

## MEETING #12- April 5

At a Public Hearing of the Madison County Board of Supervisors on April 5, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Madison in the Madison County Administration Center Auditorium located at 414 N. Main Street:

PRESENT: R. Clay Jackson, Chair  
Jonathon Weakley, Vice-Chair  
Robert W. Campbell, Member  
Charlotte Hoffman, Member  
Daniel Campbell, County Administrator  
V. R. Shackelford, III, County Attorney  
Mary Jane Costello, Interim Finance Director  
Jacqueline S. Frye, Deputy Clerk

ABSENT: Kevin McGhee, Member

### **Agenda:**

#### **Call to Order**

#### **Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence**

##### **1. Determine Presence of a Quorum/Adopt Agenda:**

Chairman Jackson called the meeting to order; a quorum was established.

Supervisor Weakley moved the Board adopt the Agenda as presented, seconded by Supervisor Campbell. *Ayes: Jackson, Weakley, Campbell, Hoffman. Absent: McGhee. Nays: (0).*

##### **2. Public Comment:**

Chairman Jackson opened the floor for general comments not related to the FY2017 proposed budget. With no comments being brought forth, the public comment opportunity was closed.

##### **3. Public Hearing on FY2017 Budget:**

Chairman Jackson noted that the purpose of tonight's meeting is to attain public input on the proposed FY2017 budget for Madison County; the session was turned over to the Interim Finance Director to provide a budget synopsis of the FY2017 budget.

Mary Jane Costello, Interim Finance Director, was present and advised the budget process involved:

- Receipt of budget requests from outside agencies and all county departments
- Complete packet of responses provided to Board for review
- Series of public budget sessions were held (i.e. seven [7])
- Board considered justifications for all funding request increases
- General fund estimates were coordinated with the Treasurer (based on historical trends and available funding information)
- VPA (Social Services & CSA) budgets were developed by the social services department and reviewed by County personnel;
- Budget meetings were held with school and county Board members and administrative staff
- County Administrator recommended a proposed budget to the Board of Supervisors based on departmental needs/estimated available funding and assessment of needs

Additional assessment focused on the fact that:

- A general approach was taken to develop the budget
- Conservative revenue estimates and accurate expense projections were utilized
- FY2017 budget places the County in a position to utilize unrestricted fund balance in FY2017
- County will be able to address long-term capital needs (for two [2] years)
- County will be able to minimize the need for additional borrowing and increasing property tax rates

After tonight's session, the Board of Supervisors will need to:

- Vote to approve the FY2017 budget
- Vote to pass an Ordinance to establish 2016 tax rates (no change from current year)
- Vote to appropriate the FY2017 budget

**A summary of the published budget (by fund):**

Gross budgeted expenditures across all funds was \$49,900 (FY2016) and \$49,600 (FY2017) [decrease of \$325,000 - .65%]

Net budgeted expenses (after transfers to other funds from the general fund) are anticipated to decrease by \$464,000.00 (1.2%)

**By Fund**

Primary source of change is \$1,465,000,000 (decrease in CIP spending [offset by \$523,000.00 increase in the school's operational budget])

\$229,000 increase in spending for social services

\$500,000 increase in spending for CSA [other increases are anticipated to be funded through increases in state and federal funding]

**Graphs**

Budgeted expenditures for FY2016 and FY2017 (by fund)

Greatest source of funding within the general fund is local source funding and has remained stable for the two fiscal years

School operating fund budget (\$19,400,000/FY2016 - \$19,970,000/FY2017)

State funding is the largest funding source [comprising of 48.3% (FY2017) and 49.5% (FY2017)]

Total projected increase in spending of \$523,000 in school funding for FY2017; [\$470,000 (90%) will be derived from additional state funding]

**Budgets of VPA & CSA**

Both are public welfare functions and are mandated by law

VPA expenditures are budgeted at \$2,076,000 in FY2017 and \$2,304,000 in FY2017 which represents an overall increase of \$229,000

It's anticipated that most of the additional funding will be derived from federal funding

**Additional budgetary highlights:**

- ✓ *CSA expenditures were budgeted at \$2,500,000/FY2016 and \$3,000,000/FY2017*
- ✓ *There's a \$500,000 increase that is anticipated to be primarily recovered through additional state funding*
- ✓ *Budgeted construction expenditures in FY2016 were \$1,500,000 and minimal in FY2017 due to the completion of construction and there being no significant constructions projects noted in the FY2017 budget*
- ✓ *County's debt service is a small portion of the general fund expenditures and is basically flat.*
- ✓ *No advertised increase in tax levies or County fees*
- ✓ *Increase in local funding to the school system totaling \$71,855.00*
- ✓ *Disbursement of \$150,000 to the volunteer rescue squad for their building project*
- ✓ *PRA acquired revenues were removed from the County's budget (there is a \$175,000 lump sum allocation to PRA to support operational costs)*
- ✓ *Proposed contribution to the Madison County Library totaling \$123,772 (which satisfies the State's five-year funding requirement)*
- ✓ *A twenty percent (20%) decrease in budgeted amount to the Central Virginia Regional Jail (based on jail's final approved budget)*
- ✓ *Personnel: One (1) new full-time deputy (Sheriff's Department; one (1) new full-time Meddic (EMS)*
- ✓ *Proposed 2.5% compensation increase for all County employees*
- ✓ *Decrease noted in VRS employer contribution rate (from 11.65% to 8.82%= overall 24.3% that extends across all full-time personnel) [rate is determined by VRS Board of Trustees – decrease due to retirement portfolio exceeding expectations]*
- ✓ *Healthcare insurance premium decrease of 2.8% (by Local Choice)*
- ✓ *Capital Increases:*
- ✓ *Three (3) new vehicles for the Sheriff's Department*
- ✓ *One (2) new response vehicle for EMS*
- ✓ *One (1) used vehicle for the Director of Emergency Communications*
- ✓ *\$25,000 provision for new election equipment (anticipated to eventually be \$150,000 total)*
- ✓ *Contracting costs for a new County website*
- ✓ *Costs budgeted for legal review and codification of County ordinances with online hosting*
- ✓ *Budgeting \$35,000 (in CIP fund) for preliminary architectural and engineering studies on the County Admin Building*
- ✓ *Provision for general contingency of \$355,000*

**a. Public Hearing Session:**

Chairman Jackson opened the floor of the public hearing session on the proposed FY2017 budget. Citizens were asked to identify themselves and to possibly keep comments to a four (4) minute limit, if possible.

The following citizens provided comments:

- ✓ Dana Hicks (Ruth Road): Thanked the Board for working on the budget; thankful for the increase provided to the school system; encouraged the Board to strongly support the local library, as it serves the citizens, promotes learning, literature, and is a move valuable asset to the community.

- ✓ Herbert Putz (Locust Dale): Feels the Board has the task of making a budget to sell to the taxpayers; questioned why the County is funding the Culpeper Soil & Water Conservation District, as this is a commonwealth operation; feels costs for administration (school and county) have 'blown up'; questioned the reasons for hiring additional staff, paying higher salaries, benefits/pensions, consultants and paying for expensive service contracts; also questioned the use of county vehicles and why the caseload for the school nurse is so high on a daily basis; asked for an account of the extensive amount of surplus funding that has increased substantially over the past ten (10) years.
- ✓ Robert Legge (Etlan): Feels the Board is doing a great job and appreciates the work being done.
- ✓ Gary Jones (Pratts): Asked the Board to reconsider restoring \$2,500 in funding to the Rapidan Volunteer Fire Department; provided a brief overview of the inception of the RVFD, highlights of activities from 1988 to the present, and the total number of calls answered by the volunteers; also noted that Locust Dale residents living near the RVFD (located two [2] miles from the Madison County line) feel that this organization is their local fire department; encouraged the Board to attend events hosted by the RVFD and to attend the upcoming dinner.
- ✓ Ed Napier (Ruth Road): Advised of rumors about the positive actions being demonstrated by the Board of Supervisors and that members are working more together more effectively; noted that he reviewed the budget and is thankful for no tax increase; also noted that some (in the County) are suspicious because of the fact that most people look for businesses to advertise their intent to 'do more with less' which hasn't been the case for Madison County; also suggested a laser pointer be used (i.e. for overhead displays).
- ✓ Dave Ashley (Rochelle): Thanked the Interim Finance Director for tonight's presentation; also thanked the Board for working on the budget; encouraged the Board to reconsider reinstatement of \$2,500.00 in funding to the Rapidan Volunteer Fire Department; the county has supported the RVFD since 1990 and residents in Locust Dale consider them to be 'their fire department' due to the close proximity to the county line; suggested funding for the local rescue squad be reduced in order to reinstate funding to the RVFD; local rescue squad hasn't yet broken ground and funding could be reinstated later.

Clarissa Berry (Ruth Road): Advised there was a discrepancy in her departmental budget (Commonwealth Attorney) noted in the published FY2017 budget; the issue was quickly resolved by the Interim Finance Director and the County Administrator; asked that the correction be incorporated into the FY2017 budget upon adoption (i.e. Assistant Commonwealth Attorney was classified as a part-time employee – will be receiving VRS benefits as opposed to a salary increase); also verbalized support of the implementation of enhanced technology that will further promote efforts between her office and Sheriff's Office; also announced the town hall meeting to be hosted by the Sheriff's Office and the Blue Ridge Narcotics Task Force scheduled for Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup> in the auditorium of the Madison County High School – a presentation will begin at 5:30 (documentary by the Attorney General) with the town hall session beginning at 6:30 p.m.

With no further citizens desiring to speak, Chairman Jackson closed the public hearing session.

**Comments from the Board:**

- Chairman Jackson: Noted there will be slight adjustments to the FY2017 (to include the Commonwealth Attorney's request), but that nothing drastic will transpire; any changes will be well below one percent (1%). above one percent (1%).
- Supervisor Campbell: Feels this is the first year the budget process went very smoothly; noted the document was done by the Board and not the Chairman or County Administrator, as has been the case in the past; also noted that the Board discussed every item noted in the document; departments presented their requests; Treasurer was actively involved for the first time; Board met to discuss only revenue to be considered early in the budget process. Although he hasn't supported the budget in the past (due to the Board not having discussed the items); noted non-favor of past support due to the Board not having discussed the items involved; there are some items in the FY2017 budget that he wasn't in favor of, but felt the process was appropriate, and will support the budget based on a democratic process having been initiated. Noted citizen requests for the Board to 'provide' additional support to agencies and clarified that in order for the Board to allocate additional funding to entities, it will call for a tax increase to the taxpayers; noted that the Board members would be happy to increase the taxes (should the citizens request) in order to support what the citizens want; also provided input on the increase in revenue as a result of business growth (i.e. Yoder's expansion, Plow & Hearth expansion, and the fact that the school system will receive an additional \$111,000 in sales tax revenue; noted that the Board is trying to do some good things for the County; urged citizens to become actively involved; noted that the Board is listening.
- Supervisor Hoffman: Thanked all for attending tonight's public hearing and providing comments; comments are important and the Board is listening; noted the Board had a good budget process and the Board worked hard; there were some items that needed to be cut in order to save money; the Board didn't want to increase taxes and she's a strong supporter of the

school system and wants the best for staff and children; feels the County has one of the best school systems around and has the best teachers; felt the budget discussions between the school board and county was effortless and that both governing boards have developed a better understanding of what each entity does.

- Supervisor Weakley: Thanked all for attending tonight’s public hearing and providing comments; noted the Board receives many emails and comments, and agreed that the government does belong to the people; encouraged open communication; also agreed the budget process was seamless and is how a government should work; felt it was a pleasure to work alongside school administration and provide open communication; feels more information can allow for better informed decisions and understanding, which was accomplished more this year than in the past; feels there are additional opportunities; referred to the funding commitment to the rescue squad; noted that the Board is trying to listen and appreciates the service of all parties involved; urged anyone desiring to start a business to come present ideas to the County Administrator, as Zoning staff are only doing their job to follow guidelines adopted into the local ordinance; this is an active Board that desires to listen.
- Chairman Jackson: Thanked all for attending; feels the FY2017 budget is fair; thanked the Interim Finance Director and County Administrator for their hard work; feels the overall process was concise and clean; issues were identified for the future along with measures to address IT aspects and ways to improve; noted that meetings with the school administration went very well; stressed the importance of working well together; referred to County commitments (rescue squad, library) and the importance of being proactive; noted a recent meeting with a representative from the State Library of Virginia and stressed the fact that the library isn’t closing and assured the public that even if the State pulls all funding, the County will seek a way to keep the facility open; feels encouraged about the fact that the Board is looking at the overall future financial position of the County which appears to be very sound; noted the need to see more business here and the Board’s desire to help anyone wishing to start a business here.
- Supervisor Campbell: Noted the importance of recognizing the fact that the government should be ‘by, of and for the people....’, and noted that in order to accomplish this, the people have to participate; focused on the low voter participation rate in the County during several election processes; urged people to get actively involved and provide support and input in order for this County to work for the betterment of the citizens.
- County Administrator: Noted that she has been in Madison County for eight (8) months and has learned a lot; also noted that the Board of Supervisors is moving in the right direction and that the Madison County School Board is thoughtful and doing a great job, along with County and school staff; feels in time, the County will be able to live well within its means and make improvements in the community without raising a burden upon the citizens and businesses located in the County; also feels there’s no need for anyone to be frightened when thinking of ‘where we’re (i.e. County) at financially’, as the County’s financial status is definitely solid, can remain there, and that progress can be made.

**4. Closed Session (if necessary) - None.**

**5. Public Comment: None.**

**6. Information/Correspondence: None.**

**7. Adjournment:**

With no further action being required, on motion of Supervisor Campbell, seconded by Supervisor Weakley, Chairman Jackson adjourned tonight’s meeting. *Ayes: Jackson, Weakley, Campbell, Hoffman. Absent: McGhee. Nays: (0).*

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R. Clay Jackson, Chairman  
Madison County Board of Supervisors

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Clerk of the Board of Madison County Board Supervisors  
Adopted on: April 12, 2016  
Copies: Board of Supervisors, County Attorney & Constitutional Officers

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**Agenda  
Public Hearing  
Madison County Board of Supervisors  
Tuesday, April 6, 2016  
7:00 p.m.  
414 N. Main Street, Madison, VA 22727**



**Agenda Items**

**Call to Order**

***Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence***

- 1. Determine Presence of a Quorum/Adopt Agenda**
- 2. Public Comment**
- 3. Public Hearing on FY2017 Budget**
  - a. Public Hearing Session:***
- 4. Closed Session (if necessary)**
- 5. Public Comment**
- 6. Information/Correspondence**
- 7. Adjournment**