

Katie's Report



Board of Supervisors of Northampton County
P.O. Box 66 • Eastville, Virginia 23347

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Katherine H. Nunez
County Administrator

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TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Katie H. Nunez, County Administrator
DATE: March 1, 2016
RE: Bi-Monthly Report

I. Projects:

A. USDA Grant Obligation Update:

November/December 2015 & January 2016 Status Report: As an update from your October 13, 2015 meeting, we have continued to move forward with meeting the requirements of this agreement. USDA has signed off completely on all items except for the 2 generators for the School. Staff is still developing the procurement documents for the 2 generators for the elementary schools. To date, we have now committed \$496,283.85 of the \$599,734.80 obligation or 82.75%.

School Administration has received bids in for the installation of a generator at each elementary school. The price is \$109,000 per school. We budgeted \$50,000 per school. I have spoken with the school and their recommendation is to install one generator at Occohannock Elementary. If the Board would like to proceed with installing one generator at a cost of \$109,000, then the shortfall is \$9,000 which will be offset by \$3,451 of the previously identified funds when the Sheriff's vehicles came in under budget. Therefore, the final short is \$5,549 which could be taken from Undesignated Fund Balance. This allows us to fully meet our obligation to USDA.

If the Board does not wish to move forward with the generators, then the County would need to identify and obtain approval from USDA for a different project in the amount of \$103,700.

Board direction is needed regarding the installation of a generator at the elementary school, based upon the budgetary issues identified above.

B. SET (Stronger Economies Together) Grant:

Work is progressing on the regional SET Grant. The first four community meetings were held on October 27, 2015, December 15, 2015, January 12, 2016, and February 16, 2016. The next forum is scheduled for Tuesday, March 15, 2016 from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Community College. There is limited seating for this forum; however, this is the fifth

of six forums that will be held over six months. The purpose and intent of the SET Grant is to develop a strategic economic plan for the region, based upon community input with assistance from the ANPDC, USDA, and Virginia Tech personnel.

C. 2016 Reassessment:

The Commissioner of Revenue's office has completed all of the field work for the reassessment and data entry. Final proofing of the work is being conducted now. We are scheduled for the mailing of notices by the end of this month.

D. Enterprise Zone – Request to Add to the Map:

At your February meeting, you agreed to move forward to public hearing to amend the Enterprise Zone map for two parcels (83A3-2-2-84 and 31-A-76).

The County is allowed to amend the Enterprise Zone Map annually with the caveat that there must be more than one parcel being considered for inclusion. VA Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), who oversees this program, also indicated that map amendments must be a minimum of 10 acres plus at least two distinct lots. The two parcels being proposed total only 6 acres.

Therefore, we have delayed the public hearing as we continue to look for additional parcels that meet the qualifications.

E. New Event Proposed by Virginia Cooperative Extension:

Virginia Cooperative Extension in partnership with Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Northampton County Chamber of Commerce is proposing to host an Agricultural County Fair on October 1 at the former Middle School property. I have met with the organizers and will continue to work with them on this event. It is planned on being free to the public and meant to showcase the agricultural community of the Eastern Shore.