June 29, 2010

At the special called meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County, held at the Court House, thereof, on Tuesday the 29th day of June, 2010; at 4:00 p.m., there were present:

Howard M. Campbell
William G. Fore, Jr.
Don C. Gantt, Jr.
Robert M. Jones
Charles W. McKay
Howard F. Simpson
Jim R. Wilck
Mattie P. Wiley

Also present: Wade Bartlett, County Administrator; Sarah Puckett, Assistant County Administrator; Sharon Lee Carney, Director of Economic Development & Tourism; Fred Pribble, Draper Aden Associates; Sheryl Stephens, Draper Aden Associates; Anne Urenda, Draper Aden Associates; Jeff Kapinos, Draper Aden Associates; Mike Larson, Draper Aden Associates; Linnell Stanhope, Crowder Construction; and John McIntyre, Crowder Construction.

Chairman Fore called the special meeting to order, stating that its purpose is for an update to the PPEA project and for a few time-sensitive items that have arisen.

In Re: Purchase of Maintenance Vehicle and Trailer

Wade Bartlett, County Administrator, said the Maintenance Department has requested the purchase of a 2001 Dodge Ram truck at a cost of $7,150 and a utility trailer at a cost of $8,595 for a combined cost of $15,745. The truck would replace a vehicle that currently has 276,000 miles and that is in need of repairs. Mr. Bartlett said the cost of the truck and trailer can be paid from savings from the Cooperative Extension line in the General Fund.
Supervisor Campbell said he examined the truck, which is from the State & Federal Surplus in Wytheville. He said he did not examine the trailer. Mr. Bartlett said they will make sure the truck is sound prior to purchase.

After some discussion, Supervisor Campbell made a motion to authorize the County Administrator to purchase the truck and to solicit and accept bids for a trailer and to purchase the truck and trailer for a maximum combined cost of $15,745; the motion carried:

Aye:  Howard M. Campbell  Nay:  None
William G. Fore, Jr.
Don C. Gantt
Robert M. Jones
Charles W. McKay
Howard F. Simpson
Jim R. Wilck
Mattie P. Wiley

In Re: SCOPE Building HVAC System

Mr. Bartlett reviewed the estimates received from three companies for replacement of the HVAC system at the SCOPE Building. He said it was found to be cheaper to install the 5-ton system in the attic, which would include all new ductwork. He said currently, a 2-ton unit, located in the crawlspace, is operational.

After some discussion about prices and installation in the crawlspace or the attic of the building, Supervisor Wiley made a motion to accept the bid from Mills Heating and Air Conditioning for $10,169 for a 2-ton unit and a 5-ton unit to be installed in the crawlspace.

Further discussion followed. Chairman Fore asked Mr. Ronald Van Eps about a possible moisture issue in the crawlspace. Mr. Van Eps said he examined the building in April [2010] and found it was damp in the crawlspace, and a possible mold issue could arise if the HVAC would be installed there. He recommended installation in the attic because it is dry, and also because only a 5-ton unit would be necessary.

Supervisor Wiley amended her motion to approve Mills Heating and Air Conditioning for $9,995 for a 5-ton unit to be installed in the attic; the motion carried:
In Re: Personnel Committee Report

Mr. Bartlett said the Sheriff’s Department has requested the Board to approve allowing the individual in the part-time administrative position to fill the full-time administrative position, and the individual in the full-time position to work part-time, in order to complete training. He said the switch will generate a net savings to the County. Mr. Bartlett said the Personnel Committee unanimously recommended approval of this request.

Supervisor Simpson made a motion to approve allowing the individual in the part-time administrative position to fill the full-time administrative position, and the individual in the full-time position to work part-time; the motion carried:

Aye: Howard M. Campbell  Nay: None
William G. Fore, Jr.
Don C. Gantt
Charles W. McKay
Howard F. Simpson
Jim R. Wilck
Mattie P. Wiley

Abstain: Robert M. Jones

Mr. Bartlett then said the Personnel Committee unanimously recommends granting July 2, 2010 as a County holiday. He said the Town of Farmville and Appomattox County have also declared July 2, 2010 as a paid holiday for their employees.

After some discussion, Supervisor Simpson made a motion to approve July 2, 2010 as a County holiday for its employees; the motion carried:
In Re: Water Project Update

Fred Pribble, Draper Aden Associates, reviewed the background of the project, the PPEA process, and discussed the project scope.

Discussion followed regarding interest from the towns of Crewe and Burkeville to become partners and a projected schedule. Linnell Stanhope, Crowder Construction, said the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) will be ready around the end of July 2010, and will then be submitted to Virginia Department of Health (VDH). She said they expect to have the final cost estimates in December 2010, which will allow them to seek out funding opportunities. It is also at that time that the County will have the opportunity to refine the costs.

Ms. Stanhope explained the PPEA process in more detail and reviewed the benefits of using a PPEA.

Discussion followed on the current economy; Ms. Stanhope said the market is markedly competitive due to the current economy which will allow the county to take advantage of lower costs.

Mr. Pribble explained the Interim Agreement will provide:

- 100% design of the water intake structure, “ready to construct”
- Geotechnical investigations
- Approved VDH Preliminary Engineering Report
- Total Organic Carbon (TOC) and Water Quality Sampling
- Submittal of required environmental permits to required agencies
- Field surveying
- Assistance with development of partnerships
- Assistance with developing funding options
- “Ready to construct” water line to HSC/Route 15 corridor
- Financial analysis to determine the impact on County taxpayers and potential customers
- Development of scope of project that meets the County’s requirements
- Development of design (Intake, 100%; Route 15 water line, 100%; WTP, 30%; Water mains, 15%)
- Accurate, professionally developed construction costs, not just Engineer’s Opinion of Probable Cost
• Guaranteed Lump Sum price to construct the system – one point of responsibility, Crowder Construction
• Two step process – minimizing risks for everyone

Mr. Pribble then reviewed the cost reductions:

• Identified alternative route for waterline
• Reduction of finished water storage
• Eliminated distribution system pump station
• Significantly reduced size of raw water contactor
• Jar testing provided confidence in a more conventional treatment process
• Field testing and geotechnical investigations minimized costs associated with risk
• Detailed treatment building design achieved through architectural programming with County
• Detailed intake structure design allows for more precise cost estimate

Further topics of discussion followed on potential pipe routes, VDH issues, potential partner impacts, and potential funding sources. Ms. Sheryl Stephens reviewed funding scenarios with three different options.

Mr. Pribble reviewed the next steps to be taken:

• Preliminary Engineering Report Submitted to VDH – July 19 (Review and discussion with VDH expected to take 60-90 days)
• Submit preliminary cost estimate to County – July 19
• Financial evaluation
• Complete landfill investigation
• Discussions with VDH on Preliminary Engineering Report
• Continued discussion with potential partners
• Continued discussions with funding agencies
• Move forward with designs
• Guaranteed Lump Sum Price – Fall 2010

Mr. Bartlett discussed his findings of a regression analysis of the flow in the Appomattox River. He said the data results suggest the Appomattox River and probably most other creeks and streams are becoming more dependent upon precipitation for their flow. At the same time, each inch of rainfall is increasing the river flow significantly more than in the past, which suggests the precipitation is running off the land and into the Appomattox much more quickly and that water then flows out of Prince Edward County toward the ocean; this implies less of the rain is soaking into the ground contributing to the
decrease in ground water levels. At the same time, an increase in wells is drawing more water out of the
ground, accelerating the lowering of ground water levels.

Discussion followed regarding the financing of the water project. Mr. Jimmy Sanderson, Davenport, said revenues will be generated by the users rather than the costs being covered solely by the taxpayers. Mr. Sanderson recommended the County extend the current line of credit instead of paying cash for the project. He explained that current low interest rates minimize interest expense and in today’s economic environment cash is king and having a good reserve increases the County’s flexibility.

In Re: Line of Credit

Mr. Bartlett said that at the May Board of Supervisors meeting, he discussed the proposed County Line of Credit which will be used to finance the PPEA Interim Agreement. The Industrial Development Authority met on June 11, 2010 and approved the line of credit.

Supervisor Simpson made a motion to authorize the County Administrator to draw down the County Line of Credit for an additional amount not to exceed $2.1 million to be used to finance the Interim Agreement with Crowder Construction; the motion carried:

Aye: Howard M. Campbell
     William G. Fore, Jr.
     Robert M. Jones
     Charles W. McKay
     Howard F. Simpson
     Jim R. Wilck
     Mattie P. Wiley

Nay: Don C. Gantt

In Re: Wiley & Wilson Task Order

Mr. Bartlett said at the April [2010] Board of Supervisors meeting, the proposed cost of the Task Order from Wiley & Wilson to assist the County with the PPEA Review was $36,000. At the Board’s request, he renegotiated the cost to $30,000.

Supervisor Jones made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Simpson, to authorize the County Administrator to execute the revised Task Order with Wiley & Wilson for $30,000; the motion carried:
Aye: Howard M. Campbell
William G. Fore, Jr.
Robert M. Jones
Charles W. McKay
Howard F. Simpson
Jim R. Wilck
Mattie P. Wiley

Nay: Don C. Gantt

On motion of Supervisor Gantt and adopted by the following vote:

Aye: Howard M. Campbell
William G. Fore, Jr.
Don C. Gantt
Robert M. Jones
Charles W. McKay
Howard F. Simpson
Jim R. Wilck
Mattie P. Wiley

Nay: None

the meeting was adjourned at 6:21 p.m.