

At a Special Meeting of the Board of Supervisors  
Held at the Miles B. Carpenter Center Folk Art Museum  
Waverly, Virginia  
on Thursday, January 25, 2024 – 1:00 pm

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Thomas W. Baicy, III  
C. Eric Fly, Sr.  
Alfred G. Futrell  
Wayne O. Jones  
Phyllis T. Tolliver  
Rufus E. Tyler, Sr  
Steve E. White

**STAFF PRESENT**

Richard Douglas, County Administrator  
David Conmy, Deputy County Administrator/Economic  
Development Director  
Deste J. Cox, Treasurer  
Ernest Giles, Sheriff  
Nick Sheffield, Emergency Services Chief  
Shilton R. Butts, Assistant to the County Administrator/  
Clerk of the Board

**Item 1. Call to order/Determine Quorum (**

By general consensus, the January 25, 2024 Special meeting was called to order.

**Item 2. Invocation**

There was no Invocation offered.

**Item 3. The Pledge of Allegiance.**

There was no Pledge of Allegiance.

**Item 4. Agenda Amendment**

There were no agenda amendments.

**Item 5. Approval of Agenda**

There were no agenda amendments as

**Item 6. Board of Supervisors Strategic Planning Session**

*Mr. Jerry E. Cox, consultant, provided the following minutes for the Board of Supervisors' Strategic Planning Session.*

The Board of Supervisors identified the following issues during their work session (1/2)–

**STRENGTHS of the County –**

- *Agricultural resources and forestry management*
- *Rural, undeveloped land*
- *Interstate highway and rail*
- *First responder team*
- *Public school system*
- *Low tax rate*
- *Location within the region*
- *Available megasite (1,100+ acres)*
- *Teamwork between the Board and County departments*
- *Low debt service*
- *Employees feel valued*

**WEAKNESSES of the County –**

- Workforce (quality and quantity)
- Declining County revenue (current and future impact)
- Citizen apathy (lack of trust in local government)
- “Kicking the can” (continuing to postpone dealing with issues)
- Lack of County resources for technology, adult education
- No plan for growth
- #5 State ranking for fiscal stress
- Limited water due to DEQ regulations
- Job creation
- Health care (County is a food desert)
- Division in the County (east/west along VA35)
- Poverty (land rich/money poor)
- Taxes (too low)
- Impact of state actions (prisons, landfill)
- No local land use ordinance

The Board of Supervisors identified the following issues during their work session (2/2)–

**OPPORTUNITIES for the County –**

- Identify new revenue streams
- Dealing with solar
- Meet with state legislative delegation
- Consider a minerals tax
- Consider a meals tax

- Consider joining Hampton Roads EDC
- Consider establishing a satellite community college campus
- Rotate Board of Supervisors' meetings to various County sites
- Provide information to all Board members for more informed decisions
- Review, update, and approve Board rules and procedures
- Have a representative from each district on County water authority to ensure balance
- Agritourism
- Nottoway River recreation

THREATS for the County to be aware of –

- State and Federal Government mandates
- Citizens' lack of understanding of the role of local government
- Climate change (more frequent flooding/storms)
- Potential loss of revenue from landfill
- Decline in public school enrollment (ADM)
- Decline in population and tax base
- Challenges with foster care and CSA
- County Public Service Authority continued viability
- EMS – increase in costs/decrease in volunteers
- Increase in crime in the County

The Board of Supervisors identified the following objectives for the next six to twelve months –

- Stony Creek WWTP
- Transportation for seniors (medical, meals, etc.)
- Planning District Commission (Director to meet with Board of Supervisors)
- Early childhood education
- Hampton Roads EDC
- Develop plans for new Fire/EMS facility
- Develop plans for new County Courthouse offices
- Potential land acquisition (to be discussed in closed session)
- Revisit County's tax structure
- Discuss provision of parks & recreation service
- Consider needs of Sheriff's office, other Constitutional offices

Item 7. Citizens' Comments

Comments were heard from Sheriff Giles.

Item 8. Adjournment

By general consensus, the January 25, 2024 Board of Supervisors Strategic Planning Session adjourned at 5:30 p.m.