

VIRGINIA: County of Lee, to-wit:

At the Recessed Meeting of the Lee County Board of Supervisors in the Conference Room of the Lee County Courthouse on May 29, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. thereof.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jason Crabtree, Chairman
Carl Bailey
Larry Mosley
Tina Rowe
Charles Slemm, Jr.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Dane Poe, County Administrator
Jeny Hughes, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS ABSENT: None

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:15 p.m.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Mr. Poe provided information on additional budget adjustments to the proposed 2013-2014 budget. Mr. Poe stated he has made changes on a few items in the budget, which put the total revenues at \$58,170,922.00 and the total expenditures at \$60,277,170.00 leaving the budget at a deficit of \$2,106,248.00. He added that this amount includes the School Board's original request of \$2,200,647.00 above the minimum Local Required Effort. He stated that if the additional funding request of the School Board were taken out of the budget, it would put the budget at a surplus balance of \$94,399.00 before any adjustments to salaries. The salaries are presented as the department requested, however if the salaries were adopted as suggested by the County Administrator, it would add an additional \$83,444.00 back into the budget, leaving the surplus at \$177,843.00. There will also be some final adjustment that will need to be made after the insurance quotes are received.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Mr. Poe stated that the Domestic Violence Grant amount has dropped, and without a supplement, the Officer's salary will drop about \$3,200.00

Mr. Crabtree stated that the Board had previously discussed making this a County position and using the grant funding to supplement the position.

Mr. Poe stated that if the person in the position changes, the salary will change depending on which health insurance plan they take. If you set a salary amount, you can still draw the grant amount down and use it, but you are going to assume a higher amount of local funding each year.

IDA BOARD COMPENSATION

Mr. Poe stated the IDA is requesting an increase in the Board member's compensation from \$50.00 to \$75.00 per month.

Ms. Rowe stated that the IDA Board is an important board for the County and has to promote Industrial and Economic development, and she supports the increase.

It was the consensus of the Board to approve the compensation increase.

SCHOOL BOARD FUNDING

Mr. Poe reported that the School Budget is posted at the original request of \$2,200,647.00 above the Required Local Effort.

There was some general discussion on the breakdown of figures the School Board is requesting, and on the potential future impact it could have on County taxes.

Mr. Bailey asked about the School Board's proposed step 27 increase, and how many employees would be affected if the step increase were implemented.

Mr. Crabtree stated there is a total of 34 employees, 18 that have already passed that step, and 16 that will be entering the step this year. The cost will be approximately \$10,000 per employee for a total of \$340,000.00.

Ms. Rowe stated that she had spoken to a teacher and the teacher stated they were told that they would get a 2% raise, and the Board of Supervisors would have to match the 2% for total of a 4% raise.

Mr. Poe stated the County would not be matching the raise, but it would be paying the County share of the Composite Index match for state funding for raises. How the School Board chooses to use the money is their decision.

Ms. Rowe asked about the Local Required Effort.

Mr. Poe stated the Local Required Effort is \$4,459,116.00.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SALARY

Mr. Poe stated is the current salary is \$24,459 and with a 3% raise, it will require a \$12,711 supplement.

SALARIES

Mr. Poe reported to the Board that the salary scale that he proposed at the last meeting would save \$83,000 over what the departments have requested. It was the consensus of the Board to accept the salary range scale and salaries as presented.

ELK HUNTING RESOLUTION

It was moved by Mr. Mosley, seconded by Mr. Crabtree, to adopt the following Resolution. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Bailey, Mr. Crabtree, Mr. Mosley, Ms. Rowe, Mr. Slemp

RESOLUTION 13-011

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries has announced their intention to amend the regulations governing the harvesting of elk in Lee County which would establish a continuous closed season for elk hunting; and

WHEREAS, the underlying intent of this proposed amendment is to allow the elk population to increase and re-establish a herd in several southwest Virginia counties; and

WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Supervisors went on record on September 15, 2009 as being opposed to any efforts to restore the elk population in southwest Virginia and further affirmed this opposition on July 19, 2010 in adopting Resolution Number 10-025 opposing elk restoration in southwest Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the agricultural base of Lee County could suffer ongoing and irreparable harm from an increase in the elk population in the county; and

WHEREAS, the tendency of elk to establish a large home range area has already been proven by the fact that elk have been spotted in Lee County since shortly after they were reintroduced into the Kentucky counties of Bell and Harlan, and sightings have continued to increase since being reintroduced into neighboring Wise County in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the wishes of the elected governing body of Lee County and the majority of their constituents has been repeatedly ignored by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Lee County Board of Supervisors again expresses its strong opposition to the current proposed amendment to 4VAC15-90-85 to impose a continuous closed season for elk in Lee County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this Board respectfully requests the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries immediately withdraw the proposed amendment and allow elk to be legally harvested to prevent damage to agricultural land and crops, vehicle collisions with elk and the increased potential for the spread of disease to livestock, native wildlife and humans in Lee County.

It was moved by Mr. Mosley, seconded by Ms. Rowe, to recess to June 10, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Bailey, Mr. Crabtree, Mr. Mosley, Ms. Rowe, Mr. Slemp