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The Wythe County Board of Supervisors held its regularly scheduled meeting at 7 p.m., Tuesday, July 11, 2017. The location of the meeting was in the Boardroom of the County Administration Building, 340 South Sixth Street, Wytheville, Virginia.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Timothy A. Reeves, Sr., Chair
Joe F. Hale, Vice Chair
Gary M. Houseman
Charlie G. Lester

Steven T. Willis
Coy L. McRoberts
B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.

STAFF PRESENT:

Stephen D. Bear, County Administrator
Scot Farthing, County Attorney
Martha G. Collins, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT:

Damon Alley
Bob Atwell
Lauren Cannoy
Thomas Cannoy
Jessica Collier
Larry Edwards
Tommy Hundley
Mike Ingo
Michael Jackson
Timothy M. Jones
David Kause
Bob Melton
Linda Meyer

Debra Porter
Jacob Porter
Mathew C. Porter
Cindy Privette
Preston Pruitt
Mike Reardon
Bill Smith
Trey E. Smith
Jacob Underwood
Niki Vaught
Whitley Yates
20 Other Citizens

CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

Chair Reeves determined that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Mike Ingo of the Draper Valley Pentecostal Holiness Church provided the invocation and Chair Reeves led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS' TIME

Chair Reeves welcomed the citizens present at the meeting and inquired if anyone wished to address the Board.

1. Youth Sports – Cindy Privette of 839 Danner Road in Max Meadows addressed the Board and stated the following:

"I am reverend, doctor, Cindy Privette. I have been the pastor of Anchor of Hope and Galena for 14 years. Also a grad of the University of Louisville. Master's in Education. Certification in Principalship K-12. Master of Divinity. I have served

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as a minister to families from cradle to grave. I have done a doctorate and I specialized in Greek. I want to speak to the situation that has happened with our sports children. I am here as an advocate for the children. Part of my calling is that I stand in the place of people who have no voice. I am their voice. Speaking on behalf of them, I will pull no punches. I am asking for the dismissal of the person who is responsible for what has happened in the sports program that has broken trust and confidence in our children. I will speak to that now. The first task that children learn is trust versus distrust. That means that they learn that if they have a need, that need will either be met or not met. If it is met, they grow trustful, they grow confident, they grow positive, and they grow happy. However, if that need is not met, they grow to be suspicious, cautious, cynical, and somewhat angry. If that level is not achieved, that trust versus distrust, it affects every relationship that they have thereon. The age that this event has happened with these children could not be a worse age. They are nine, ten, and eleven. I say that because before that age they are concrete thinkers. That means they only understand what you can see, feel, touch, hear, and taste. At the age of nine, ten, eleven, they grow to understand concepts. They grow to understand themes. They understand ideas. They understand love. They understand hate. They understand right. They understand wrong. That is why our denomination and others call it the age of accountability. They know right from wrong. They are listening. They are hearing and they are noticing justice. Particularly what happens with them and those around them. If they experience a sense of unfairness in the world, they will suspect unfairness in the world. They will suspect unfairness in their government. The last thing that I would say to you is I know something about grief. These children, every single one of them, are experiencing grief. It is the loss of a dream. It is the loss of a goal. It is something they have been working on for hours and hours and days and days and nights and nights. I would really challenge this council to get into the mind of a child. There is a condition that we know to be brain bruising. Now I know that that might seem foreign to you, but it has to do with pathways in our brain when part of that brain is hurt it is bruised. Those pathways are familiar. There will be many times in these kids' lives when they experience triggers about this event and it influences them. There is no way back. They have lost their innocence in this. I think it is a travesty. They have expected this body, our body, me, you, everyone to hand to them a structure that is dependable, fair, competent, and reliable and they have not received that. Not only that, they feel as if they are being punished for it. On top of that no one else is. I would like to challenge you to think about our responsibility to these kids. They need to see justice. I do not know this individual. I do not know these individuals, but I speculate that our structure could do with a little more accountability and competency. Anybody who is working with kids should have a basic course in child psychology. That is where I picked this up. That is what I have used. I am very careful about the way I behave, what I say, what I do, because those children will remember that for the rest of their lives. That is all I have to say. Thank you."

2. Quality Care Logistics Ambulance Service – Mathew C. Porter of 185 Arrowhead Lane in Wytheville addressed the Board and stated the following:

“I am wanting to get a resolution for my ambulance company. You all sent a Board letter to the people asking for it and they didn’t approve it. Says their policy has to have it in the form of a resolution so that is why I am here.”

Mr. Bear requested that the Board consider adoption of the resolution later in the meeting during old business.

3. Youth Sports – Jacob Underwood of 876 Spraker Road in Crockett addressed the Board and stated the following:

“I am not sure how to formally address you so if I do something wrong this is just from my heart. I am currently a student at Bluefield College. I am a double major in psychology and sports management. When I was younger, I went to Speedwell Elementary School. I always loved sports. It is my favorite thing to do. I remember when I was just in the third grade, the first age you get into competitive sports. Scotty Vaught came up to me, and he congratulated me on my passing. That may not seem like a big deal to you guys, it is one complement, but I ran to my parents and I told them the main guy, the leader told me that I was good. That meant a lot to me. I have heard him tell other kids that. He takes the time to learn every kids name in the program. I am an umpire for him. He goes beyond what is called from him. Me and him started that bond in the third grade. All the way until I graduated high school, he kept in touch with me. He was just a stranger before that. We are not related. There wasn’t anything drawing us together. When I became an umpire for Scotty, he told me that if, I ever needed anything from him that he would be there. I am not sure if you guys have ever been to a youth league baseball game, youth league softball game. The parents, they are ruthless. I have parents who want to kill me. I have been threatened by parents before and other parents don’t have my back, but Scotty Vaught had my back in that situation. He went up to the parent. He respectfully addressed them in the way that was needed to protect me as an umpire. The kids. He is a mentor to these kids. I wish you guys could take the time to see some of the kids that come up and talk to him in the press box in between games. They come up. Scotty will high five them, talk to them about their game. He can tell you anything about these kids. During the season when it got into the tournament time. At Ager Park, as we know it rains, and Ager Park gets destroyed. Scotty would get there six, seven hours early and I would go help him up at the field and we would make the field get into pristine condition for the kids. In baseball, the field gets ruined three plays later, but he put in so much work. Scotty has put in 23 years of service. He takes the time to learn all of the kids names. He is synonymous with the youth league. When I came into the youth league, Scotty Vaught, main guy. Nice guy. I assume all of you have talked to him. I personally believe in my heart that he is a very good guy. I came up from being an eight-year-old stranger to building a lifelong

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friendship with him. Scotty has taught me to be a better athlete, umpire, but also even better person. I will always respect, honor, and I honestly love the man. My hope is that there will be reconsideration. The kids need Scotty and every kid needs someone who cares as much as him. Thank you for listening to me.”

4. Youth Sports – Michael Jackson of 400 South Eighth Street in Wytheville addressed the Board and stated the following:

“I am here to speak on behalf of Scotty Vaught. I have known Scotty my whole life. When I played rec league sports, Scotty was always at the field helping coaches doing whatever Scotty does at the games. He is a great guy. He is a standup guy. He is a trust worthy guy. I believe you are making a huge mistake by not supporting him in this situation. Mistakes were probably made. I don't think that there is anybody in this room that can say that they have never made a mistake at work. I don't think every mistake should be, you should be terminated over every mistake. I don't think you are going to find another guy like Scotty. There are certain people in this town. Dickie Boyles, Kenny Sayers. I think Scotty is cut from that same cloth. I think you are making a huge mistake if you don't approach him and try to fix this situation. That is all I have for you guys. Thank you.”

5. Youth Sports – Niki Vaught of 1070 Union Street in Wytheville addressed the Board and stated the following:

“What I have handed you is 21 hours of social media posts and support, depression, denial from the people of the County after hearing of Scotty's resignation. I am Niki Vaught. I am here on behalf of my husband, Scotty Vaught. As you may or may not know, as of 8:15 Monday morning after countless sleepless nights and anxiety-ridden days, Scotty resigned his position as youth sports coordinator. During the weeks leading up to the decision, he made a call to let two twelve old girls in the Max Meadows area play down an age group in order to allow them to play at all, as there was not enough in their age group. If he had not made that decision, those two girls would not have played at all. This by no means is a reason to lose trust of a 22 plus year employee. Numerous meetings were had with Mr. Bear, Mr. Williams, as well as Scotty discussing the issue, which he admitted to the decision in the first meeting. Still yet in following meetings, Mr. Bear told Scotty that he had brought a black cloud over the department and that he wasn't sure that he could be trusted. Mind you after 22 and a half years. I apologize for the emotion. Also keeping in mind, during this time Scotty was hosting two coinciding baseball tournaments, which led him to work 100 plus hours in 9 days with absolutely no help from Mr. Williams, who is the director of the Recreation Department. In fact, Mr. Williams was never seen, never stepped foot at Ager Park where the tournaments were held. As I noticed, not here today as well. Scotty has been looked over twice for the position that Mr. Williams currently holds. When a parent called to ask him a rule, he had to call Scotty to get that said rule. Shouldn't it be the other way around?

I have held many management positions, as well as being a business owner and I would hate to think that those that I am managing have more knowledge than I do of my position and what it entails. In fact, I would almost guarantee that if you ask around the room, the people in attendance today, the majority either wouldn't recognize him or have just heard his name for the first time tonight. That is where my lack of trust would lie, not in a 22 and a half year vested employee. In closing, all I ask is the consideration of reconnecting with Scotty and hashing out the miscommunication and let the kids of the County, which is top priority, have the opportunity that thousands of others throughout his 22 years have had and get to prosper from learning and having the guidance from Scotty as you have heard from children that have come up before. I can assure you and I feel that you will hear from others and probably have throughout day today that his good much outweighs a few minor bads. I thank you for your time and consideration in this manner."

6. Youth Sports – Trey Smith of 375 South Seventh Street in Wytheville addressed the Board and stated the following:

"I am here again today to support Scotty Vaught. Scotty Vaught has had an impact in my life. He really has. I graduated from Concord University, education major as it started out, finished with a business management degree and a communications degree. I currently work at ABB in Bland in the cells engineering department. With that being said, I support Scotty for what he does. I currently work for Scotty, and work for Wythe County as an umpire. Not only am I an umpire, I am also a role model to these kids. He brought me on board as someone who has played collegiate athletics, the opportunity to play professional athletics, and independent baseball. Having the strong roots from my grandfather is just like Scotty Vaught. Some of you, I have never really seen you around the recreation, I am there. We do sometimes six to eight games a week. I have never seen anyone there. I think I have seen you there once. With that being said, we talk about our current society in sports and how it ties people together and how we are building strong kids, smart kids. If it wasn't for sports, I wouldn't have gotten my education. We really need to think about what type of person he was, what impact he is having on kids and one mistake. For 450 kids that may have went on to go to college, may have made an impact in our positive community for Wythe County. For those kids, Scotty could have impacted most of them, if not all of them. I know me and my brother are prime examples of sports being a breakthrough to be successful. Therefore, I just want to make people aware of the situation within my community, in Wytheville. I feel he runs Wythe County better than Wytheville is run and it is looked at as a top-notch program. I am directly involved with both of them. I am just here to support him. Kids need the right to play sports. Kids need the right to have a good official. Parents want good officials and Scotty does everything that he can to do that. Regardless if he has made a mistake. Most important, if a kid wants to play sports, a kid should be able to play sports, regardless. We shouldn't shut a team down just because they don't have enough players. If the County needs to fund

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that in a better way to get them some help, then that is what we want to do. If you can't support one of your colleagues in a situation where he doesn't have enough budget to get more personnel, then that is a problem. Therefore, if you have got more people working for the kids, then maybe more kids will play. That is why we come back to the situation, but I won't be long. I just thank you for your time and consideration, but really think about this decision that you are making because it can impact everyone in this room. Thank you."

7. Youth Sports – Jessica Collier of 149 Carters Park Lane in Max Meadows addressed the Board and stated the following:

"I am here to show support for Scotty Vaught as well. I have worked with Scotty back through the spring trying to establish a baseball team through Sheffey Elementary School. There were lots of issues and confusion back and forth of whether we had enough people to play or not, but we had a group of boys who desperately wanted to play baseball and nowhere to go. Scotty Vaught stayed in contact with me for weeks while we tried to figure out a way to get these boys on a team and let them play. Working with Kevin Williams every step of the way. At the end of it all, we had a baseball team. The boys that wanted to play got to play. We had 12 players. I know that we have had issues throughout the spring sports season with the softball team at Max Meadows. One of the girls who was allowed to play down and then got disqualified later is my niece. I have got personal ties to that as well. Then we had the issue with the baseball team. The boy's baseball team who got disqualified in Carroll County. Through it all and me personally, my working with Scotty Vaught, every time there was a decision that needed to be made, he always said to us, let me run it by Kevin and I will call you back and he did. Either that or he would put me on speakerphone and bring Kevin in the office before any decisions were made, anything was discussed, everything was run through Kevin. Our baseball team needed a field to practice on so we wound up practicing at a church's baseball field. Scotty went out of his way to run it through Kevin and get approval for us to use a pitcher's mound from Ager Park so that we could have adequate equipment just to practice on so that we could play. My point of it all is, he goes out of his way to help these children and to make sure that all of the children get to play. Sometimes, yeah the rules might be bent a little bit so that the kids get to play, but we are talking elementary school sports. I guarantee you at none of these games were any college scouts looking for kids. I guarantee it. I don't see. I think the root of the problem is the parents need to get back to understanding that this is for the kids and it is not for parents to live through the kids. As far as the County goes, I think you guys need to understand what a tremendous asset you are losing if you don't go back and try to fix things with Scotty Vaught. There is a problem in the Parks and Rec Department and it does need to be addressed, but Scotty Vaught is the bottom of the totem pole. He gets his orders from higher on up. I think if you want to fix the problems you need to go on up to the people who are giving him approval and giving him the orders like Kevin Williams or Stephen Bear or whoever gives him the authorization to make the decisions he makes before you

start eliminating everybody. If you just get rid of the bottom man and you keep the top ones who make the decisions, you are going to wind up with the same issues over and over and our kids are going to be the ones who ultimately pay the price. That is all I have got to say. Thank you.”

8. Youth Sports – Timothy Michael Jones of 2050 West Ridge Road in Wytheville addressed the Board and stated the following:

“I am here on behalf of Scotty Vaught. I am not here to be ill willed at either side. I just can only attest to the character and person that he is and the things that I have seen him do all of my life. He has not only helped me, but he has helped many youth in this County and in this Town. I have seen him get money out of his own pocket to buy kids that were less fortunate so that they could have something to eat at a local football game on Friday night. Not many people do that. All I can say is I can without a doubt say that any decision that he would ever make would never hurt a child purposefully. We all make mistakes. We all have shortcomings. There has only been one perfect person on this planet and they crucified him. I think you all would be making a grave mistake if you let this man leave this organization because he does a fabulous job. He is a loved individual in Wythe County. Everybody makes mistakes. I make them every day. I ask for forgiveness every Sunday morning. I just ask you to reconsider and maybe make some contact and fix this problem. Thank you.”

9. Youth Sports – Jacob Porter of 7692 Peppers Ferry Road in Max Meadows addressed the Board and stated the following:

“I wanted to come back and talk to you again about Wythe County Parks and Rec. I was here on June 30 and spoke with you about the situation. At that time, I told you that I was going to Carroll County too. Last night I went to Carroll County. Carroll was not nearly as receptive and didn’t seem to take myself seriously or Mr. Damon back there who went with me. I asked several questions in a line about the things that happened that night. Now after that June 30 meeting, Mr. Bear had called me to follow up and I thank him for that call to follow up. He assured me that many changes would be made, but I didn’t get what those changes are. I think that one of the changes that we would ask for would be that maybe some pressure be put on Carroll County to make changes as well. They are at the root of this and the questions that I asked and I attempted to get Mr. Williams to contact me via phone. He declined to talk to me via phone telling me that he had gotten all of the information he needed via text from the head coach Wes Billings. The questions that I brought up have never been on an official level taken up with Carroll County and I think that is something that we might want to look at considering doing. The other changes that I do think that we ought to look at making as well is we need out of the Southwest Virginia Youth Baseball League. Carroll County, it would appear, attempts to run it as though it is the Carroll County Youth Baseball League. If you do an internet search for the Southwest Virginia Youth Baseball League, they don’t have a

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website. They have nothing but instructions that you can download of the rules from different county websites. Even Al-Qaeda has a website. They manage to upload YouTube videos from caves in Afghanistan, but we can't have a website where parents can go. There is no structure. After a conversation with a member of the Youth Dixie League for baseball last night, youth baseball, I think that is the direction we need to go. That is one of the changes we need to see. I would ask you gentlemen to look at talking to parks and rec and let's push for some more changes. I can get guarantees of all kinds of positive changes, but until I see something that tells me that the changes are being made, it is just hollow promises and words. That is basically it. I appreciate your time."

10. Youth Sports – Damon Alley of 122 Beetle Spinner Drive in Max Meadows addressed the Board and stated the following:

"I am just going to follow up a little bit more with what Jacob just had to say. Like I said, me and him did go to Carroll County last night. Some of the things that bothered me with this whole situation was the lack of support that we felt like we was getting as a baseball team. I heard a lot of people talk about choosing sides. Max Meadows never pointed fingers per se. They wanted this problem fixed for these kids. That was our goal is to get something resolved for these kids. To right the wrong and to keep it from happening again. The biggest problem that I had with the Carroll County meeting last night was Mr. Truett sat there and told me that it was a separate tournament that we was playing in Carroll County. Had a separate set of rules. Had our Rec Department followed up on that they would have known that those rules were given out on the 29th and we were disqualified on the 28th. Things like that. Everything that we went through last night with the Board up there and speaking with Mr. Truett, I hate to say it, but everything in the world points to we were set up before we even got there. How do the rules for a tournament go out the day after a disqualification of the tournament? Everything looked like a cover up. We want to do everything in our power to make sure that this don't happen for these kids again. Thank you guys."

11. Youth Sports – Preston Pruitt of 335 Lakeview Drive in Wytheville addressed the Board and stated the following:

"I recognize some faces. I am not here to make anybody mad. I am here on behalf of Scotty Vaught. Being in sports and education behind my father for 40 plus years in this community, I see what he had an impact on. Scotty Vaught does the same thing. Every kid that has been around Scotty Vaught loves Scotty Vaught. I love Scotty Vaught like a brother. I have known him for 35 years or more. Like everybody else has said, it is a mistake to let something like that happen over a mistake. Everybody makes mistakes. I am sure every one of you all made a mistake today. Being up here, looking at you all, it is kind of intimidating, but I don't know how you all would feel if you all were Scotty Vaught in a gym full of parents screaming at the top of their lungs at officials or at Scotty

or at a coach. Like she said, there are no college scouts there. There are no pro scouts there. Some of these parents have got to realize that it is for the kids to grow as people, men, women, and grow in the knowledge of sports. It is not just about one game, a baseball game that has happened. I don't know what happened. I don't have no clue what is going on. Letting that man go is going to be a mistake in this County. I don't know what the plan is. I really don't. That is about all I can say, but like I said, as these other people have said, these kids love him. I am like Timmy. He has pulled out money several times in front of me and given it to someone else so that they can go get something to eat. I have also been around when he has told someone, no I am sorry your kids going to turn nine years old a week late. I am sorry he can't play in this league. I have been there countless times when he told people that. One mistake or two mistakes, or whatever has happened shouldn't justify letting somebody go who has been your all's backbone in the sports program for 20 some years. He is the only one there 90% of the time unless it is his wife Niki there or me as an official. I have been there with him in basketball games 10 plus years. There are a couple others in here who have been there with him as well. I have never. Stephen, I might have seen you at a couple. The lack of support he gets is crazy. I have seen Kevin maybe twice. Scotty is there at the time to start until it finishes. Each event that goes on. Carrying the bags, pulling the rake, driving the mower, I mean whatever it takes. He is doing it. Driving us down the road. If you all have got somebody in mind that can do better than that, then good luck with that. Letting him go is going to be a mistake. Thank you all."

12. Building Permit – Larry Edwards of 250 Knollwood Lane in Wytheville addressed the Board and stated the following:

"I am the secretary and treasurer of G&E Enterprises. Mr. Robert Melton is the 50% partner. We have had a number of issues with a project at 4909 Fort Chiswell Road. That is the old Pure Country building. We were approached by a realtor in October of 2015 to ask us to purchase that. To see if we couldn't get it back in operation. We purchased that in November. After looking at it, we had concrete walls standing there that was left. All of it was consumed with the fire. It had a crawlspace in it about four feet, which was full of water and debris. We felt like we were at extreme risk for liability so we talked with Tim Spraker, the Building Official. I applied for a permit on November 18. I will provide the Chairman copies of the written information. I applied for that permit a few days before November 18. We proceeded to fill in that crawlspace with stone from the Crowder Quarry. On November 18, Mr. Spraker issued a stop work order, which essentially said 'it is new construction, to place stone inside of the remaining walls and foundation, this counts as new construction,' which we did not agree with. My knowledge of filling in a hole with stone. No one has been able to prove to me that that is a violation of the Uniform Building Code. I could be proven wrong. That was the first issue. Here is a copy of the sheet that Mr. Spraker gave for requirements. At the top, you will notice they have written in Pure Country. The second approves the erosion and sediment control permit

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or sign an agreement in lieu of plan for 10,000 feet or less. That site is less than 10,000 feet. Second one is an entrance permit for Virginia Department of Highways and Transportation for any new entrance. I think the plan will show and your documents from your water and sewer lines shows that there are existing entrances that have been used since 1940. That will become an issue at a later date, which is essentially the reason he says he will not issue a permit because we don't have that. In order to try to facilitate that as much as possible, our legal counsel tells us and I will give you a copy of the VDOT specs, which you can inspect at their website. I will quote just a little of it very quickly as I try to move along as much as possible. 'What's the application to existing entrances? The regulations and standards will not apply to existing entrances where there is no change in land use as long as the existing entrances are maintained in a good safe condition.' We have an existing entrance; there is no change of use. It was previously used as a c store and a restaurant and a beauty shop. Our permit is doing away with the beauty shop. We will not have that. We would have a restaurant and a c store. We do have tenants that we expect to lease. We don't plan on operating that. That is a rental property. That said, the entrance permits are not guaranteed for eternal. However, there are three key questions used to determine if a permit is needed to be used. Will the use of the property change such that there is a significant increase in the trip generation of the property? If it is being used for the same purpose it was before, there is an existing entrance, then the answer to that is no. Number two. Will there be a change in the type of vehicles that would access the site. I would say no. We are not turning it in to a truck stop. If you were going from single cars to a truck stop, then obviously that would be. Is the existing entrance design or location unsafe to the public? I have no notification that that is the case. Your contractors have parked on it. Used it. VDOT had a vehicle parked on it over the weekend. School buses turn in it. VDOT has not told us that there is any unsafe conditions. There may need to be some modifications, and we did meet with VDOT upon approval. Met with Ms. Juanita Wells and Ms. Pam Heath. Subsequently, he requested a water and sewer, a septic and a well certification. There is an existing well and existing septic system on the site. We provided that. In September of 2016, we proceeded to dig the lines to reconnect the building to the existing sewer and the existing well. On September 14, he issued a stop work order. After a meeting with Mr. Dalton and him and others, he lifted that for no reason. Either it was incorrectly, it was put in place illegally or he didn't state the reason for lifting it. I will read it to you 'this stop work order issued September 14 on the property 4909 has been removed. Please cover the trench and implement best management practices.' My statement would be if it was wrong, there should have been some remediation. In the first part of June, we submitted the final plan for the up-fit on the interior. Paid for the fees. That was basically on May 12. You will have a copy of that. Paid \$987 for review of the plans. Excuse me, I stand corrected. We paid \$538 for the permit. We paid \$430 for plan review. Signed the land disturbance agreement. On June 21, I received an e-mail from Rhonda Vaught that they had not received any documents. We re-sent the original e-mail. I don't know what kind of bookkeeping they have, but we re-sent what we

originally did and those photocopies are in here. On July 6, I filed an appeal with Tim Spraker for the actions that he had taken to present to the review board. I received a response from him asking what he was appealing or what we were appealing. I am repealing his non-decision. I don't know what other information you can supply. Mr. Farthing responded to me today, that he would check into it further. Of course, we will have an issue with Mr. Farthing, since he represented Mr. Melton on a number of cases and in our opinion that is a conflict of interest. Paid \$1,000 fee for water hook up approximately a year ago and asked for that to be completed and it still hasn't been done. Basically, I feel like we are being discriminated against. We are being delayed. I work with a lot of building inspectors; in fact, we are working with several at the moment. I have some experience. All we want is a little bit of cooperation. If we are required to have the VDOT permit, which my legal counsel says we do not because we have an existing entrance. That can be remediated. He has the ability to withhold final inspection. He has visited our employees a couple of times. In fact, I just received a call two hours ago from the electrical contractor. I think the interactions should be between us as the owners and the permit specialists, not between our employees. I just wanted to make you aware of that situation. We would like to work through it. Move on. Develop the property. Bring in some tax revenue and move on. We do have other avenues and we will pursue those if we can't. We have about a quarter million dollars invested. We will invest another \$250,000 to \$500,000 and we are going to protect that with whatever avenues we need. I don't think I need to say any more, but we are prepared to go the distance. If you have any questions, I would be happy to answer them. Mr. Bear sent an e-mail, I think yesterday to VDOT. I don't know whether he got a response or not. In a lot of cases, I don't have a response. They work at their own schedule. I have had some experience with this situation. In the Midway Shell Station in Carroll County, we had almost an exact case that was litigated in the Carroll County courts. We prevailed in that case. If you have any questions, I can answer them or maybe Mr. Melton if he would like to say anything."

Chair Reeves requested that Mr. Edwards meet with himself and Mr. Bear Thursday at 8 a.m.

Mr. Edwards stated, "I think possibly. My mother had a serious fall and got out of the hospital yesterday. If under normal circumstances. If nothing transpires. She is 95. My dad is 98. I feel like my first obligation is to them. As far as I know my schedule would allow that. If not we can reschedule."

Chair Reeves asked that Mr. Edwards contact Mr. Bear. He noted that they could meet anytime Thursday that he is available to work towards a resolution to this issue.

13. Youth Sports – Bob Atwell, Jr. of 735 Mountain View Drive in Wytheville addressed the Board and stated the following:

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"I just want to echo the sentiments of the people we have heard before me in support of Scotty Vaught. My wife and I have two children. They are both successful college athletes. They grew up in Scotty's, we feel like it is Scotty's program. He supported our children. Given great joy to our children and our family. I want to keep this brief. I just want to say that I hope things can be worked out. I don't know what happened, but I hope things can be worked out and he can continue to enrich the lives of all of our children and our people here in Wytheville."

14. Youth Sports – Niki Vaught readdressed the Board and read a phone message from Kenny Sayers as follows:

"I am unable to be here tonight because of some back problems, but I would like to say a few words on Scotty's behalf. I have known Scotty since he was in grade school. For the last 20 some years, I have watched him dedicate his life to the youth of Wythe County. You don't have much of a life doing this job. I know. I did it for 35 years. You are working when everyone else is working and when everyone else is off. It is a six to seven day a week job. You have to love it, to do it. I have worked with Scotty a lot and his heart is with the kids. What we do is not always perfect to some of the outsiders, but it is always what we think is best for the kids. I think someone needs to step up and get Scotty back doing what he does best. Tell me, who are you going to get to do the job that he does. No one. I can't think of another person who could do it. He knows all the people and they all respect him. That is the key. People think this job is easy. Go with him, one of his 12-hour days and see just what he has to do. If you do, you will realize that you better find a way to keep this guy. Let's remember that our youth should always come first and you have your guy that lives that phrase. Thank you. Kenny Sayers."

With no one else to address the Board, Chair Reeves closed Citizens' Time.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Board was presented with the June 30, 2017 minutes for adoption.

Supervisor McRoberts made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Horney to approve the June 30, 2017 minutes as presented.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Gary M. Houseman	Coy L. McRoberts
	Charlie G. Lester	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	Steven T. Willis	Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.
	Joe F. Hale	

NAYS: None

PAYMENT OF COUNTY INVOICES

Supervisor Willis made a motion to pay the invoices for approval on July 11, 2017 for the various departments of County government. The invoices were paid on General Warrants 30098554-30098600 as follows:

**EXPENDITURES BY DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
July 11, 2017**

CHECK NO.	ISSUE DATE	VENDOR	TOTAL
30098554	07/11/17	APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY	\$2,363.77
30098555	07/11/17	BAKERS CONSTRUCTION SERVICES INC.	\$179,580.16
30098556	07/11/17	BARREN SPRINGS VOL. FIRE DEPT.	\$1,000.00
30098557	07/11/17	BROWN EXTERMINATING CO.	\$40.00
30098558	07/11/17	CARTER BANK AND TRUST (NOTE)	\$15,985.00
30098559	07/11/17	CARTER, G. W.	\$480.17
30098560	07/11/17	CAVALIER SUPPLY CO.	\$451.60
30098561	07/11/17	CENTURY LINK	\$44.43
30098562	07/11/17	CENTURY LINK	\$226.76
30098563	07/11/17	CENTURY LINK	\$244.53
30098564	07/11/17	CITIZENS TELEPHONE COOP	\$720.00
30098565	07/11/17	COULTER'S FLORIST INC.	\$40.00
30098566	07/11/17	DEPARTMENT OF MUSEUMS HERITAGE	\$1,250.00
30098567	07/11/17	FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER	\$4,687.50
30098568	07/11/17	GRANT, BRUCE M.	\$4,074.25
30098569	07/11/17	HORNEY, HAYDEN H.	\$307.69
30098570	07/11/17	IVANHOE FIRE DEPARTMENT	\$1,000.00
30098571	07/11/17	KEGLEY, ROBERT	\$409.02
30098572	07/11/17	KING, CAROLYN	\$302.60
30098573	07/11/17	LANE GROUP, THE	\$53,536.00
30098574	07/11/17	LITTLE B ENTERPRISES INC.	\$121,168.61
30098575	07/11/17	MANSFIELD OIL CO.	\$5,760.73
30098576	07/11/17	MAX MEADOWS FIRE DEPARTMENT	\$2,000.00
30098577	07/11/17	MILO C. COCKERHAM INC.	\$741.70
30098578	07/11/17	NEW RIVER VALLEY JUVENILE DETENTION	\$10,920.00
30098579	07/11/17	POSTAGE BY PHONE RESERVE ACCT.	\$515.00
30098580	07/11/17	PRINTECH INC.	\$3,479.53
30098581	07/11/17	ROANOKE TIMES	\$730.43
30098582	07/11/17	RURAL DEVELOPMENT	\$2,282.00
30098583	07/11/17	RURAL DEVELOPMENT	\$2,514.00
30098584	07/11/17	RURAL DEVELOPMENT	\$11,572.00
30098585	07/11/17	SMG	\$4,000.00
30098586	07/11/17	SMYTH WYTHE AIRPORT COMMISSION	\$15,500.00
30098587	07/11/17	SPEEDWELL FIRE DEPARTMENT	\$1,000.00
30098588	07/11/17	SUNTRUST	\$36,881.92

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30098589	07/11/17	TESSCO INC.	\$2,886.53
30098590	07/11/17	THREE RIVERS MEDIA CORP.	\$660.00
30098591	07/11/17	TYLER TECHNOLOGIES INC.	\$1,874.72
30098592	07/11/17	US CELLULAR	\$65.10
30098593	07/11/17	US CELLULAR	\$841.69
30098594	07/11/17	VERIZON WIRELESS	\$50.08
30098595	07/11/17	VIRGINIA RESOURCE AUTHORITY	\$2,617.74
30098596	07/11/17	VITA	\$148.41
30098597	07/11/17	VITA	\$231.10
30098598	07/11/17	WYTHEVILLE OFFICE SUPPLY	\$45.50
30098599	07/11/17	WYTHEVILLE WYTHE BLAND	\$3,500.00
30098600	07/11/17	XEROX	\$323.21
TOTAL EXPENDITURES APPROVED 07/11/17			\$499,053.48

Supervisor Lester seconded the motion.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Gary M. Houseman Coy L. McRoberts
Charlie G. Lester B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
Steven T. Willis Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.
Joe F. Hale

NAYS: None

PUBLIC HEARING – RAPER RIDGE WATER TANK PROJECT BOND ISSUANCE

Chair Reeves announced that notice is hereby given that the Board of Supervisors of Wythe County, Virginia, in compliance with the Code of Virginia and amendments thereto, will hold a public hearing to receive comments concerning proposed issuance of bonds at one time or from time to time by Wythe County. The estimated maximum aggregate amount of said bonds is \$1,252,000. The general purpose for which the bonds are to be issued and the proposed uses of the proceeds of such bonds are to finance the cost of a new water storage tank, for which more than 10% of the total bond proceeds are expected to be used and to pay the costs of issuing the bonds. The public hearing, which may be continued or adjourned, and at which persons may appear and present their views on the matter, will be held at 7:05 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard on July 11, 2017, before the Board in the Boardroom of the County Administration Building, 340 South Sixth Street, Wytheville, Virginia.

Mr. Bear advised, "The issuance of the bond is for a water tank to be located upon County property down on Raper Ridge for the benefit of the New River Regional Water Authority, which provides water service to Wythe County, Carroll County, and the Town of Wytheville. Since the County is the owner of the property and the County is the owner of the previous bond on the additional tank and line there, the County will be taking out the bond on this. However, the debt service on this will be repaid by the New River Regional Water Authority."

Chair Reeves opened the public hearing and inquired if anyone present wished to address the Board.

With no one to address the Board, Chair Reeves closed the public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING – ORDINANCE GRANTING PARTIAL EXEMPTION FROM REAL ESTATE TAXATION FOR CERTAIN REHABILITATED COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL REAL ESTATE

Chair Reeves announced that notice is hereby given that the Board of Supervisors of Wythe County, Virginia, in compliance with the Code of Virginia and amendments thereto, will hold a public hearing to receive comments related to a proposed ordinance titled "Wythe County Ordinance Granting Partial Exemption from Real Estate Taxation for Certain Rehabilitated Commercial and Industrial Real Estate." The public hearing, which may be continued or adjourned, and at which persons may appear and present their views on the matter, will be held at 7:10 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard on July 11, 2017, before the Board in the Boardroom of the County Administration Building, 340 South Sixth Street, Wytheville, Virginia.

Mr. Bear reported that "we did receive a request from the Town Council of Wytheville to consider adopting an ordinance similar in structure to the ordinance that they have to provide an incentive for businesses located within an Enterprise Zone in Wythe County that have structures that are no less than 40 years old so that the increased assessed value of the structure of no less than 30%, without increasing the total square footage of the structure by more than 15%. Basically, what this ordinance does is, if you have a building that meets the age timeframe and you are proposing to improve that building and redo it, the improvements that you make will be allowed to have a rebate, or refund on the real estate tax on the improved value. I will use an example for you, if you have a \$1 million building; current taxes you are paying on it are \$4,900 a year. If it is in the Enterprise Zone, it is over 40 years old, and you come in and you rehabilitate it, and you add \$1 million worth of value as assessed by the Commissioner of Revenue, it is now worth \$2 million. You would still pay the \$4,900 on the original \$1 million assessed value. On the \$1 million that has been improved, the first year you would receive a discount on that tax amount of 100%, so you would not pay that \$4,900. That would be a rebate. The next year that amount decreases to 80%, the next year 60%, after five years you would be paying full tax value on the building. It is meant as an incentive to provide those that have older buildings to rehabilitate them and add value to the tax rolls."

Chair Reeves opened the public hearing and inquired if anyone present wished to address the Board.

Tommy Hundley of 30 Lee Circle in Wytheville addressed the Board and stated the following:

"I just want to thank you guys for considering this ordinance and just let you know what an integral part this is to our downtown renovations. As you know, I have been

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passionate about this. I aggravated Mr. Dalton I think from 2010. Mr. Bear, I have probably aggravated you. Tim, I know I have harassed you as well. I just encourage you to please adopt this ordinance. I think that it is good not only for our downtown, but also for the full Enterprise Zone. If you have any questions for me. I have come on my own accord. No one from the Town Council knew I was coming. I just want to let you know that it is important and we would love to see it adopted. Thank you."

Mike Reardon of 7682 West Lee Highway in Rural Retreat addressed the Board and stated the following:

"Been kind of reviewing over this ordinance and I have got a bit of an issue with it. I like the intent of it, but I think it is kind of unfair. Why does a business have to be in an Enterprise Zone to enjoy this? Some farmer wants to expand his equipment shed or milk barn. I think of like here in Wytheville it is considered in an Enterprise Zone. Food Lion out on the east end, that building. Who owns it could improve it. It is more than 40 years old. Little grocery store that is down in the four way between Wytheville and Speedwell, if they want to improve it, they don't get the benefit of this. I just, seems like to me, the government is picking winners and losers here. That is my view of it. Thank you."

Bill Smith of 800 Whippoorwill Road in Wytheville addressed the Board and stated the following:

"I would like to address this ordinance of the Enterprise Zone tax rebate or tax freezing. I call it a tax freeze. I understand it; we are talking about freezing the tax on the improvements that is greater than 30%. Just a reminder to folks, it is not taking from the current tax revenue base. It is new money that may not be there if the incentive were not there to help someone afford the renovation. A good point about fairness, or the broad stroke, or lack of a broad stroke of this ordinance. I am not sure, but it may be required that this type of incentive be included in an Enterprise Zone for a certain type of structure. I am not certain about that. Mr. Bear can check that out. I know in the Town, it was. We extended the Enterprise Zone so that certain incentives or the County allowed the Enterprise Zone to be extended into a portion of the Town that needed some help. That was how these incentives came about. Also, to say that it is broader than the Town, if this passes. I guess it goes into Progress Park and to maybe Fairview and some areas outside of the Town limit. Is that correct? I can tell you it is an important part of the whole financial picture. The Town freezing is very good and we appreciate that, but the amounts of money you are dealing with is a lot different. It is a much larger incentive and much more help on the County's tax side than it is on the Town. I think it is important and it certainly has helped the areas that have it. I encourage you to pass it."

With no one else to address the Board, Chair Reeves closed the public hearing.

RESOLUTION 2017-15 – QUALITY CARE LOGISTICS AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Board reviewed and discussed Resolution 2017-15, authorizing Quality Care Logistics Ambulance Service to operate and provide medical transports in Wythe County as follows:

**RESOLUTION 2017-15
QUALITY CARE LOGISTICS AMBULANCE SERVICE**

WHEREAS, the Quality Care Logistics Ambulance Service, has appeared before the Wythe County Board of Supervisors to request the Board’s approval and authorization for Quality Care Logistics Ambulance Service to operate and provide medical transport services in Wythe County, Virginia;

NOW; THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED by the Wythe County, Virginia, Board of Supervisors that it is the best interest of the citizens of Wythe County to approve and authorize the Quality Care Logistics Ambulance Service to operate and provide medical transport services in the boundaries of Wythe County, Virginia.

Supervisor McRoberts made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Horney to adopt Resolution 2017-15 as presented.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Gary M. Houseman	Coy L. McRoberts
	Charlie G. Lester	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	Steven T. Willis	Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.
	Joe F. Hale	

NAYS: None

RAPER RIDGE WATER TANK PROJECT BOND ISSUANCE

Supervisor Houseman made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Willis to adopt the Resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of general obligation and water revenue bonds of Wythe County, Virginia, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$1,252,000 and providing for the form, details, and payment of the bonds as presented.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Gary M. Houseman	Coy L. McRoberts
	Charlie G. Lester	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	Steven T. Willis	Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.
	Joe F. Hale	

NAYS: None

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REGIONAL SHARED 911 CALL HANDLING EQUIPMENT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The Board reviewed and discussed the revised memorandum of understanding between Bland County, Wythe County, and the Twin County E911 Commission for regional shared 911 call handling equipment.

Supervisor Houseman made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Horney to accept the memorandum of understanding between Bland County, Wythe County, and the Twin County E911 Commission for regional shared 911 call handling equipment as presented.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Gary M. Houseman Coy L. McRoberts
Charlie G. Lester B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
Steven T. Willis Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.
Joe F. Hale

NAYS: None

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

1. Hay Removal Bid Approval – Supervisor Hale made a motion, as recommended by the Economic Development Committee to accept V & M Recycling’s bid for removal of hay from Lot 24, Kents Lane, and the Speedwell Landfill property.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Gary M. Houseman Coy L. McRoberts
Charlie G. Lester B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
Steven T. Willis Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.
Joe F. Hale

NAYS: None

2. Resolution 2017-17 – Supervisor Hale made a motion to adopt Resolution 2017-17 authorizing submittal of the Appalachian Regional Exposition Center Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission grant application.

**RESOLUTION 2017-17
AUTHORIZING THE PREPARATION AND FILING OF A GRANT
APPLICATION TO THE TOBACCO REGION REVITALIZATION
COMMISSION**

WHEREAS, The Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission is soliciting applications for the 2017 Southwest Economic Development Program, and

WHEREAS, the Wythe County Board of Supervisors has determined that the construction of the APEX Center in Wythe County meets the program requirements,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors wish to make application to the Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission's 2017 Southwest Economic Development Program in order to obtain funding for the construction of the APEX Center.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Gary M. Houseman	Coy L. McRoberts
	Charlie G. Lester	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	Steven T. Willis	Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.
	Joe F. Hale	

NAYS: None

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT

1. Sheriff's Office Training Facility – Supervisor Hale made a motion, as recommended by the Building and Grounds Committee to authorize the Sheriff's Office to use the property located at 2875 Peppers Ferry Road as a training facility.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Gary M. Houseman	Coy L. McRoberts
	Charlie G. Lester	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	Steven T. Willis	Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.
	Joe F. Hale	

NAYS: None

2. County Office Building Addition Bids – Supervisor Hale made a motion, as recommended by the Building and Grounds Committee to reject the County Office Building Addition project bids, which all came in over budget.

The motion passed unanimously.

BARREN SPRINGS PHASE II AND III ENGINEER SERVICES AGREEMENT AMENDMENT CORRECTION

The Board reviewed and discussed a memorandum and supporting documents from County Engineer Bill Vaughan concerning correction to the Barren Springs Phase II and III Engineer Services Agreement Amendment.

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Mr. Bear advised, "Back in March of 2017, you all approved an amendment with Peed and Bortz for the Engineering Agreement in the amount of \$24,000... As it ended up the funds that were remaining did not provide us enough to run the line as far as anticipated. After the USDA reviewed it, and where we were going, the change order amount has been reduced to \$14,560. It is a deduction from what was previously approved."

Supervisor McRoberts made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Lester to approve the correction to the Barren Springs Phase II and III Engineer Services Agreement Amendment as presented.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Gary M. Houseman Coy L. McRoberts
Charlie G. Lester B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
Steven T. Willis Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.
Joe F. Hale

NAYS: None

RESOLUTION 2017-16 – VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE WORKERS COMPENSATION COVERAGE

The Board reviewed and discussed Resolution 2017-16 authorizing coverage of volunteer fire and rescue personnel as follows:

**RESOLUTION 2017-16
VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE WORKERS COMPENSATION COVERAGE**

BE IT RESOLVED that the volunteer members of the fire departments and rescue squads of Wythe County, Virginia, are hereby authorized to be included as employees for the purposes of the Workers' Compensation Act of the Commonwealth of Virginia and are entitled to coverage provided under said Act.

Supervisor Lester made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Horney to adopt Resolution 2017-16, Volunteer Fire and Rescue Workers Compensation Coverage as presented.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Gary M. Houseman Coy L. McRoberts
Charlie G. Lester B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
Steven T. Willis Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.
Joe F. Hale

NAYS: None

Supervisor Hale expressed his appreciation to those in attendance for their turnout in support of Mr. Vaught. He noted that he believes that Mr. Vaught made decisions from the heart for the benefit of the kids in the sports program.

RECESS

The Board recessed at 8:13 p.m. until Thursday, July 13, 2017, at 5 p.m.

RECONVENE

The Board reconvened on Thursday, July 13, 2017, at 5:03 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Timothy A. Reeves, Sr., Chair
Joe F. Hale, Vice Chair
Gary M. Houseman
Charlie G. Lester

Steven T. Willis
Coy L. McRoberts
B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.

STAFF PRESENT:

Stephen D. Bear, County Administrator
Jennifer Druien, Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT:

Cellell Dalton

APPALACHIAN REGIONAL EXPOSITION CENTER PROJECT

The Board reviewed and discussed the Appalachian Regional Exposition Center Project proposed general terms and conditions, bidding process, construction management, and grading contract.

1. General Terms and Conditions – The Board discussed the option of revising bid specifications from the Engineers Joint Contract Document Committee (EJCDC) documents to the Commonwealth of Virginia General Condition of the Construction Contract. The Board directed staff to finalize General Condition of Construction Contract documents for consideration at the next Board meeting.
2. Bidding Process – In reviewing the bidding process, Mr. Dalton recommended bidding the project as both a lump sum project and as separate contracts in order to analyze savings potential.
3. Construction Management – The Board advised staff to begin preparations of advertisements for hiring of an employee or management firm to oversee the construction project.
4. Grading Contract – The Board discussed several items regarding the current grading contract and agreed with recommended method for addressing unsuitable material located in the roadway. Staff to prepare change order for future Board meeting.

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ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to come before the Board, Chair Reeves adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:03 p.m.

Timothy A. Reeves, Sr., Chair