Force this Board has authorized. We hope that Riverside will be willing to listen to our analysis and conclusions.

Supervisor Tankard and I will update the Board regarding Hospital Task Force membership and progress at our work session later this month.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

H. Spencer Murray
Supervisor, District #4

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Mr. Randall, Mr. Bennett and Mr. Trala all expressed their desire to revisit Board of Supervisors' compensation levels for adjustment, for possible reversion to the previous level.

Mr. Bennett noted that additional travel funds were needed as well. Mr. Tankard replied that he would welcome this discussion closer to the FY 2012 budget time frame.

There was a brief discussion relative to use of the newly-acquired five lots in the Selma Estates subdivision adjacent to Northampton High School. Ideas such as another soccer field, cross-country, or other low-impact uses were discussed and the County Administrator was asked to convey this information to the School Division.

Mr. Tankard asked for a report at the November meeting on the status of the Six Year Plan.

Recess:

Motion was made by Mr. Murray, seconded by Mr. Randall, that the Board recess until 9:00 a.m., Friday, October 15, 2010, at 16399 Courthouse Road, Eastville, Virginia, for a site visit/tour of the two old jail buildings. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Long and voted "yes." The motion was unanimously passed.

The meeting was recessed.

_____ CHAIRMAN

_____ COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR