

**Regular Meeting (Thursday, April 11, 2024)**  
*Northumberland County, Virginia*

**Members present:**

James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

**Other Staff Present:**

Mr. Luttrell Tadlock, County Administrator  
Mr. Drew Basye, Assistant County Administrator  
Ms. Morgan Wilson, Executive Assistant  
Ms. Mary Dodson, Bookkeeper & Benefits Administrator  
Mr. Robert Headley, IT Administrator  
Mr. Carl Hayden, IT Technician

The regular monthly meeting was convened by Chairman Haynie and held at the Northumberland Courthouse located at 220 Judicial Place, Heathsville, VA 22473.

**1. Opening of Meeting 5:30 P.M.**

**Procedural: A. Invocation - Pastor Lee Farmer of Coan Baptist Church**

Pastor Lee Farmer led the invocation.

**Procedural: B. Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Haynie led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Action: C. Approval of Agenda**

County Administrator Tadlock stated that there will be no update provided from the School Division tonight since they attended last night's joint meeting with the School Board. Additionally, the Virginia Department of Transportation will be providing their monthly update to the Board after the public hearing tonight on the secondary six-year plan.

Motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting with the revisions suggested by Mr. Tadlock.

Motion by: James M. Long, second by: James W. Brann.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

**Action, Minutes: A. March 7, 2024 Special Meeting**

Motion to approve the minutes from the special meeting on March 7, 2024.

Motion by: James W. Brann, second by: Chip Williams.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

**Action, Minutes: B. March 13, 2024 Special Meeting**

Motion to approve the minutes from the special meeting on March 13, 2024.

Motion by: James W. Brann, second by: Chip Williams.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

**Action, Minutes: C. March 14, 2024 Regular Meeting**

Motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on March 14, 2024.

Motion by: James W. Brann, second by: Chip Williams.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

**3. Presentations**

**Action, Information: A. Resolution - Recognition of Julia Pritchard**

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF  
JULIA PRITCHARD**

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Julia Pritchard has actively devoted her life to the community of Northumberland County; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Pritchard has been a committed volunteer of the Northumberland County Chapter of the American Red Cross for more than 26 years, serving as military liaison, blood drive manager, and shelter assistant; and responding to families who were displaced due to fire or storm disasters and securing shelter and supplies for them; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Pritchard served for many years as a volunteer for the American Heart Association, actively raising funds for the organization by selling daffodils in the spring; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Pritchard was active with the American Cancer Society and instrumental in organizing Relay for Life activities, and took a personal interest in cancer patients, driving them to doctors' and treatment appointments; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Pritchard for many years helped with the Meal on Wheels program, providing nutritious meals and delivering fellowship to homebound seniors in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Pritchard is a lifetime member of the Northumberland County Rescue Squad, having served many years as an ambulance driver;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** that the Northumberland Board of Supervisors, with the support of the citizens of Northumberland County, hereby extends its appreciation for the time, efforts, and talents given by Ms. Julia Pritchard to the Northumberland County community.

Motion to approve the resolution in recognition of Julia Pritchard as presented.

Motion by: James M. Long, second by: James W. Brann.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

**Action, Information: B. Proclamation - Child Abuse Prevention Month**

**Proclamation**  
*Observance*  
***Child Abuse Prevention Month***

**WHEREAS**, child abuse and neglect is a common problem in the community where preventing such behavior lies in the active involvement among people; and

**WHEREAS**, child maltreatment often occurs when individuals find themselves in stressful situations and not having the necessary knowledge on how to cope due to lack of community resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the majority of child abuse cases stem from conditions and circumstances that are preventable when part of an engaged and supportive community; and

**WHEREAS**, all citizens should strive to become more involved in supporting families to better raise their children by creating a safe and nurturing environment; and

**WHEREAS**, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among social service agencies, schools, faith communities, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, the business community, and the citizens of Northumberland County; and

**NOW, THEREFORE** be it resolved that the Northumberland County Board of Supervisors hereby recognize April 2024 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Northumberland County, and we call this observance to the attention of all our citizens, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities, and businesses to increase their participation in our efforts to support families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening the communities in which we live.

Motion to approve the proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month as presented.

Motion by: James W. Brann, second by: James M. Long.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

**Action: C. Proclamation - Telecommunications Week**

**Proclamation**  
**National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week**

**April 14-20, 2024**

**WHEREAS**, the Congress of the United States and the President of the United States have established the week of April 14-20, 2024 as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week; and,

**WHEREAS**, emergencies occur around-the-clock that often require police, fire or emergency medical services; and,

**WHEREAS**, when an emergency occurs, the prompt response of police officers, firefighters and emergency medical service personnel is critical to the protection of life and preservation of property; and,

**WHEREAS**, Public Safety Dispatchers are the initial contact to our residents in need and represent a vital link to our police officers and firefighters portrayed through monitoring their activities, providing them information, and ensuring their safety; and,

**WHEREAS**, Public Safety Dispatchers are more than a calm and reassuring voice on the other end of the phone; they are the “unseen first responders” who are knowledgeable and highly trained individuals working closely with other police, fire and medical personnel; and,

**WHEREAS**, each dispatcher has exhibited compassion, understanding, and professionalism during the performance of their position; and,

**WHEREAS**, Public Safety Dispatchers daily serve the public in countless ways without recognition by the beneficiaries of their service.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved that the Board of Supervisors does hereby proclaim the week of April 14-20, 2024 to be known as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week in Northumberland County in honor of the men and women whose diligence and professionalism keep our County and citizens safe.

Motion to approve the proclamation for Telecommunications Week as presented.

Motion by: AC Fisher, Jr., second by: James W. Brann.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

**Action: D. Proclamation - National Library Workers Day**

**Proclamation  
National Library Workers Day**

**WHEREAS**, Northumberland County Library provides community members with the knowledge and information they need to live, learn and work in the 21st century;

**WHEREAS**, there are thousands of academic, governmental, public, school, and specialized libraries in the United States and provide excellent and invaluable service to library users regardless of age, ethnicity, or socioeconomic background;

**WHEREAS**, libraries represent a microcosm of the larger society and library workers play an important and unique role in the communities that they serve by providing an inclusive environment where all are treated with respect and dignity;

**WHEREAS**, librarians and library support staff bring the nation a world of knowledge in person and online, as well as personal service and expert assistance in finding what is needed when it is needed;

**WHEREAS**, it is important to recognize the unique contributions of all library workers and the value to individuals and society of those contributions;

**WHEREAS**, a steady stream of recruits to library work is necessary to maintain the vitality of library services in today's information society;

**WHEREAS**, libraries, library workers, and library supporters across America are celebrating the National Library Workers Day, sponsored by the American Library Association-Allied Professional Association (ALA-APA).

**THEREFORE**, be it resolved that the Northumberland County Board of Supervisors proclaim Tuesday, April 9, 2024, as "National Library Workers Day." The Board encourages all in the community to take advantage of the variety of library resources available and to thank library workers for their exceptional contributions to American life.

Motion to approve the proclamation for National Library Workers Day as presented.

Motion by: James W. Brann, second by: James M. Long.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

#### **Information: E. Update from Northumberland County Schools**

There was no update provided from the school tonight as they provided their monthly update at the joint meeting on April 10, 2024.

#### **Information: F. Update from the Virginia Department of Transportation**

An update from VDOT will be provided after the public hearing on the secondary six-year plan.

#### **Information: G. Mr. Stuart McKenzie, County Planner - Year End Report**

County Planner McKenzie presented the year-end report to the Board and the full report can be found in board docs.

## **4. County Administrators Report**

### **Information: A. Building Permit Report**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Const. Cost for Month	\$6,163,442.39	\$5,300,703.36
Total Bldg. Permit Cost for Month	13,507.00	9,051.52
Total Zoning Permit Cost for Month	4,800.00	3,960.00
Total Levy Fee for Month	270.14	178.05
TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST YEAR TO DATE	\$13,804,539.68	\$16,316,205.97

### **Information: B. Departmental Supplemental Appropriation Request**

County Administrator Tadlock presented the departmental supplemental appropriation request to the Board. He explained that this appropriation request is in effort to reduce the negative line items in the budget as requested. Mr. Tadlock stated that there were approximately 22-23 transfers agreed upon when working with the department heads, but these particular requests are items where the department may not have had the additional monies in their budget to cover the expense. He explained that staff projected this for the remainder of the fiscal year. Some of the items, for example, the IT Department and Building Inspections, consist of expenses that the Board previously approved but had not done appropriations for.

Vice Chairman Brann asked what's going on with telecommunications.

Mr. Tadlock stated that we changed phone systems and budgeted less, anticipating lower costs coming off of Verizon. When transferring to Code Blue, some of the lines had not been removed from Verizon, so the County was still being billed for those. Mr. Tadlock explained that Mr. Headley and Mr. Bayse have been working on getting this corrected.

Vice Chairman Brann stated that we are having the same issues with postal services, advertising, and office supplies. He reminded staff that the office supply orders were supposed to be consolidated.

Mr. Tadlock informed the Board that the office supply orders all go through Ms. Wilson now. The postal service line item is showing a negative from the standpoint of the Treasurer's Office not posting the postage to the particular line items at that particular time, but Mr. Tadlock stated that he's been informed that those are posted now.

Vice Chairman Brann stated that little amount of money for the Sheriff's Office (overtime and unemployment) should come from their full-time vacancy salary & benefits.

Mr. Tadlock stated that overtime costs can be estimated, but it's difficult because, for example, Chief Balderson ran into some staffing issues with vacancies and other circumstances causing him to backfill those positions.

Vice Chairman Brann understood; however, he stated that EMS has money coming in from EMS billing and that is what he proposes to use to offset the EMS Department appropriation request.

Mr. Tadlock stated that the County has been considering using those monies for capital improvements like ambulances and other things like that.

Vice Chairman Brann believes if there's going to be a budget, then the County needs to stay within those budgets. He understands things change and fluctuate, but the department heads should have come to the Board with their requests prior to these expenses instead of after.

Chairman Haynie stated that there should be enough money in the EMS fund to offset their expenses. He asked Mr. Tadlock if he underbudgeted telecommunications because the County was switching to Code Blue.

Mr. Tadlock stated that he did and the numbers had not been released from Verizon. Mr. Headley commented and stated that Code Blue was in charge of the project to transfer the new phone system and he was unaware that the numbers hadn't been fully transferred yet. They found the duplicate numbers and they have now been moved over.

Chairman Haynie asked if Building Inspections consisted of the new position.

Mr. Tadlock confirmed that this was the new position that the Board authorized to hire in the fall, which was not budgeted for at the time.

Vice Chairman Brann asked about the Volunteer Fire Department request and asked if that was the Fire Programs Grant.

Mr. Tadlock confirmed that was the Fire Programs Grant monies.

Mr. Brann corrected himself and noticed that the Sheriff's Office amounts were reimbursements coming back in.

Vice Chairman Brann asked to break the appropriations down for approval.

**Action, Information: C. Supplemental Appropriation - Building Inspections**

Motion to approve the supplemental appropriation request for Building Inspections in the amount of \$55,830.24. The appropriation breakdown is as follows:

10-3401-1001 Salaries \$39,991.12

10-3401-1002 Overtime \$225.72

10-3401-2001 FICA \$3,054.84

10-3401-2002 VRS \$3,330.16  
10-3401-2003 Life Insurance \$498.30  
10-3401-2004 VRS HIC \$22.31  
10-3401-2005 Hospitalization \$6,488.00  
10-3401-2006 Short/Long Term Disability \$253.18  
10-3401-2007 ICMA-RC \$1,302.91  
10-3401-2009 Unemployment \$53.80  
10-3401-5411 Books & Subscriptions \$609.90

Motion by: James W. Brann, second by: James M. Long.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

**Action: D. Supplemental Appropriation - Emergency Services**

Motion to approve the transfer of funds from the EMS Billing monies (Revenue Recovery fund) to the General Fund to cover a supplemental appropriation for Emergency Services in the amount of \$68,000.00. The appropriation breakdown is as follows:

10-3203-1002 Part Time \$28,000.00  
10-3203-1003 Overtime \$40,000.00

Motion by: James W. Brann, second by: James M. Long.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

**Action: E. Supplemental Appropriation - Volunteer Fire Departments**

Vice Chairman Brann asked if that total is for each fire department.

Mr. Tadlock stated that the total is split between the two departments.

Motion to approve the supplemental appropriation request for the Volunteer Fire Departments in the amount of \$12,976.00. The appropriation breakdown is as follows:

10-3202-5605 Distribution-Special Funds \$12,976.00

Motion by: James W. Brann, second by: James M. Long.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

**Action: F. Supplemental Appropriation - Sheriff's Department**

Vice Chairman Brann stated that his only concern is anything dealing with unemployment or overtime, we need to consider looking within that budget to try to balance before requesting additional funds.



Motion to approve the supplemental appropriation request for the Sheriff's Department in the amount of \$976.07. The appropriation breakdown is as follows:

10-3102-1003 Overtime Reimbursement \$208.00  
10-3102-1111 Payroll Reimbursement (FBI) \$442.68  
10-3102-2009 Unemployment \$325.39

Motion by: James W. Brann, second by: James M. Long.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

### **Action: G. Supplemental Appropriation - Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court**

Vice Chairman Brann asked what the CSU expense is.

Mr. Tadlock stated that the CSU is the Court Services Unit which was originally under the Circuit Court/Judge's budget. The Judge had asked for that to be moved to the Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court because that's a function more related to them and not the Circuit Court. Additional monies are being requested because the line item that was coming from already had items related to multi-jurisdictional functions coming out, so that money couldn't be transferred with that new category.

Supervisor Williams asked how long this expense had been tied to the Circuit Court.

Mr. Tadlock stated that he was unsure of a specific date, but it's been this way for quite a while.

Mr. Brann would like to table this matter and see if they can find any more funding within their own budget to offset those costs.

Mr. Tadlock stated that they do not have any monies in their budget to cover that specific item. He informed the Board that they could look into other categories within the budget to see what can be done, but the challenge there is pulling funds from other departments.

Mr. Brann stated it's not right to take funds from other departments.

Motion to approve the supplemental appropriation for the Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court in the amount of \$15,757.72. The appropriation breakdown is as follows:

10-2105-3011 CSU Reimb. Expense \$3,400.00  
10-2105-5203 Telecommunications \$12,357.72

Motion by: James W. Brann, second by: James M. Long.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

**Action: H. Supplemental Appropriation - IT Department**

Motion to approve the supplemental appropriation request for the IT Department in the amount of \$11,703.00. The appropriation breakdown is as follows:

10-1401-5203 Telecommunications \$11,703.00

Motion by: James W. Brann, second by: James M. Long.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

**Action: I. Supplemental Appropriation - Treasurer's Office**

Motion to approve the supplemental appropriation request for the Treasurer's Office in the amount of \$9,123.47. The appropriation breakdown is as follows:

10-1213-3002 Professional Services \$1,146.52

10-1213-3007 Advertising \$1,372.37

10-1213-5203 Telecommunications \$2,041.79

10-1213-5501 Travel (Mileage) \$2,419.69

10-1213-5504 Travel (Education) \$2,143.10

Motion by: James W. Brann, second by: James M. Long.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

Vice Chairman Brann asked if this would get the departments through the end of the year.

Mr. Tadlock stated that was the goal when they sat down and met with the various departments.

Mr. Brann asked if the budget transfer forms will be in board docs for the next meeting.

Mr. Tadlock stated that we could upload those.

**Action: J. Callao Hometown Community Association - Affiliate Program Request**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE  
DHCD COMMERCIAL DISTRICT AFFILIATE PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Virginia Main Street has established the DHCD Commercial District Affiliate Program in the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development to assist localities in developing public/private efforts to revitalize their downtown commercial areas, and

**WHEREAS**, interested Virginia cities, towns, and counties that are that are exploring downtown revitalization, those that may not be eligible for designation or those that do not wish to meet Main Street requirements may participate as an Affiliate, and

**WHEREAS**, Affiliate communities will have access to all Virginia Main Street training and limited on-site assistance, as resources permit, and

**WHEREAS**, Northumberland County and the Callao Hometown Community Association desire to participate in the DHCD Commercial District Affiliate Program.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY AND THE CALLAO HOMETOWN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION...**

**SECTION 1.** That Northumberland County and Callao Hometown Community Association apply for selection to participate in the DHCD Commercial District Affiliate Program with the specific goal of economically revitalizing the designated downtown district within the context of historic preservation using the Main Street Approach;

**SECTION 2.** It is recognized that downtown revitalization requires an on-going commitment, continuous attention and a full public-private partnership. The Main Street program is considered one of many economic and community development tools used by a locality.

**SECTION 3.** Northumberland County and Callao Hometown Community Association understand that participation as an Affiliate Community does not guarantee selection as a Designated Main Street Community, and we will be eligible to receive Affiliate Community services from Virginia Main Street as long as the requirements stated in the Program Guidelines are met.

**SECTION 4.** That the County Administrator is designated to assist in the submission of the application.

Motion to approve the resolution as presented to allow Callao Hometown Community Association to re-apply for the DHCD Commercial District Affiliate Program.

Motion by: Richard F. Haynie, second by: James W. Brann.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

**Action, Information: K. Other County Administration Items**

Mr. Tadlock informed the Board that there was a request to use the old School Board office property for the National Day of Prayer on May 2, 2024 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Chairman Haynie asked if there's any reason for why they changed from using the Old Courthouse courtyard.

Mr. Tadlock stated he was unsure of why they moved the ceremony or if they are going to hold an additional ceremony in the courtyard.

Motion to approve the request to use the old School board Office property in Lottsburg on May 2, 2024 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. for the National Day of Prayer.

Motion by: Chip Williams, second by: AC Fisher, Jr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

**Information: L. Department Agency Monthly Updates**

Department agency monthly updates can be found in board docs.

**5. Board of Supervisor Items**

**Action: A. Approval of Check Register**

Motion to approve the check register for April 2024.

Motion by: James M. Long, second by: AC Fisher, Jr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

Nay: James W. Brann

**Information: B. Board Comments**

Supervisor Williams asked for an update on the Little Wicomico Dredging project.

Mr. Tadlock stated that we are applying for additional grant money for assistance in the dredging project and that would be to begin with the plans for the project. Additionally, the Army Corps of Engineers were looking at starting the process of putting monies towards the project as well. The initial grant was due in the March-April time frame and the Planning District Commission was going to Norfolk to present that material, but Mr. Tadlock stated he has not received any additional updates.

Supervisor Fisher said they're also working on the possibility of dredging Jarvis Creek and Cranes Creek.

Supervisor Long asked for an update on the housing reassessment.

Mr. Tadlock stated that they had the kickoff meeting a week or two ago with several members in attendance so that is underway.

Supervisor Long then asked for an update on the old School Board office.

County Administrator Tadlock noted as previously stated that the County is looking for engineering firms to do a total assessment of County property. The County advertised that bid and received bids back on various components, so right now staff is in the process of reviewing those.

Vice Chairman Brann stated there is storm damage by the old School Board office that needs to be cleaned up.

Mr. Tadlock informed the Board that Mr. Albrite is in the process of getting that cleaned up.

Vice Chairman Brann brought attention to an email that Chief Balderson sent related to OSHA changes that may affect the Volunteer Fire and EMS. He stated that we need to follow up on that because it may have a major impact on the Volunteer Fire Departments and Emergency Services.

Mr. Brann continued stating that he attended his first Board of Trustees meeting for the library and was very impressed. "They had a nice agenda prepared and a Treasurer's report that is out of this world." He shared that he was very impressed that they had a "fixed asset wish list," which is their replacement of items around the library (heat pumps, desks, computers, gutters, etc.) projected out to 2040. Mr. Brann stated that they are doing a very good job at looking toward the future and preparing for those costs.

Vice Chairman Brann suggested adding space on our agendas for committee reports to the Board.

Supervisor Long asked about the process of hiring.

Mr. Tadlock stated that staff is updating their personnel policy.

Supervisor Fisher stated that he has received some complaints about the lack of lighting at the Ditchley trash site, so he suggested a night light be installed.

Supervisor Fisher would like to see conditional use permits for shipping containers require them to be painted.

Chairman Haynie asked if they could do that when the next permit comes before the Board or does that matter have to be sent back to the Planning Commission to be put in the ordinance.

County Administrator Tadlock suggested just placing that as a condition with each permit that comes before the Board.

Chairman Haynie stated that they looked at the condition of the old Sheriff's Office in the fall and haven't made any progress.

Mr. Tadlock explained that is a part of the engineer assessments on the County's property.

Supervisor Williams asked what the Board was considering doing with that building.

Chairman Haynie stated that they were looking to see what kind of condition it is in to consider adding on to the building on starting from scratch because the County is in need of office space.

Vice Chairman Brann suggested having a meeting to discuss a vision for the County and decide what steps need to be taken to be proactive.

Supervisor Fisher believes the Board should put some consideration into the comprehensive plan.

Chairman Haynie asked when the comprehensive plan is up for review.

Mr. Tadlock stated that it is being reviewed by the Planning Commission at this time.

## **6. Public Comments**

Dr. Blizzard requested an update on the fiscal year 25 budget. He reminded the Board of the timeline agreed upon by the Joint Finance Committee, although that hearing is not going to be held tonight as planned. He would like to know when the board plans to consider the school budget as the school year is coming to a close and one of the goals was to get the contracts out to teachers sooner.

Chairman Haynie stated that they are reviewing more questions and responses from the School Division. The Board has not yet set a work session, but they will be scheduling one in the near future.

Vice Chairman Brann stated that once all questions have been answered, then they will schedule a public hearing on the budget.

Supervisor Long stated that this needs to be done as soon as possible or the County will start to lose teachers.

Chairman Haynie stated that the school knows how much federal and state funding they are getting so they are able to fund the contracts.

Dr. Blizzard stated there may be miscommunication between the School Board and the Board of Supervisors on how the budget works.

Vice Chairman Brann stated that getting a budget from the County later does not interfere with them issuing contracts to the teachers because they will at least have the same amount of money that they started with in the previous year.

Dr. Pica reiterated Dr. Blizzard's request and asked what the path looks like to the end (budget approval).

Dr. Blizzard asked if holding the public hearing on May 2, 2024 would be possible.

Chairman Haynie stated it is possible, but the Board needs to review the questions/responses from the School Division.

The Board agreed to schedule a work session and set a date for the school budget public hearing at that time.

Mr. Tom Jeffries believes that there is a growing sentiment in the nation that the higher levels of government have failed to protect the people. “We see deadlock in Washington and Richmond from ineffective representatives who seem to lack the skill and desire to reach across the aisle or see past their own bias and ideology. Regulatory capture is a clear and present danger.” He believes that the agencies we trust to safeguard our rights are often controlled instead by the very industries they are charged to regulate. Mr. Jeffries stated that hope and encouragement is found because we are the direct and first line of defense for ensuring that citizens’ concerns are heard. He believes the voices flow through us in public comment, on the record, and by working with our local representatives who live and work alongside us every day.

Mr. Paul Carey and Mr. Richard Lensis made the Board aware of an abandoned vessel in Bridge Creek. Mr. Lensis stated that the boat is contaminating the water, lowering their property value, and is a complete eyesore.

Supervisor Fisher asked when the court date is scheduled.

Mr. Lensis stated April 22, 2024. VMRC charged Mr. Cooney with contamination of state waters and something else he was unsure of.

Supervisor Williams asked what discussions the County has had with VMRC on this situation.

Assistant County Administrator Drew Basye stated that no conversations have been made considering this specific vessel. Additionally, Ms. Lisa Hull, with the Northern Neck Planning District Commission, is working with DEQ on a similar project and looking for other funding options. They have prioritized this vessel as their top priority to get removed.

A neighbor of Mr. Lensis shared his concerns with the boat because it’s oystering and crabbing season. He stated that he likes to keep his area neat, and this boat is a mess.

*\*\*Closed Meeting was postponed to the end of the meeting after the public hearing session.*

## **7. Items Related to Closed Meeting**

### **Action: A. Convene into Closed Meeting**

Motion to Action: A. Convene into Closed Meeting: convene into closed meeting as permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A)(7),(29); 7. Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body. For the purposes of this subdivision, "probable litigation" means litigation that has been specifically threatened or on which the public body or its legal counsel has a reasonable basis to believe will be commenced by or against a known party. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney

representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter. 29. Discussion of the award of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds, including interviews of bidders or offerors, and discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

Motion by: AC Fisher, Jr., second by: Chip Williams.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

**Action: B. Reconvene into Open Meeting**

Motion to reconvene into open session.

Motion by: Chip Williams, second by: James W. Brann.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

**Action: C. Certification of Closed Meeting**

Motion that the Northumberland Board of Supervisors return to Public Meeting and certify by roll call vote that only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, and as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered during the closed meeting.

The vote on the motion was passed by a roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Richard F. Haynie, AC Fisher, Jr., James M. Long, James W. Brann, Charles H. Williams

Motion by: Chip Williams, second by: James W. Brann.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

**Action: D. Action(s) taken from Closed Meeting, Southern Air Contract**

Motion to enter into a contract with Southern Air for another year of HVAC services.

Motion by: James W. Brann, second by: James M. Long.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

**8. Public Hearings 7:00 P.M.**

**Action, Information: A. To receive public comment on the proposed Secondary Six-Year Plan for Fiscal Years 2025 through 2030 in Northumberland County and on the Secondary System Construction Budget for Fiscal Year 2025.**

Mr. Beale presented the Secondary Six-Year Plan for FY 2025 – 2030 starting with where the funds come from (telefees and unpaved road funds). He informed the Board that currently there is one project in the secondary six-year plan and that is hard surfacing Addie's Point Road at a



cost of \$95,000. Mr. Beale continued by explaining the Rural Rustic Program as well as presenting a list of gravel roads in the County along with their vehicles per day.

**Public Hearing Open.**

No comments were made.

**Public Hearing Closed.**

Supervisor Williams asked how Addie's Point Road was prioritized over the other roads listed.

Mr. Beale explained that was a Board decision.

Motion to adopt the proposed Secondary Six-Year Plan for Fiscal Years 2025 through 2030 and on the FY 2025 Secondary System Construction Budget as presented to the Board.

Motion by: Richard F. Haynie, second by: Chip Williams.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.

Supervisor Williams asked Mr. Beale if the items he mentioned last month were being looked at because they have not yet been addressed.

Supervisor Long reported some potholes on Brown Store Road as well as a state sign down on Ditchley Road.

Vice Chairman Brann thanked VDOT for their help during the tornado storm in early April.

Supervisor Fisher asked if the state had a program for cleaning out culverts on private driveways.

Mr. Beale stated that if it's affecting the drainage along the state highway, then they can call the 1-800-FOR-ROAD number and put in a work order.

Chairman Haynie asked Mr. Beale to send him some dates that he's available to meet to discuss Lake Road.

Mr. Beale thanked the County for their help during the tornado storm as well because it was a joint effort. He then presented his monthly report to the Board. The full report can be accessed in board docs.

County Administrator Tadlock brought attention to the library's concern about a tree in front of the library building and asked if Mr. Beale could look into that for them.

*\*\*Chairman Haynie requested a 10-minute recess.*

*\*The Board of Supervisors convened into closed meeting at this time. See Items Related to Closed Meeting.*

## **9. Closing of Meeting**

### **Action: A. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn.

Motion by: James W. Brann, second by: Richard F. Haynie.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James M. Long, Richard F. Haynie, James W. Brann, Chip Williams, AC Fisher, Jr.