

## County Business

### VIRGINIA:

At a regular meeting of the King George County Board of Supervisors, held on Tuesday, the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Revercomb Building at 10459 Courthouse Drive, King George, Virginia:

**PRESENT:** Jeff Bueche, Chairman  
Cathy Binder, Vice-Chairman  
Richard A. Granger, Member  
John E. Jenkins, Jr., Member  
Ruby A. Brabo, Member  
Neiman C. Young, County Administrator  
Eric A. Gregory, County Attorney

**Mr. Chair:** --meeting of the King George County Board of Supervisors.  
Any amendments to the agenda?

**Dr. Young:** Yes, Mr. Chair.

**Ms. Binder:** I move to amend the agenda to add action item number 0407A, approval to sign deed of subdivision for Hopyard Farm sections 4 and 15, and discussion item number 0408A, Service Authority connection fee incentive plan.

**Ms. Brabo:** Second.

**Mr. Chair:** Any discussion? All those in favor?

**All:** Aye.

**Mr. Chair:** Any opposed? Chair votes aye. Motion passes.

At this time, I'm going to open up the floor for public comment. Anyone wishing to address the board of supervisors can do so at this time; however, I would like to make a point of chairman's privilege and acknowledge the superintendent of our schools, Dr. Benson to give public comment. Thank you for being here tonight, sir.

**Dr. Benson:**

Good evening, Mr. Chair, members of the King George County Board of Supervisors. Dr. Young, Mr. Gregory, thank you for this opportunity to speak tonight.

Over the last several days, Dr. Young and I have been working creatively and cooperatively to define a possible pathway for funding the two aspects of the school division proposed budget seem to be a priority to you as supervisors.

First, the proposed employee compensation increase for school division employees, and second, securing special education staffing needed for the 2019-20 school year.

Recently, I learned that the school division is anticipating 18 employees retiring at the end of the school year. This is an unusually high number of retirees for a single year, and we certainly value and we appreciate the service each of these employees has afforded our schools and our students.

Undoubtedly, these professions would be difficult to replace; however, it is certain that their replacements will earn a salary less than the amount assumed in the budget prior to knowing about our retirees' pensions.

After much consideration, Dr. Young and I agree that the predicted salary savings associated with the school division retirees, coupled with local funding in the amount of \$589,726, will permit the school board to fund fully the salary increase of special education staffing I mentioned earlier. If approved as I've described, the school board will still need to reduce their request by approximately \$300,000; however, local needs are varied and I certainly understand that this Board must distribute funds that supports the myriad of local services needed by our community.

I thank everyone in this room tonight no matter your goal, your passion about our schools and community. We are neighbors, colleagues and friends with different opinions but the same yearning of a safe, prosperous and thriving King George County.

Thank you members of the school board, board of supervisors and Dr. Young for your thoughtful consideration

and due diligence and your support on our school and students.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chair:**

Thank you, Dr. Benson. Ms. Dodge?

**Ms. Dodge:**

I'm Kim Dodge, 6150 McCarthy Drive, and I do... I've been sitting through budgets and I commend all of you. There are many demands financially, but as a tax payer, I'm going to ask again for no tax rate increase because last year, I did not get the... for the tax payers, the tax localization.

My taxes did go up. I heard some comments that if we don't get what we want, just increase that rate, increase that rate. As a tax payer, and majority of tax payers, we do not want our taxes to go up.

I did hear corrections from the Board, at a budget meeting, where our taxes have gone up for the past three years. Whether the rate increases or not, it's a math equation. We get our property reassessed, and so I think it's over four years, I'm not sure, and last year, the same homeowners had an increase in taxes even though the rate did not go up and it was over a million-dollar increase for the county.

There's also like... I don't know how long Walmart has been here, but I know some have said they bring in a million dollars. I'm not sure if that's true. I know the Sheetz brings in a lot of money, so I'm with Jeff in you need to look at other sources than the tax payer, and whenever somebody is denied something in the budget, I don't like to hear, "Just increase that tax payer rate."

We need to look at other sources and I know the county is getting more and more money every year because we are getting more commercial in here, we get new homeowners, and all that, but again, I hope, this year, the tax rate does not increase because I did pay more even when the tax rate did not go up because we did not do tax localization like I asked for it. Thank you.

**Mr. Chair:**

Thank you. Karen Declout

**Ms. Karen:**

Hi. Thank you very much for the opportunity to speak. I've been a resident of the county for nearly 16 years. I live at 6249 Dawes Drive in King George.

Full disclosure, I am also a teacher. I've been teaching in this county, for the public schools, for the last nearly 14 years.

I do feel it is important to state my support of our county school budget, not only as an employee but also as a resident of King George.

If we're going to rank competitive and attract businesses, it is important that we'd be able to provide quality education for the resulting workers' families; not only that, work forces are created in a year.

What we do from year-to-year for our school system and our county does have far-reaching implications, and I know... I did attend the budget work session last week, you know a lot of good points made. I don't envy your decisions because there are so many factors that go into creating a budget. The school system budget is just one of those things, but there were some comments that I think do need to be addressed such as...

One comment was made... well, if we raise taxes, then that negates the teachers' pay raises. But I do think it's important to point out that we do have many school employees that live in other counties and other cities, and they're driving past several other schools to reach our county. These are good teachers, very high quality school employees, and so we do need to think about that learning curve when you have to constantly replace personnel because you'll lose them either to a higher-paying school division or because of the savings they receive from not having to drive so far, so that is just my comment as a county resident.

Certainly, no one wants their taxes raised if they can be avoided. However, we do also need to be forward thinking. I mean, we've heard over last week's budget session some negative impact of not forward thinking with combining payroll, which has negatively affected the audit process. Not

only that, we've heard tonight with the Service Authority some negative impact of perhaps some... not seeing into the future what certain decisions could lead to.

Like I said, I don't envy you your decisions. I know you're working hard. It's a thankless job sometimes because people just want what they want, but of course, we trust you to make the best decision possible. That's why we pay attention until the election process and to your platforms and things that happened at these meetings. Thank you very much.

**Mr. Chair:**

Thank you. Anyone else for public comment?

**Ms. Richard:**

My name is Yvonne Richard of 8421 Cedar Lane, and I do want to say that I am in favor of raising taxes if that's what it means to fully support the budget that we need as a county to fund our fire and rescue, police, and schools.

I also would like to point out that the behavior of some of the board members last week while the teachers and parents and families were sharing their concerns left many of us feeling like we weren't really being heard.

Three different people came up to me this week, asking me these questions: "Are they really eating and talking and playing on their phones while we were sharing our concerns? Were they really listening? Did we get heard?" and I just wanted to share that sometimes actions do speak louder than words. Thank you.

**Mr. Chair:**

Thank you.

**Ms. Jennifer:**

My name is [1:46:08 Jennifer inaudible] I live at [1:46:10 inaudible] Road. I would also support increasing taxes; perhaps a compromise, perhaps not fully funding the schools.

You said last week that one cent would get at least \$270,000, perhaps that will be a compromise, almost [1:46:36 inaudible]. Thank you.

**Mr. Chair:** Thank you. Anyone else? Do we have any submitted correspondence? Does anybody up here have any correspondence on them? Okay.

At this time, I'll open it up to reports from board members. Mr. Jenkins?

**Mr. Jenkins:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. As usual, I really appreciate all the time and several of the attendants for the meeting this evening. I specially want to thank Dr. Benson and Dr. Young for all the work and also the school board as well as Dr. Benson. I'll just this, budgets are certainly not easy, whether be the counties or the schools. Thank you for... I thank all parties involved in that.

I certainly agree with the need for providing a quality education for our community and the countless rewards for that. Certainly, I agree with the constantly remaining competitive, I still flashback to being a student here and seeing my entire school council and department leaving to get away. I think it's like **[1:47:59 purple]** or something. That's what kind of stayed with me, but again, I think we'll come to a compromise and I think while we're not always going to get everything that we want, maybe it's **[1:48:13 inaudible]** we get what we need.

Anyways, so my Board reported itself. I attended the March 25<sup>th</sup> budget work session. With that, again, I thank everyone for coming out and voicing your opinions. It really meant a lot to me. I'm sure we know the board members as well.

With that, I also need to reappoint a little to the parks and recreation advisory committee. I move to reappoint Stevie Gray.

**Mr. Granger:** Second.

**Mr. Chair:** All those in favor?

**All:** Aye.

**Mr. Chair:** Any opposed? Chair vote aye.

**Mr. Jenkins:** Thank you. That's all I have. Thank you.

**Mr. Chair:**

Mr. Granger?

**Mr. Granger:**

Yes, sir. I'd just like to say thank you to everyone who came out, the same thank you to everyone who came out at the March 25<sup>th</sup> board of supervisors work session. It is difficult to put together a budget.

I had the opportunity to speak with some of you this weekend. I spoke with a number of people as well that ranged from ideas of providing no increase to writing fully funding. I do appreciate everyone's input. It is difficult to come to a decision that will please everyone, but trying to do what's best for the county as a whole.

I do appreciate Dr. Young and Dr. Benson working together to try to find some common ground and for helping us find funds that fit into that is the best interest of this county as a whole, so thank you for your hard work, guys. Again, thank you citizens and for everyone that reached out to me and for providing your input. I do appreciate it on any topic, so I appreciate your passion. Thank you.

**Mr. Chair:**

Ms. Binder?

**Ms. Binder:**

Yes. I want to thank everyone who came out tonight to speak and also that have spoken to me in the last week. I want to thank some of the teachers of Potomac who I dropped my daughter off today afterwards, and they were very gracious to me and said, "Hi," and talked to **[1:50:07 inaudible]** especially out there in the audience. I really enjoyed talking to them.

I saw a couple of instances of how hard teachers individually worked. One teacher, who was out in the hallway, with a student at her desk, helping them study. Another woman was out in another hallway, across from Ms. Hunter's art room, and they were helping to do something else. I don't know exactly what they're doing, but the kids were learning hard at math.

I just want to share one thing that I forgot to share on that budget work session, meeting... and tell you how a teacher can make a difference and I will try to condense the story

down is When I did a lot of long-term subbing, one of the pleasures I had was being an SOL coordinator with various, different people that were in charge at that time. I got to administer SOL test to the students that had to take them to graduate, and they had taken it one or two times. They had some IP issues, and this was their last chance to graduate.

The one time I had a young lady, she, I think, had three tests she had to take to get her diploma. I spent the whole day with her and I said, "Hey, I get paid all day. You just take your time," and I got her lunch. I had the cafeteria bring lunch to her and she passed her SOLs.

I saw her about a year-and-a-half ago and she came up to me, and I remembered her face, I didn't remember her name, and I said, "I'm so sorry. I meet a lot of people." She wanted to thank me because I took the time to help her. She felt confident and she graduated. She now owns a business with her mom, catering, and I was there taking pictures and she was catering. She just wanted to thank me for how that meant a lot to her that she got her high school education, and she now owns a catering company with her mom, and she helped raise her son because of that, so I understand how one instance can mean so much over... it makes a difference, that's what I'm just trying to say. I just want to thank all of you out in the audience who do make a difference every day.

I also attended the track dedication the other day, and I want to thank everyone for coming out. It was great time. I was there and helped to bring back the track. I remember I was at the cinder track with the coach there at the other second track and third track, but it was a great time and thank you everybody who put it together.

Thank you Dr. Benson, lastly, and Dr. Young for getting together and working out a budget, and there's a lot of hard choices we have to make, and you guys' helping to make it a little easier. Thank you.

**Mr. Chair:**

Ms. Brabo?

**Ms. Brabo:**

First, I'd like to say, Ms. Richards, there was certainly disrespect meant to anyone at that meeting. I know Ms. Binder and I did exchange some remarks I think mostly out of what we were learning and what we were hearing, and there was certainly no disparaging remarks made between us whatsoever. Trust me, we heard everyone loud and clear. We made a number of notes.

With regards to looking forward, I will say this: I am so thankful to have my new board members, as of 2016, so that this county could finally develop strategic plans with regards to the future.

2008, my eldest daughter was at King George High School, and there were not substitute teachers to supervise the classrooms. My daughter would text me, "I am in class again. Everybody's writing on the walls, having a food fight. No substitute teacher," and I would march myself up there, demand to see the principal, "What the hell is going on here," right? Until finally, the phone call came from the school, "You need to come get your daughter and take her for stitches," because there was no supervision in the classroom, no substitute teacher. The boys were whipping rolls of duct tape and she got caught in the crossfire, sliced her face open.

Trust me, schools have come a long way since I first arrived in King George County. I am so thankful to have these colleagues. I have been so thankful since 2016, when John and Richard joined me. We did a seven-cent tax increase with six cents going to schools. I can see personally the changes that have been made and I'm very thankful for them, and I'm thankful that my younger daughter, who is five years younger than my older daughter, got to reap the benefit of those changes.

It comes down to strategic planning that this county had not done previously. Again, I cannot tell you enough how thankful I am to have colleagues who understand the importance of strategic planning, but it takes a long time to turn a big ship.

March 20<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>, I attended the local government advisory committee for the Chesapeake Bay watershed quarterly meeting. I learned that, currently, the funding provided by the EPA for technical assistance related to the Chesapeake Bay watershed is currently divided equally amongst our planning district commissions here in Virginia.

When you consider that Fairfax County has more engineers on staff than DEQ has in house, it seems there would be a more equitable way to divide the funding to better assist smaller localities who do not have the technical capacity within their county staff. This is a conversation that I had with John Kennedy, and I'm hoping to be able to continue this at the state level.

With 31 outcomes, there are just too many goals, making it difficult to manage and so many of them relate back to local government; this pertains to the watershed implementation plan number three. Continuing to work on how to better facilitate a conversation between the EPA and local government to create a clearer understanding and a better working relationship.

I also learned while at this conference about the Defense Roads Access Act, which was included in the recent National Defense Authorization Act. Twenty-three million dollars is allocated to this program for this year and it is specifically for improving road access to military installations. I immediately contacted Jeron Hayes at Dahlgren, and they were unaware of the program and are looking into it now.

At the meeting, the EPA also took a moment to acknowledge that no local targets were set for the watershed implementation plan phase three because of my efforts to advocate on the best interest of local government and the undue burden it would have placed on localities, especially rural ones.

Again, I would like to state that while there, I learned that DEQ has conducted the study to identify the recharge areas for the aquifer. I do believe that we should have staff take the time to contact Mr. [1:57:03 Scott inaudible], see if any

of those recharge areas are located within King George County and if so, have that incorporated into the comp plan to ensure that we are not simply paving over recharge areas that could replenish our groundwater.

Is everyone--

**Ms. Brabo:**

All right. The 22<sup>nd</sup>, I participated in the National Association of Counties' executive committee conference call.

On the 25<sup>th</sup>, I participated in the supervisor budget work session.

On the 26<sup>th</sup>, I participated in the National Association of Counties' rural action caucus conference call, and shared with you some of that and the Wireless Authority.

On 27<sup>th</sup>, I attended the ribbon cutting for the new track, and it was an exciting day for the schools and for the supervisors, especially notable that we cash funded that. We did not have to borrow in order to pay for that track. As a mother of a daughter who ran on the old track and was on the high school track team - I think under your tutelage, Ms. Binder, yes - it is nice to see the new track that is there now for the students to use. That's all I have, sir.

**Mr. Chair:**

Thank you. I'd like to thank everybody who came out tonight and those that offered public comment.

Dr. Benson, thank you very much, sir, for your willingness to work along with Dr. Young. I really appreciate you being here in person to deliver your comments. Thank you very much.

Mr. Collins and Ms. Hock, thank you for joining us here tonight. It's good to see you guys here.

April is World Autism Month. On April 2<sup>nd</sup>, we were asked to light it up blue in support of understanding and awareness. Tonight, I'm wearing a blue tie for my buddy and nephew, JT, and all those with autism.

Thank you to Park Manager Nina Cox, Fire Chief David Moody and Company 3 personnel for the quick turnaround

and notifications made for relocating the James Rural District roundtable and infrastructure due to a power outage at Caledon an hour before we were to kick off.

I plan on hosting more roundtables throughout the district as we will soon be publishing our economic development strategic plan and approaching capital improvement discussions.

On March 22<sup>nd</sup>, we had great discussions at my fifth such town hall roundtable in 15 months since taking office. We touched on a multitude of infrastructure concerns such as health services, the landfill, Service Authority, the courthouse, all the King George middle school, internet, Fire Company 2 in Dahlgren and the future Company 4, and Shiloh school board offices, and a few more topics.

On March 25<sup>th</sup>, I participated in our highly-attended budget work session at Company 1. I'd like to thank everyone who came out to express their concerns for the school division and engage in the budget process.

A few things I'd like to address: it was at multiple times that the county needs to prioritize our schools, and we have. Schools account for 56% of our operating budget. Additionally, of the 6,352,000 for fiscal year 19/20 debt service, \$4,633,000 or 73% is for school's capital improvements.

Stafford County schools were referred to multiple times that evening as well. The truth is we do not have the economic footprint and revenues, tax base for cost to compete funds from the state that Stafford does. Every time that a developer or an investor comes to the county, citizens push back. We do not want to become another Stafford County; but to pay like Stafford, we would have to be Stafford. What are we willing to trade off?

On March 27<sup>th</sup>, I attended the track dedication ceremony. I would be remiss if I did not first congratulate and thank my predecessor, Mr. Jim [2:01:11 inaudible], for his advocacy for this track and the previous board of supervisors for cash funding this project.

I'd also like to congratulate the school board and all the citizens who came out during those years of discussion to make our county's only track a priority, now a reality.

Last evening, I attended the King George Farm Bureau legislative appreciation dinner. Thank you to the officers and directors for hosting this event. I thoroughly enjoyed the conversations and insights we shared. I'd like to share an excerpt from my address to them last evening: the typical Virginia farmer is 59-and-a-half years old. Sixty-three percent of farmers are 65 years of age or older. This is troubling considering the vast farm land of King George County and that the next generation does not seem to be interested in taking on the family business of farming. This has a direct impact on the rural character of our county as the inheritance of farm land can quickly become the next parcel for subdividing and selling off to developer. Every farm lost is a farm lost forever; however, it's not all doom and gloom.

We have a vibrant future farmers of America in King George County along with a thriving 4-H program. I encourage you all to support these youth programs as they are the you of tomorrow.

Lastly, I'd like to thank my school board colleagues for all they have done on behalf of our students. I know many have the impression we are at odds with each other, but there are two sides of the budget issue and you have to pick one. Nothing can be further from the truth.

I am in constant communication and hold the highest respect for my school board member as well as schools are viable to our community. I, for one, would not want a school board who rolls over and is willing to settle for mediocrity at best. Same for my colleagues on the board of supervisors when looking at 11 county departments in addition to the school budget with limited resources.

I don't want a board of supervisors who simply looks at political expedience and caters to the loudest voice with no reward for consequences down the road. Both bodies have

the best interest of the citizens of King George at heart. In the end, we will come to a conclusion that works best for King George as a whole community, and I look forward to the continuing working relationship with our friends on the school board.

Lastly, to address Ms. Richards' comments, I was the guy that was eating during the comment period, and I'm not going to get into detail but I had driven straight from my job in DC, went home, changed, and took off to go to the budget work session. I needed something to eat because, frankly, I have an ulcer and low blood sugar, so that's why I was eating gummy bears. I'm sorry if that offended anyone; that definitely was not the intent. I heard everyone loud and clear.

Thank you very much. That concludes my comments. Do I have a motion on the consent agenda?

**Mr. Granger:** So moved.

**Ms. Brabo:** Second.

**Male Speaker:** All those in favor?

**All:** Aye.

**Mr. Chair:** Any opposed? Chair votes aye.

County officials report. Do we have any constitutional officers? I see Ms. Hart. How you doing, Ms. Hart?

**Ms. Hart:** I'm good. How are you?

Thank you Board, chairman of the board, Dr. Young, Mr. Gregory. I just want to give a little smidge of an update from my office: state income taxes are due May 1st and they've been coming in each day. Of course, it's been less and less each year because so many more people are e-filing, so we don't have nearly the returns that we used to. We have a little bit more land use to enter a few changes in land use.

We have a few more exemption for the elderly to enter and then, hopefully, Dr. Young would have to review the papers that you've been patiently waiting for.

Our personal property values are **[2:05:26 inaudible]**. They're all **[2:05:28 inaudible]** we finished them today. Ink is probably still wet on the paper.

Our business teams **[2:05:34 inaudible]** personal property, that's just about done. Our business license were due March 1. Of course, we always have a few stragglers coming in a few late ones, so we're still issuing business license.

We're getting everything in and hope the treasurer's office can soon print their bills in a timely fashion this year.

DMV Connect has been very, very successful in our office. They come the second Tuesday of each month. The high month that we have for them showing up, we had 57 tax payers come in and they do a wide variety of just about anything and everything you need from DMV renewals **[2:06:23 inaudible]** so I encourage you to come or them if they can.

Also, one little tidbit I learned today, and I'm going to pass it on to you guys, I had a call from a tax payer yesterday about their county stickers. Of course, you all know the inspection sticker has moved to the left side inside of your windshield. We were instructed to tell folks to get your county sticker, if you choose to have one, right beside the inspection sticker and, of course, we've gotten messages, "No, no. A deputy will pull me over. I can't have it here. It's not supposed to go here. It's got to go here," blah, blah.

Some folks, the new inspection, just scrape them off because they don't need them anyway. Well a lady was rejected or was going to be rejected because we told her to put it beside the inspection sticker. The individual company who's doing the inspection of the vehicle said that is incorrect, so he scraped it off because, otherwise, he would have failed her.

Well, I contacted the state police today just to confirm and for everyone's information, yes, do those **[2:07:34 inaudible]** inspection sticker. We were **[2:07:37 inaudible]** many, many folks **[2:07:40 inaudible]** put it next to your inspection sticker.

I think that's about all I have, a little smidge of update on our office. Things are going well. My staff is fabulous. I want to thank you all.

Yay for the teachers. I have a daughter that's in middle school, math teacher. I also thought that teachers should be paid what our athletes get paid.

**Mr. Chair:**

Thank you, Ms. Hart. Do we have a report from the county attorney? Thank you, sir. Boards and Commissions and reports: none. Presentation and reports: economic development strategic plan presentation by Mr. Ryan Gandy, director of the Economic Development. Thank you, sir.

**Mr. Gandy:**

Thank you Mr. Bueche. As you know, we've been working on a strategic plan for almost two years now and, hopefully, tonight, we'll get approval from you to move forward and publish that on the website.

In the interest of brevity, I didn't list every single objective and every single action in the hopes that people can find that online, but I do want to just go over the mission statement and the mission statement again.

As you could see here, this is the work of the Board in many meetings to come to this mission statement. From 2018 to 2023, King George County will maintain a comprehensive economic development program that encourages control of development and diverse revenue streams in order to manage our inevitable growth while preserving the historical, cultural and rural character of our community.

In the vision statement that was agreed upon was that King George would be a vibrant, connected the community that fosters diverse economic development and missionary grant while honoring its rural landscape.

Part of the process of the economic development plan was establishing priorities, and after many stakeholder meetings and many town halls for each board member, these were the priorities that were identified.

As you can see here, commercial industrial development... I'm not going to read all of it, but essentially, there's a need to increase our commercial and industrial sectors, obviously to produce the tax revenues that we desperately need.

Tourism, recreation and county promotion was also identified. We do have a county that has natural beauty and access to two rivers, and outdoor life and so we want to promote that and we want to, hopefully, gain revenue from that.

Infrastructure plan prioritizing [2:10:52 inaudible] to the capital improvements needed to attract economic investment, protect assets and improve efficiency.

Housing accessibility, we talked about that probably I feel like at every single meeting. We like to facilitate the development of affordable housing options that are more accessible to our telecommuting workforce.

When we talk about affordable housing, obviously we're not talking about low income. We are talking about reasonably priced homes that maybe some of our single tech workers at Dahlgren can afford public service, teachers that have that mid-income level.

Strategic relationships, we want to leverage relationships with our strategic partners to promote the county's interest locally and regionally, and that just means working with our educational institutions, our health care institutions, our people at the GWRC and Fredericksburg Regional Alliance to help with our economic development planning, so...

**Ms. Brabo:**

Correct me if I'm mistaken, but I seem to recall we had some conversation about changing the wording and not necessarily using affordable housing because kind of like folks are using climate resiliency versus climate change because it creates connotation, it creates divisiveness that the word "affordable housing" needs to do the same thing, so if we could word that differently. I thought we had a conversation--

**Mr. Gandy:**

Maybe we could change it to reasonably priced.

**Ms. Brabo:** There you go, whatever.

**Mr. Chair:** I thought we discussed it last--

**Dr. Young:** We did discuss that and it's included in his presentation, but the actual document there were commissioned to be published, actually, the term is housing accessibility. In addition--

**Ms. Brabo:** There you go. That's what it was, yes.

**Dr. Young:** --we changed the telecommuting workforce to, actually, commuting workforce.

**Ms. Brabo:** Community, yes, okay. It just didn't get changed--

**Dr. Young:** Yeah [2:12:57 inaudible]

**Mr. Chair:** This does reflect the changes that we...

**Dr. Young:** No.

**Mr. Chair:** Okay.

**Ms. Brabo:** Okay, all right. Thank you. In case this PowerPoint is FOIA'd, could you please make those changes to the PowerPoint?

**Mr. Gandy:** Absolutely.

**Ms. Brabo:** Thank you.

**Mr. Gandy:** Yeah. I was using the document that the most recent document we had, so I apologize, ma'am.

Last, health care. Obviously, there's a need for improved access to health care in the community, so whether that'd be attracting some type of emergency room or urgent care facility, that's going to be a high priority in the county.

Implementation status monitoring, so the benchmark measured tangible outcomes those would be tracked. We will use data from community surveys, [2:13:46 inaudible] statistics, retail sales tax revenue changes, commercial occupancy rates property and then by using the total number of new business licenses. This will allow the county and the business community to better understand effectiveness of

the proposed economic development strategy, and key stakeholders will assist in the process. Those key stakeholders are, again, our regional partners that assist us with economic development planning and housing, health.

Conclusion, this plan allows the county to prepare for population and economic growth. Still have some issues with a lack of reliable broadband service, health care, again the housing concerns, but this plan is the first step in addressing those issues. The goal of the plan is to implement fiscal, administrative and regulatory policies to stimulate increase investments in the county. I'll take questions, discussion. I will make those changes.

**Male Speaker:**

Any questions, discussion?

**Ms. Brabo:**

You need us to officially move to adopt the plan, sir?

**Dr. Young:**

Yes, ma'am, and I like to recommend that the board of supervisors adopt the economic development strategic plan and authorize the county administrator and staff to move forward with publishing the document.

**Mr. Granger**

So moved.

**Ms. Brabo:**

Second.

**Mr. Chair:**

All those in favor?

**All:**

Aye.

**Mr. Chair:**

Any opposed? Chair votes aye. Motion passes.

I'd like to add that I'm very happy to see this completed. We're about ten years behind the curve on this with the lifespan of the landfill of 27 years, but to make up that revenue difference in the economy that we're going to need to have in place to make up that difference, we're behind the curve ball. We really need to not just have words written in the policy that goes through the shelf. This needs to be implemented and we need to push this. Thank you for all your hard work in getting this done, and to Ms. Cupka who I see in the audience, for your role in development of this, thank you very much, ma'am.

Mr. Gandy, since you're up here, there was an amendment to the agenda. I believe you have another presentation. Would you like to do that at this time, sir?

**Mr. Gandy:**

Okay. I was asked by Supervisor Jenkins to present this tonight. This is a proposal that the Economic Development Authority, in conjunction hopefully with the board of supervisors, would like to implement in King George County. Right now, we're calling it small business development program.

The general goal of this program would be to encourage small business growth of offsetting the high cost associated with the establishment of the small business. If anybody knows anything about starting a business, you know you have overhead cost and upfront cost that sometimes are burdensome to opening a business. So also to encourage development and re-development of commercial or industrial properties intended for business use to encourage significant capital investment and/or job creation and to encourage the establishment of businesses that fill the service gap in the county.

The program would be an incentive program essentially where small businesses could apply for funding from the Economic Development Authority on a case-by-case basis.

The administration of this program would be that VDA reviews each one on a case-by-case basis. If the business is approved for funding, the EDA would issue a grant to the new business, and then if the grant is issued, the recipient would not be responsible for repayment. Repayment to the EDA would come in the form of reimbursements and tax revenues collected over a period of time to be determined by the board of supervisors until that amount of money granted by the EDA who then reimburse it. This is where the Board comes in. If approved, it would operate this way.

Requirements for the business, the business obviously must be located within the boundaries of the county. Applicants must prove the ability to obtain financing or procure any and all applicable permits to carry the project through the

completion, comply with all the applicable laws [2:18:44 **inaudible**] taxes to the county.

Grants won't be awarded retroactively for projects completed prior to the application, and the request must be made by a registered business, not an individual.

Requirements continued. They would have to have a federal tax identification number, a budget of the list of the expenses and funding. Business would agree, in principle, not to be located outside of the boundaries of King George within five years of receiving funds or the funds would become payable on demand. If the business ceases to exist before the grant has been repaid through tax revenues, the proposal would be that they would be responsible for the difference owed and then the country would reserve the right to amend the amount requested.

I looked up some other localities and some similar programs to what is being proposed here. The town of Ashland, they have an infrastructure and an environmental loan program. They provide financial assistance for new owners to redevelop property and requiring [2:19:59 **inaudible**] clean up or accessibility to water and sewer, internal repairs of the building to bring up to code. They operate theirs as a long program, so the recipient pays a primary interest for the fixed term with a balloon payment at the end, but the loan is forgivable if they need certain program goals that are agreed to at that time.

Another requirement is that the assessed value of the property must increase by greater than 10%. Property must be altered so that the value of the business has the ability to produce income, and then the maximum order that they will give is 20,000.

Augusta County, they do theirs on a case-by-case basis, and just for your information, most of the localities that I contacted do this on a case-by-case basis. It's not just, "Hey, we're going to do it for every single person that walks through the door," but they base theirs on job creation, capital investment and wage rates of their workers. They do

issue cash grants, infrastructure development grants, fee waivers, and then they do project-specific incentives. For instance, the data center or something that has a significant capital investment, they'll do that project specific.

Tax refunds for increased invest is **[2:21:31 inaudible]** sharing through the real estate personal property. Prince George County, which actually made a NACo publication on this specific thing, they offer one-time incentives for new commercial and industrial entities that provide \$250,000 total investment of the building and equipment. Then, there's the one-half of the connection fees above 10,000, but less than 200.

Orange County, who I've probably spoken with the most, and I did ask how they determine what a small business is and the answer is, "We do it on a case-by-case basis." There's many definitions of the small business, but that's how they do theirs. They'd take applications and then if the EDA approves the grant, the grant has up to the lesser 33% or \$20,000 for real estate development cost, and then the qualifying costs are construction, demolition, stormwater, water and sewer, and then paving and ceiling for the parking areas.

Patrick County, in the town of Stuart, Patrick County offers incentives for water and sewer utility expansion, and then the town, which is within the county, also offers fee waivers, reductions, and then deposit their waivers **[2:22:59 inaudible]**.

That's the completion of it. What I'm asking for the Board tonight is to... for thoughts based on this proposal, the option that we discussed with the EDA and the EDA approved to move forward with was that they would issue the grant upfront to pay for water and connection fees, and then over a certain amount of time, to be determined by Board if the Board so chooses, that money would be reimbursed to the EDA through the tax revenues generated from that business.

**Mr. Chair:**

We'll open it up for discussion.

**Mr. Jenkins:**

Okay. Ryan, thank you for putting that together. He probably put it together because he was tired of hearing me harass him about it. You may recognize this program was... besides the discussion, I sent an email many moons ago and then also it was something that... a different version of how it was presented to the EDA, or I apologize, the Service Authority not long ago. It kind of died and I don't want it to die.

What has motivated this, it's obvious that our connection fees are very high, and to me, it was affecting our economy and certainly our small businesses. There is one in particular that maybe you're probably aware of, but it's stopping small business owners from developing. We can either continue to have discussion forever or we can attempt to have a solution.

This is my proposed solutions to help with it, it's certainly not going to be eliminate it. There's more conversations, I think, that need to be had, but I'm really looking forward to this. I knew the EDA. When I met with them, I did mention it in the prior board report if you may recall. It was unanimously supported.

Again, for me, it's just my idea Ryan did all the work and did a lot of research, and I really appreciate that. **[2:25:23 inaudible]** any other questions. Thank you.

**Male Speaker:**

Okay.

**Mr. Granger:**

I should say thank you, Mr. Gandy, for putting it together. I do know that we had discussed it I think some time ago. I think Mr. Gregory provided some input at that time in regards to the best way to facilitate that with the EDB being involved, if I recall properly, so it falls in that pattern which I guess makes sense. I trust your judgment, Mr. Gregory.

I just want to say thank you to John as well for not letting it go to continue to **[2:25:56 inaudible]**. Thank you for your diligence in that, and I think it is a tool that we can put in our arsenal to use that helps small businesses or businesses develop. It's just one thing, but it's a good start to, at least, get one and then to continue on right. I could appreciate **[2:26:13 inaudible]** discuss this and hold **[2:26:15**

**inaudible]** on both, but I think it's something to move forward on sooner than later.

**Ms. Brabo:** Do you have anything, Ms. Binder?

If you could, Mr. Gandy, remind me again what happens if the business completely folds?

**Mr. Gandy:** Well, this is just a proposal.

**Ms. Brabo:** Right. I just didn't remember. I was writing notes.

**Mr. Gandy:** But essentially, what would happen is if they go out of business before the end of that period, they would make up the difference of what was owed. They--

**Ms. Brabo:** How do you --

**Mr. Chair:** If that was bankruptcy.

**Ms. Brabo:** --we'd be able to collect that?

**Mr. Gandy:** Again, that's one of the things that we should talk about. Are we comfortable with just saying, "Okay. Well, there's... the money's gone." I'm just giving you discussion items to consider.

**Ms. Brabo:** I appreciate that. I would like to echo what my colleagues said about John's continued advocacy for this.

It is a hurdle for small businesses. They have so many costs upfront, but I would just like to throw out to my colleagues that rather than 100% grant, maybe it's more of a cost share grant, recognizing that the EDA also does need to generate revenue. Maybe it's more like a 30% loan from the EDA and a low interest rate, and where 70% is paid back through tax revenues, rather than the county simply giving back all the revenue and the cost to the connection fee.

Again, I get that small businesses have a huge hurdle and we want our own citizens to be entrepreneurs. We want them to invest here in our economy. I just throw that out there, something to think about if it was 30-70 cost share, so that they still have the revenue provided to them up front, but that 30% would be a loan at a low interest rate, so the EDA

is generating some revenue and then we're only out the 70%.

**Mr. Jenkins:**

If I could? I don't think that's a bad idea. whatever we can get done, anything is better than nothing.

I will say that, to sort of echo what Ryan was saying, I think it's up to... I think it's a little bit up... I think that's where the application process comes in a little bit: it's assessing the business and how viable it is.

Another thing is, like I said, this is mostly-- It is supposed to offset the cost for the Service Authority. This is the only one cost that they have to--

**Ms. Brabo:**

Right.

**Mr. Jenkins:**

With it being so high, I don't want to see them take a loan **[2:29:12 inaudible]** for. I think it's more effective if it's just reimbursed in some way, and of course, the other part of that is they don't... it's up to the EDA to define how much they're going to get. If EDA doesn't think they should get 100% of it, which again that's a case-by-case thing, then so be it.

Businesses fail, and I did... obviously, I found that **[2:29:36 inaudible]** surprising. I will say that businesses fail, but **[2:29:41 inaudible]** only 30% of new businesses fail around the first two years, 50% during the first five years, and 66% during the first ten years.

A lot people say only **[2:29:54 inaudible]** businesses have high likelihood of failing in place, but maybe it's not as bad as it needs to be.

Yeah. I just think that we **[2:30:04 inaudible]** I would like to see **[2:30:06 inaudible]**. If that's what it would come to, then cool anything is better than nothing and I'm sure a lot of business centers will agree with that assessment, so that's... again, thank you for **[2:30:17 inaudible]**.

**Mr. Chair:**

I have a couple of things. Thank you, Ryan; and thank you, Jonathan, for pushing this; but right now, we're looking at bullet points. I think we're going to continue to have a

discussion looking at bullet points and more people shuffling around ideas until we actually get a policy put in place.

My recommendation would be let's get a draft policy in place and then we have something to actually review instead of just talking in circles year after year.

The other thing, I think that we should incorporate some benchmarks that need to be met like we're in some of the other localities and we probably do need to look at establishing the cap.

My last comment and I'm not a member of the board of directors for the Service Authority, so I might have a little different outlook, but I think the biggest killer to our economic development, this county, is our Service Authority's connection fees which they do have to rely on heavily because that pays for infrastructure. I get it, but what it is, is it's a deterrent. You have a business that could possibly locate here, but because of the cost of that connection fee, they're going elsewhere. It's something that they can't cover. Not only are we losing those revenues, we're losing another customer when the Service Authority has identified that one way out of this hole is to expand the customer base.

I think what we really need to do is work very closely with the Service Authority and see what they would be willing to do along with the EDA on this because I know they don't waive fees. I don't know if it's a legal issue or what, I understand that. But the current way we're doing things, I think we've lost a lot of potential businesses because of the way our current charges are set up in my opinion.

**Mr. Gandy:**

We do have a meeting with the Service Authority next week to discuss this, Monday. We will discuss options for potential waivers or fee reductions, but I can certainly put together a draft policy and have the benchmarks in place. I will model it out for some of the other localities and present it to you for review.

**Ms. Brabo:**

If I may, Mr. Chair, in response to your comments, the Service Authority has done its due diligence, and our connection fees related to commercial and so forth, actually,

are lower and so, actually, the Service Authority board of directors is going to be looking at raising them because we need to generate the revenue, so just FYI and no, the Service Authority is not in a position to be able to waive--

**Mr. Granger:** I had spoken to Mr. Weakley and he did not share that information with me. He was saying--

**Ms. Brabo:** Did I misinterpret?

**Mr. Granger:** I don't know. I don't want to see you misinterpreted, but I think it would be something you should maybe get a clear answer from Mr. Weakley because I mentioned some of these concerns. I recently heard from business who's having concerns with the cost for the connection fees and so with the budget cycle, it's difficult because we have a lot things going on with Service Authority.

**Ms. Brabo:** Right.

**Mr. Granger:** He's got that as a priority, but he said he would definitely be the one to entertain looking at the connection fees and the rates. He didn't say either way, it would be about up or down; but he said yeah. He thinks that probably **[2:33:49 inaudible]** entity to look at those regularly just to make sure that they make sense.

**Mr. Chair:** It's also the **[2:33:56 inaudible]** assessments, too, like for someone wanting to expand a restaurant or something like that, that plays into it, too.

**Ms. Brabo:** Yeah, that, I would love to do away with.

**Mr. Chair:** I thought **[2:34:08 that we concur]**.

**Mr. Jenkins:** Maybe, but... the way I... I actually spoke with Mr. Weakley right beforehand the way I understood it and it's highly possible I misunderstood, but he was thinking **[2:34:20 inaudible]**. Again, I may have misunderstood him and--

**Ms. Brabo:** Yeah, so--

**Mr. Jenkins:** Again, I got hit in the head a lot. It's **[2:34:31 inaudible]**--

**Male Speaker:** You have--

**Mr. Jenkins:** I have [2:34:33 inaudible] if it's okay and I do want to [2:34:36 inaudible]. If you could draw that up like tomorrow, that would be awesome. I don't disagree with putting cap, but I would... we had this discussion and he's proposing, so I'm not [2:34:51 inaudible].

I wouldn't want to necessarily to put a cap, but just leave [2:34:55 inaudible] but only because you could stop a business that could bring in more revenue based off of that. If you put a cap, they might not come in here and you wouldn't need to [2:35:04 inaudible] I don't know if that makes sense.

**Male Speaker:** It's valid.

**Mr. Jenkins:** Yeah. But that's just my opinion and I'll shut up now. Thanks.

**Mr. Chair:** Do we have consensus for Mr. Gandy to put together a draft policy? Obviously, we probably wouldn't want to start that after you meet with the Service Authority, but do we have consensus for that?

**Male Speaker:** Yes.

**Mr. Chair:** All right. Thank you, sir.

**Mr. Gandy:** Thank you.

**Mr. Chair:** Department of Finance, link up enterprise upgrade on check writing machine in the finance department. Ms. Ward?

**Ms. Ward:** Good evening, Mr. Chairman, members of the board [2:35:49 inaudible] I'm here to ask that you recommend the Board appropriate \$5,060 from contingency into the IT line 4-100-12600-6050 to allow the link up enterprise upgrade.

**Ms. Brabo:** So moved.

**Mr. Granger:** Second.

**Mr. Chair:** All those in favor?

**All:** Aye.

**Mr. Chair:** Any opposed? Chair votes aye.

Finance department change order number one, associated with the King George middle school purchase order for special inspection services.

**Ms. Ward:**

We would ask that you authorize the county administrator to issue change order number one to Draper Aden Associates in the amount of \$20,783 for special inspection services associated with the middle school expansion project and to transfer the funds from the project contingency line to the professional service engineering line.

**Ms. Brabo:**

So moved.

**Mr. Granger:**

Second.

**Mr. Chair:**

Any discussion? I have a question. Dr. Young, how many change orders have we had with the King George middle school projects so far, and I'm asking because I'd like to know are we approaching what we budgeted for this project or the change orders as they... I'm sure there's more than one that has occurred and will occur. Is that going to take us close to that, what we budgeted for?

**Dr. Young:**

Yes. At the end of the day, we have a 21-million-dollar bond to pay for the middle school extension project, and we have \$500,000 of the 21 million dollars in contingency with the expectation like any construction project that there're going to be change orders and there's going to be situation **[2:37:47 inaudible]** naturally changes what's captured on paper.

A matter of fact, I sat down. I spoke with our country engineer and with Dr. Benson regarding some change orders that are coming down the pipeline. They're going to come in at a tune of \$680,000, so that means that basically they're going to have \$180,000 worth of change orders that won't be covered by the contingency. However, after our discussion with Dr. Benson, with the county engineer, it was understood that this additional \$180,000 was going to be absorbed through \$900,000 that **[2:38:21 inaudible]** reserve in their **[2:38:23 furniture]** line. I don't have the budget for the middle school extension project. At the end of the day, there will not be any additional expenses beyond 21 million

dollars that the Board here marked in the CIP for the middle school expansion project.

**Mr. Chair:** All right. Thank you very much, sir. There was a motion and properly second. All those in favor?

**All:** Aye.

**Mr. Chair:** Any opposed? Chair votes aye. Motion passes.

County administration, authorization to advertise no wake zone public hearing. Dr. Young?

**Dr. Young:** Yes, sir. On February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019, the Machodoc Creek Marina conducted a presentation requesting the King George County board of supervisors to consider adopting an ordinance that would create a no wake zone near the facility, and no wake zone establishes speed limits and safety policies that are enforceable by law.

The Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, or DGIF, is the approving authority for no wake zone. The DGIF requires the locality to first adopt an ordinance before **[2:39:18 inaudible]** applicant's request to approve a no wake zone.

The Board concluded with the presentation with instructions for the county staff and county attorney to review the Machodoc Creek Marina's request. The response reviewed the no wake zone policies, spoke with DGIF, and asked the county attorney to draft an ordinance. The ordinance was then reviewed by both the Community Development Department and **[2:39:40 inaudible]** support facility.

Both staff in Dahlgren have found the requested zone to have no significant impact on the community or the **[2:39:48 bases mission]**. I recommend the board of supervisors authorize the county administrator to advertise a public hearing to consider an amendment to our zoning warnings to establish a no wake zone on upper Machodoc Creek.

**Ms. Brabo:** So moved.

**Mr. Granger:** Second.

**Mr. Chair:** All those in favor?

**All:** Aye.

**Mr. Chair:** Any opposed? Chair votes aye. Motion passes.

County administration request a [2:40:09 inaudible] Dr. Young?

**Dr. Young:** On February 4<sup>th</sup>, the board of supervisors held a joint meeting with the Tourism Advisory Committee. The meeting was held to provide the Board an understanding of where the [2:40:18 inaudible] currently stands in [2:40:19 inaudible] for hosting King George County [2:40:21 inaudible] anniversary celebration.

The meeting concluded with the understanding that the [2:40:25 inaudible] needs assistance of planning the celebration. In response, the county staff published an RFP to entertain polls from event planning firms. We received seven proposals. I believe two of those presentations are a good fit for the county's needs.

The proposals estimate event planning services will come at a cost of \$50,000. I believe this expenditure is appropriate to leverage against the tourism fund.

I also believe that our discussion at the joint board sessions satisfy state code 58.1-3819 requirement that expenditures [2:40:55 inaudible] be executed after consultation with the Tourism Advisory Committee.

I'd like to recommend that the board of supervisors fund the staff's request for event planning services compliant with state code 58.1-3819, appropriate \$60,000 from the tourism fund for event planning services, and authorize the county administration to negotiate and execute contract to secure an event planning firm.

**Ms. Brabo:** So moved.

**Mr. Granger:** Second.

**Mr. Chair:** All those in favor?

**All:** Aye.

**Mr. Chair:** Any opposed? Chair votes aye. Motion passes.

Discussion item: board of supervisors, boards and commissions assignment discussion... or I do not have the **[2:41:39 inaudible]** version. I apologize. Strike that.

County administration approval to sign deed of subdivision for Hopyard Farms sections 4 and 15.

**Dr. Young:** Yes, sir. As was emailed to you all earlier and presented at the Service Authority, we have received the deed of dedication for sections 4 and sections 15 of the Hopyard development community. Basically, the deed of dedication will rank... will transfer from the HOA and the developer to the county, but right away, an easement's necessary for the county to access utilities, and like Mr. Gregory explained earlier, establish fire hydrants and other necessary infrastructure.

I'd like to ask that the Board approve or authorize... I'm sorry. I'd like to ask that the Board authorize the county administrator to execute this deed of dedication.

**Mr. Granger:** So moved.

**Ms. Brabo:** Second.

**Mr. Chair:** All those in favor?

**All:** Aye.

**Mr. Chair:** Any opposed? Chair votes aye. Motion passes.

Discussion items: board of supervisor's board and commission's assignment discussion. Dr. Young?

**Dr. Young:** Yes, sir. On March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019, the board of supervisors discussed switching their seats on the board of commissions. Our elected officials are required to attend. The Board directed staff to compile a list of all of the respective boards and commissions to request that **[2:42:58 inaudible]** is attached. I recommend the board of supervisors to review the attached list and provide the staff guidance on desired changes through the roster.

**Ms. Brabo:** I would like to step down from FAMPO, the Fredericksburg Area Metropolitan Organization. It meets the third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at GWRC planning district commission. I don't know if Mr. Jenkins wanted to... as the alternate, wanted to step up and be the primary or--

**Mr. Jenkins:** Yeah, that's fine unless somebody else wants it.

**Ms. Brabo:** We'll need a new alternate then to fill in when Mr. Jenkins cannot attend.

**Mr. Jenkins:** Sure, I'll take that.

**Mr. Chair:** While it's up for discussion, is it... interested in the **[2:43:49 urban act]** tourism? They meet quarterly?

**Ms. Brabo:** Maybe at 9:00 a.m. on Friday.

**Mr. Chair:** It's quarterly at 9:00 a.m. on Fridays, and I would swap for an evening.

**Ms. Brabo:** The meetings are in **[2:44:07 inaudible]**

**Mr. Granger:** I can take it, Jeff, if you want. If it's only quarterly, I can make that work, it's okay.

**Mr. Chair:** I can take one of your evening.

**Mr. Granger:** No, it's okay.

**Mr. Granger:** No, I really could take another one. It's just--

**Mr. Chair:** I appreciate that **[2:44:20 inaudible]**

**Mr. Bueche:** I'm content with the ones I have. I'm not looking to offload anything. If it is causing problems for you, I can take it **[2:44:26 inaudible]** I can make that work.

**Mr. Chair:** Well, then, can I take the FAMPO that you--

**Mr. Jenkins:** Sure.

**Mr. Chair:** --volunteered to take as an alternate. All right. I will take that FAMPO.

**Mr. Char:** Wait. I was taking his alternate. You're still that.

**Mr. Granger:** It's only [2:44:40 inaudible]

**Mr. Chair:** Richard was your alternate.

**Mr. Jenkins:** Okay.

**Mr. Chair:** I just took Richard's alternate for FAMPO. You're still the primary.

**Mr. Jenkins:** [2:44:47 inaudible] so it doesn't really matter.

**Mr. Chair:** Unless you want to go home earlier to get [2:44:51 inaudible]

**Mr. Jenkins:** I love going home, but I'll do it.

**Mr. Chair:** If you want to be the alternate for FAMPO--

**Mr. Jenkins:** No, I'll be the primary.

**Ms. Brabo:** Primary.

**Mr. Jenkins:** Okay.

**Mr. Chair:** All right. Is there anything else for discussion on these assignments? Is there anybody--

**Mr. Chair:** Okay. Also, if we can in the future, can we have it published to where everybody's VACo committee assignments are also listed for the public so that everybody knows that when we go to these VACo events what committees were actually assigned to and what we're doing at that part of the public record as well? I appreciate that. Thank you very much. All right.

Now, we'll move to the county administrator's report. Dr. Young?

**Dr. Young:** I received correspondence from the Rappahannock Emergency Medical Services Council. The council wishes to advise the King George County board of supervisors of Mr. David Garvin's term expiration in June of this year.

The council would like the Board to consider and reappoint Mr. Garvin to the Rappahannock Emergency Medical Service Council for a three-year term, ending in June 2022.

**Ms. Brabo:** I move to reappoint Mr. Garvin.

**Mr. Granger:** Second.

**Mr. Chair:** All those in favor?

**All:** Aye.

**Mr. Chair:** Any opposed? Chair votes aye. Motion passes.

**Dr. Young:** I, too, would like to thank Dr. Benson for working diligently with me to help negotiate a viable way forward with school budget that would both accommodate the school's needs and the county's needs.

I would like to ask that the Board consider allowing me to move forward with the negotiated agreement of \$589,726 to be added to the local allocation for the schools. With that number, I could put together a budget option and bring that Board... I mean, bring that presentation to the Board on April 16<sup>th</sup> [2:46:46 inaudible] to conduct that presentation on April 16<sup>th</sup> and request that the Board approve that budget. If the Board does approve, we then request that we advertise for the public hearing.

The public hearing will take place on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, and then seven days later, on April 30<sup>th</sup>, we'd ask that the Board adopt the budget and we have both the school's budget and the county's budget completed and adopted before the May 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for the school's budget.

**Mr. Chair:** Great. Before we get motion or a second one, let's--

**Ms. Brabo:** Just consensus, right?

**Mr. Chair:** You need consensus?

**Dr. Young:** I just need consensus. I need two things: I need assistance that we can utilize that \$589,726 as the planning number for both Dr. Benson and myself to put together budget options, and then I need to know that your schedule will be able to accommodate, basically, a work session on the... I mean, a public hearing on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and a quick work session on the 30<sup>th</sup> to adopt the budget.

**Mr. Chair:** All right. On the 16<sup>th</sup>, is it possible we could get our Citizen Budget Advisory Committee here? We're going to go through that final budget all the way. Then, to be able to sit around, since schools was a major part of that and they were involved in those budget work sessions, I'd like them to be able to have a say on what we finally present and gain their opinions if **[2:48:11 inaudible]**

**Dr. Young:** **[2:48:11 inaudible]**

**Mr. Chair:** Okay. Also, that dollar amount that you threw out, is Dr. Benson confident that meets the pay raise that was presented and the special ed positions?

**Dr. Young:** I can state with 100% confidence that the multiple discussions with Dr. Benson and myself that he and I, both, are confident that those monies will be able to cover the salary increases for all schools' employees and will be able to accommodate the schools' request for seven special education position additions.

**Mr. Chair:** Beautiful. Thank you. Do we have consensus?

**Ms. Brabo:** Yes.

**Mr. Chair:** Dr. Young, thank you very much, sir.

**Dr. Young:** Thank you, sir.

**Mr. Chair:** Before we move in... I believe we have a closed session coming up next, correct? Right.

Before we move in to that, if... I don't know if this is the proper time, so please advise if it's not. I have one comment that I omitted for my board report in rebuttal to Mr. Bennett's comments. If I may get that on the record, I'd greatly appreciate that.

In response to Mr. Bennett's comments during the Service Authority board of directors, it's not just the **[2:49:21 private sale]** that I was looking at. Yes, I have thrown that out there and I'm still standing by that comment. I'm looking at private sale, but I'm also looking at other options should it fall under the county should we realign our finances.

I'm not in the take for private sale. My point is that the current business model and customer base size makes the system unsustainable, especially when you're coming to the county to subsidize it, that tells me something isn't working. I am saying we have to sell it. I want to just clarify that.

At my town hall, we discussed multiple options. We discussed private sale. Citizens that were there brought up it falling under the county, and we discussed re-streamlining or re-streaming how the finances are set up.

My point is, is that we have to do something and the discussion needs to happen with... but I do want to give credit to the board of directors. We all are finally taking a look at it, and it takes a long time to turn a big shipment as it's been said before.

We inherited something that just structurally wasn't sound. I don't believe that the way it was set up with the customer base it had that we were set up for success. It's just not a good business model, so that's the point that I was trying to make.

To the employees of the Service Authority that took it... that I was saying they would have to find another job, that was never the intent of my comments.

My intent was a discussion needs to happen because the status quo just is not cutting it for the Service Authority. I just wanted to make that clear. Thank you very much, so--

**Ms. Brabo:**

I forgot to tell you about the event, April 10<sup>th</sup>, in Tappahannock. It's 1:30 or 2 o'clock. I'll have to go back and verify. You should have all received an invitation, and I actually received the RSVP list thus far, and Mr. Bush, your name was on there as RSVPd already, so you must have at some point. It is specifically to discuss the watershed implementation plan three, to talk about how it impacts localities, your concerns.

Deputy Secretary Anne Jennings of Natural Resources, overseeing the Chesapeake Bay watershed program, will be present to engage in conversation as well.

It is critical that as many elected officials... this is specifically being held for the Middle Peninsula, Northern Neck and George Washington regional commissions.

I know [2:52:06 Mike inaudible] from Stafford is attending. Dr. [2:52:08 Millsap], with GWRC, is attending.

I don't know if you received an invitation, Dr. Young... okay. I will forward that invitation to all of you.

Like I said, I know Mr. Bush. I saw your name on the RSVP list. If you can attend, I think it will be extremely educational for you, and allows us to dialogue and advocate for how costly this is to our localities.

**Ms. Binder:**

I move that the King George County board of supervisors convene in closed meeting pursuant to state code section 2.2-371183 for discussion, consideration and consultation with legal counsel concerning the potential acquisition of real property for public purposes and disposition of publicly-held real property, or discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the Board, and state code section 2.2371188 for consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

Invited to attend the closed meeting as necessary are the county administrator, county attorney and Heather Hall because they are deemed necessary and their presence will reasonably aide the Board in its consideration of the topics to be discussed pursuant to Virginia FOIA section 2.2-3712M.

**Ms. Brabo:**

Second.

**Mr. Chair:**

Any discussion? All those in favor.

**All:**

Aye.

**Mr. Chair:**

Any opposed? Chair votes aye. We're in closed session.

**Ms. Binder:**

I move that the King George County board of supervisors return to public meeting, and certify by vote that only public

business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered during the closed meeting.

**Ms. Brabo:** Second.

**Mr. Granger:** Second.

**Mr. Chair:** Mr. Jenkins--

**Mr. Jenkins:** So certify.

**Mr. Chair:** Mr. Granger?

**Mr. Granger:** So certify.

**Mr. Chair:** Ms. Binder?

**Ms. Binder:** So certify.

**Mr. Chair:** Ms. Brabo.

**Ms. Brabo:** So certify.

**Mr. Chair:** Chair certifies. We are back in session.

Any further business to come before the Board?

**Mr. Granger:** Move to adjourn until April 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room.

**Ms. Brabo:** Second.

**Mr. Chair:** All--

**Mr. Granger:** April 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Dr. Young:** Yes, April 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Mr. Chair:** All those in favor?

**All:** Aye.

**Mr. Chair:** Any opposed? Chair votes aye. We are adjourned.

Dr. Young, if you could--

