

**At a Special Meeting of the Sussex County Board of Supervisors
Held in the General District Courtroom on
Thursday, April 5, 2018 at 5 pm**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Keith C. Blowe
C. E. Fly, Sr.
Alfred G. Futrell
Susan B. Seward
John A. Stringfield
Rufus E. Tyler, Sr.

STAFF PRESENT:

Vandy V. Jones, III, County Administrator
Danielle Powell, Interim County Attorney
Millard P. Stith, Independent Consultant
Deste J. Cox, Chief Deputy Treasurer
Brenda H. Drew, Housing Coordinator
Ernest Giles, Sheriff
Kelly W. Moore, Interim Finance Supervisor
Timmy Sloan, Jr., Department of Social Services
Jenell L. Whitfield, Secretary I/Receptionist
Shilton R. Butts, Assistant to the County Administrator/
Deputy Clerk to the Board

Item 1. Call to Order/Determine Quorum (5:18 p.m.)

The April 5, 2018 Special meeting (Budget Work Session) of the Sussex County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Vice Chairman Blowe.

Item 2. The Invocation

The Invocation was offered by Supervisor Stringfield.

Item 3. The Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Item 4. Agenda Amendments

There were no agenda amendments.

Item 5. Approval of Regular Agenda

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR TYLER, seconded by SUPERVISOR STRINGFIELD and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the April 5, 2018 agenda as presented.

Voting aye: Supervisors Blowe, Futrell, Stringfield, Tyler

Voting nay: none

Absent during vote: Supervisor Seward

Absent: Supervisor Fly

Chairman Seward arrived at 5:23 p.m.

Item 6. FY2019 Budget Work Session

County Administrator Jones stated that the main purpose of this Budget Work Session was regarding health insurance. He stated that an action was needed to allow staff time to order proper materials to send to employees to meet the mandated Open Enrollment period and meet the deadline of May 15, 2018.

County Administrator Jones gave a brief overview of the health insurance. County Administrator Jones advised that there had been an increase of \$72,600.00; however, this increase was less than last year's increase. A breakdown of the costs associated with the Local Choice Plan Options offered: (Key Advantage Expanded, (2) Key Advantage 500, and (3) the High Deductible Health Plan.

There was discussion of different insurance options.

County Administrator Jones advised that the budget presented to the Board of Supervisors included the County absorbing costs of the health insurance increase.

Local Choice Plan Option handouts were provided to the Board members.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR STRINGFIELD, seconded by SUPERVISOR TYLER and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves funding the employees' health insurance at 100% for FY2019.

Voting aye: Supervisors Blowe, Futrell, Seward, Stringfield, Tyler

Voting nay: none

Absent: Supervisors Fly

At the request of Vice Chairman Blowe, the Board began review of the FY2019 Proposed Budget packets that were provided to the Board at an earlier meeting.

There was discussion of the clarification of the Unassigned Fund Balance. Ms. Kelly Moore, Interim Finance Supervisor, stated that the funds in the Unassigned Fund Balance are the funds that will be used from the Designated Funds to balance the current budget. Ms. Moore further stated that the Unassigned Fund Balance are funds that the County already have in the old Fund Balance that's being used to balance this budget. The funds have a specific designation that's already built in the budget.

There was discussion of funding and purchasing options for the fire truck for Wakefield, the Social Service Christmas Program (Angel Tree program), the Faith Based Coalition, the Blackwater Regional Library, Sussex County Young Men's Athletic Club, Inc. (SCYMAC), and Save-A-Seed.

It was requested to have the Faith Based Coalition, Miles B. Carpenter Museum and Save-A-Seed attend the April 12, 2018 Budget Work Session along with Sussex County Public Schools, the Improvement Association, Wakefield Volunteer Fire Department and the Virginia Cooperative Extension.

County Administrator Jones stated the schools requested level funding; however, there was an increase of \$5,000.00 for a shared IT position. The salary for the IT position had increased in the last three (3) budget cycles; however, it was never reflected in the County's budget. The \$5,000.00 reflects the increases.

There were discussion of Chowan Basin Soil & Water Conservation's budget increase. The County was previously credited for in-kind donations for providing office space for Chowan Basin. Chowan Basin acquired new office space. They are no longer utilizing office space in the County's Office building. The increase is due to Chowan Basin no longer receiving the in-kind donation credit.

There was also discussion of setting aside funding each year to build the Reserve Fund as well as setting aside funding for fire trucks.

There was discussion regarding the Sussex Service Authority. The water for Stony Creek has reached its capacity. Vice Chairman Blowe stated that the State has specific rules and requirements. Water rates can only be raised to a certain percentage at a time over a designated period of time. Vice Chairman Blowe requested the Board to consider directing Administration to work with the Sussex Service Authority to develop the partnership needed to help with this matter.

There was brief discussion regarding the increase in the Commonwealth's Attorney budget. County Administrator Jones stated that the increase was due to the need for a position to review the footage that comes in from the body cameras. County Administrator Jones noted that at the General Assembly, bills were put forth to require the localities to fund a certain amount of positions to review film footage.

County Administrator Jones asked the Board to inform staff of any questions they have regarding the budget prior to the April 12, 2018 Budget Work Session (Special Meeting.)

Item 7. Citizens' Comments (7:27 p.m.)

Comments were heard from Kevin Bracy (Courthouse District) regarding budget requests items and accountability.

Item 8. Adjournment

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR BLOWE, seconded by SUPERVISOR STRINGFIELD and carried: RESOLVED that the April 5, 2018 Special Meeting of the Sussex County Board of Supervisors is hereby adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Voting aye: Supervisors Blowe, Futrell, Seward, Stringfield, Tyler

Voting nay: none

Absent: Supervisor Fly

Item 8.1 Next Meeting

The next Special meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be held on Thursday, April 12, 2018 at 5 p.m. in the Judicial Center - General District Courtroom, 15098 Courthouse Road, Sussex, VA 23884.

The next regular Board of Supervisors regular meeting will be held on Thursday, April 19, 2018 at 7 p.m. in the Judicial Center - General District Courtroom, 15098 Courthouse Road, Sussex, VA 23884.