

**At a Regular Meeting of the  
Sussex County Board of Supervisors  
Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 6 pm**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

C. Eric Fly, Sr.  
A. G. Futrell  
Debbie P. Jones (Virtual)  
Wayne O. Jones  
Susan M. Seward  
Rufus E. Tyler, Sr.  
Steve White, Tie Breaker (Virtual)

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Richard Douglas, County Administrator  
David Conmy, Deputy County Administrator  
Jeff Gore, County Attorney  
Ellen G. Boone, Commissioner of the Revenue  
Deste J. Cox, Treasurer  
G. Reid Foster, Public Safety Coordinator  
Ernest Giles, Sheriff  
William Hagy, Director of Social Services  
William Jenkins, General Registrar  
Marcia Key, Department of Social Services  
Kelly W. Moore, Director of Finance  
Michael Poarch, Planner  
Vincent L. Robertson, Commonwealth's Attorney  
Tykia Urquhart, Department of Social Services  
Beverly H. Walkup, Planning Director  
Shilton R. Butts, Assistant to the County Administrator/  
Deputy Clerk to the Board of Supervisors

**1. Commencement**

**1.01 Call to Order/Determine Quorum**

The March 17, 2022 regular meeting of the Sussex County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chair Seward.

**1.02 The Invocation**

The Invocation was offered by Supervisor Futrell.

**1.03 The Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

#### 1.04 Agenda Amendments

County Administrator Douglas requested to add under Item 3. Recognitions/Award/Presentations, as Item 3.01 Crater District Area Agency on Aging, moving Southside Community Corrections & Pretrial Services Update/Local Funding Request to Item 3.02 and adding under Item 5. Appointments, as Item 5.06 Appointment to the Department of Social Services Advisory Board.

Chair Seward requested to add under Item 6. Action Items, as Item 6.04. Supervisors to Continue Meeting with Waverly Rescue Squad.

Supervisor Fly requested to move under Item 2. Approval of Consent Agenda, Items 2.05 Public Safety Budget Amendment, 2.06 Housing/Miscellaneous Budget Amendments, and 2.07 Fair Housing to Item 6. Action Items as Items 6.05, 6.06, and 6.07, respectively.

Vice Chairman W. Jones requested to remove under Item 5. Appointments, Item 5.03 Appointment to Housing Oversight Board.

#### 1.05 Approval of Regular Agenda

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FLY, seconded by SUPERVISOR W. JONES and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approved the March 17, 2022 regular agenda inclusive of adding under Item 3. Recognitions/Award/Presentations, as (1) Item 3.01 Crater District Area Agency on Aging, moving Southside Community Corrections & Pretrial Services Update/Local Funding Request to Item 3.02; (2) adding under Item 6. Action Items as, Item 6.04 Supervisors to continue to meet with Waverly Rescue Squad; (3) Item 6.05 Public Safety Budget Amendment; (4) Item 6.06 Housing/Miscellaneous Budget Amendments; (5) Item 6.07 Fair Housing Resolution; adding under Item 5. Appointments, (6) Item 5.06 Appointment to the Department of Social Services; and, removing (7) Item 5.03 Appointment to Housing Oversight Board/ All Board members present voted aye.

### **2. Approval of Consent Agenda**

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR W. JONES, seconded by SUPERVISOR D. JONES and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the Consent agenda inclusive of the following: (a) February 17, 2022 regular Meeting minutes; (b) the Approval of Warrants and Vouchers; (c) the Treasurer's Report; and Financial Update; and (d) Departmental Reports. All Board members present voted aye.

### **3. Recognitions/Awards/Presentation**

#### 3.01 Crater District Area Agency on Aging (CDAAA)

Mr. Lewis Workman, with CDAAA, was present to speak about the Transportation and Van Program with the Department of Social Services.

He stated that he met with County Administrator Douglas, Will Hagy (Social Services Director), and Deste Cox (Treasurer) on Friday, March 11, 2022 about concerns with the transportation program that supposed to have been set up approximately four years ago. This service transports seniors in the Sussex area. Mr. Workman stated that there were issues at the beginning of the program.

Mr. Workman stated that CDAAA discovered that they weren't able to receive reports that were needed to stay in compliance. He stated originally he applied for a grant through the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT). Under the grant, he was supposed to partner with different agencies to ensure that they were serving the community. He stated that originally Ms. Chequilla Fields (former Director of Social Services) started the program and told him that Social Services would have a transportation program set up. He stated when he ordered the van for the area, everyone agreed upon it but the program hadn't been set up.

He stated that they've been monitored by DODs and DRPT. Mr. Workman stated that approximately four years ago, he came to Sussex and gave a presentation to explain the program and what needed to be in place in order to be in compliance and keep the grant. He stated that at the time, Mr. Plourde was transitioning as the new Director of Social Services.

Mr. Workman stated that Mr. Plourde stated that he would put everything in place, because of everything not being in place, they couldn't move forward with the program. Mr. Workman stated that since Social Services already had the vehicle and wanted to start serving clients in area, they agreed to allow Social Services to serve the area and make sure they put everything in place.

He stated that the program was never put in place. Now, they are dealing with two things. One thing is with DODs. It has to be a program set up so that when DODs comes in and monitors to make sure there's a transportation program in place. He stated that the other component is DRPT. He stated that DRPT would monitor them and if they're not in compliance, they will lose the grant completely. Mr. Workman stated that they are in jeopardy of losing the grant, because Sussex is not in compliance. Reports aren't received on time. Since Social Services has had the vehicles, they've had issues with getting reports, as well as no documentation of vehicle maintenance. He stated that the vehicle has been wrecked. There is damage to the vehicle. He found out after the meeting, that the vehicle wasn't insured. He stated that before he released the vehicle, paperwork was given to register the vehicle. He stated that the first set of paperwork was lost. He got another set of paperwork. When he went to get the vehicle registered, it was already registered. Mr. Workman stated that Mr. Plourde had gotten the vehicle registered illegally. As a result, Sussex's name was not on the actual registration. He stated that he didn't know that Sussex's name wasn't on the registration. He was told that he couldn't get insurance on the vehicle, because the vehicle wasn't registered to Sussex. He stated that DRPT states that if the person, Sussex, doesn't stay in compliance, the vehicle has to be pulled from the program until they have the program set up and use another transportation agency that's set up. If not, the 80% has to be paid back.

County Administrator Douglas stated that Sussex County does not have the capacity to adequately administer the program, which is why the program hasn't been in compliance.

There was discussion of handling cash. It was noted that out of the nine clients, there are five people on dialysis or other medical treatment.

Mr. Workman noted that CDAAA doesn't transport on weekends and holidays and in inclement weather.

County Administrator Douglas noted that the van driver is a County employee who would not have a job after the end of the month.

County Administrator Douglas stated that the plan was to continue to cover CDAAA costs to make sure the critical clients get to their appointments until the end of March; and then, terminate the department. As there would be no van or program.

*Supervisor Tyler entered at 6:42 p.m.*

There was discussion to let CDAAA take the van. It was also discussion of letting a 501(C)3 agency take over the program utilizing the grant instead of the locality. County Administrator Douglas will continue to communicate with Mr. Workman to

### 3.02 Southside Community Corrections & Pretrial Services Update/Local

This item was moved to Item 3.02 during agenda amendments.

Mr. Yolanda Hines stated that she is the Director of Southside Community Corrections (SCC) and Pretrial Services and serves as Councilwoman for the City of Emporia. Ms. Hines provided a program update and request for additional staff funding (\$7,218.66). It was noted that since the other participating jurisdictions have approved this funding increase, staff has paid \$3,609.33 from administrative contingency funds to cover the balance of FY22.

SCC & Pretrial Services provides supervision to defendants for the 6<sup>th</sup> District—Brunswick, Greenville, Sussex and the City of Emporia.

SCC new updates include check-in system; E-Court Date Software; pandemic operations (no reduction in services); public safety rate for pretrial was at 100% (September 2021); SSC 1<sup>st</sup> agency in the state to utilize the GEOSTATIS GPS; Device to monitor offenders on home incarceration/work release; approved by the Virginia Supreme Court to establish a drug court docket.

She stated that classes/service offered included substance abuse early intervention groups, anger management education, parenting classes, family violence course, shoplifting prevention class; moral reconation therapy, prostitution prevention class, mental health evaluation referrals and treatment; drug testing (urine, saliva and sweat patch); GPS monitoring/SCRAM monitoring; and, SVCC diversion program.

Ms. Hines reviewed community services hours:

2018	2921 hours	is equal to about	\$21,177
2019	3233 hours		\$23,439
2020	1645 hours		\$11,926
2021	3307 hours		\$23,976

She stated that over the past 4 years, they estimate that they have provided four jurisdictions over 80,518 at a rate of \$7.25 (minimum wage) per hour. She

stated in regards to pretrial data:

- Fourteen billion has been spent nationally housing people before trial.
- Forty percent (40%) of people were kept in jail because they couldn't get bail. Some as low as \$500.00.
- Pretrial release: studies show that when localities offer pretrial, courts have seen a huge decline in people not showing up for court.

In the past 20 years, SCC and Pretrial Services has never come before the Board. SSC and Pretrial Services has been fully grant funded. Fees include:

- Costs of maintaining qualified staff
- Drug testing costs
- Services being requested have increased.
- Caseloads have increased, with the legislative changes passed by the General Assembly, they expect pretrial to grow tremendously over the next year.
- Legislative changes to bail reform, attorney representation at first appearance, media attention.

In comparative costs for SCC Probation/Pretrial Services, supervising an individual on Pretrial costs \$4.17 per day. If that same person was incarcerated, it would cost \$88.31 per day per the Commonwealth of Virginia Compensation Board.

It was discussed that their total budget is \$354,000 which a large majority are salaries. There are six employees.

Ms. Hines stated that that Southside Community Corrections (SCC) is respectfully requesting:

- Transition part time position to full time Probation/Pretrial position
- Full time position will be \$38,000 (salary) - \$112,938.66 (includes VRS Retirement)
- \$38,000+ (Benefits \$13,754.64
- \$22,880 (DCJS funding for part time position) leave remaining balance of \$28,874.54.

Ms. Hines stated the current funding needed is \$3,609.33 (Feb-July)/ \$7,218.66 from each locality annually. Staff advised that the \$3,609.33 had been paid.

Staff recommends approval of the FY23 additional funding request. It was noted that any action would be done during the Outside Agency budget process.

A copy of the SCC Local Funding Request and SCC Classes/Services Offered were included in the Board packet.

#### **4. Public Hearing**

There was no Public Hearing.

#### **5. Appointments**

##### 5.01 Appointment to Sussex Service Authority Alternate At-Large Position

This item has been on previous Board agendas. Staff was advised by Mr. Frank Irving, of Sussex Service Authority, that there was a vacancy for an unexpired term on the Sussex Service Authority for an alternate in the At-Large position.

The position is for any citizen who resides in Sussex County (prefer them to be in our service area, but not mandatory) and is not an elected official. The position is currently held by Sam Harrison but he has moved out of Sussex County and is no longer eligible. He will continue to serve until his replacement has been appointed.

This position will serve through December 2022 at which time they can be renewed for another four-year term.

Supervisor Tyler has recommended Mr. Ronnie Crowder, 8195 Huske Road, Stony Creek, Virginia 23882 to be appointed to fill the unexpired position. Mr. Crowder's information is listed on the attached form.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR W. JONES, seconded by SUPERVISOR TYLER and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby appoints Mr. Ronnie Crowder, 8195 Huske Road, Stony Creek, Virginia 23882 to fill the unexpired position on the Sussex Service Authority Board Alternate At-Large position, through December 31, 2022 at which time a reappointment for a four-year term will need to be made. All members present voted aye.

##### 5.02. Appointment to Crater District Area Agency on Aging

Administration received Ms. Brenda Burgess' letter of resignation advising that she would no longer be able to continue to serve on the Crater District Area Agency on Aging (CDAAA) Board of Directors. Ms. Burgess' two year term is due to expire December 31, 2022.

An appointment will need to be made to fill this unexpired term.

For informational purpose, the Crater District Area Agencies on Aging are local aging programs that provide information and services on a range of assistance for older adults who care for them. By contacting your local agency, you get access to critical information including: (1) Available service in your area; (2) Mobility assistance programs, meal plans & housing; (3) Assistance in gaining access to services; (4) Individual counseling, support groups and caregiver training ; (5)

Respite care; and, (6) Supplemental services, on a limited basis. (Information provided from website.)

Supervisor Futrell stated that he would have a recommendation for appointment for the April Board meeting.

#### 5.03 Appointment to Housing Oversight Board

This item was removed from the agenda.

#### 5.04 Nomination for Appointment to the Board of Equalization

This item has been on previous Board agendas. County Administrator Douglas stated that there were a number of individuals interested to consider.

The four members currently serving on the Board of Equalization are: (1) Ms. Antoinette Jones, 13174 Shands Road, Stony Creek, Virginia 23882; (2) Mr. Dennis Mason, 407 East Main Street, Wakefield, VA 23888; (3) Ms. Carla Mayes, 28237 Petersburg Road, Waverly, VA 23890; and, (4) Mr. Jerry Parham, 33117 Sussex Drive, Waverly, VA 23890.

Supervisor Futrell recommends Robert C. Turner, 341 Railroad Avenue, Waverly Virginia 23890 for nomination to the Board of Equalization.

A copy of Mr. Turner's application form and § 58.1-3370 Appointments and §58.1-3374 Qualifications of members; vacancies were included in the Board packet.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FUTRELL, seconded by SUPERVISOR W.JONES and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby recommends Mr. Robert C. Turner, 341 Railroad Avenue, Waverly Virginia 23890 for nomination for appointment by the Circuit Court Judge to fill the vacancy and set the terms for the Board of Equalization. All Board members present voted aye.

#### 5.05 Appointment to the Industrial Development Authority (IDA) Board of Directors

County Administrator Douglas stated that Mr. Ronnie Crowder notified staff that he has resigned from the Industrial Development Authority Board of Directors. An appointment will need to be made to fill this unexpired term. This unexpired term will end May 15, 2023.

Copies of the IDA roster and the By Laws were included in the Board packet.

No appointment was made at the time.

#### 5.06 Appointment to the Department of Social Services Advisory Board

This item was added to the agenda.

County Administrator Douglas stated that previous appointments had been made to the DSS Advisory Board for the Courthouse, Henry, and Wakefield Districts.

Chair Seward recommended Ms. Umphlett who is a former radiologist and retired teacher from Sussex County Public Schools for appointment to DSS Advisory as the representative for the Blackwater District.

Supervisor D. Jones recommended Mr. Earl Rogers who is retired military and retired from IBM North Carolina for appointment to represent the Stony Creek District.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR TYLER, seconded by SUPERVISOR FUTRELL and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby appoints Ms. Umphlett and Mr. Earl Rogers to the Department of Social Services Advisory Board for the Blackwater and Stony Creek Districts, respectively. All Board members present voted aye.

## **6. Action Items**

### **6.01 Health Insurance Renewal/HRA Option**

County Administrator Douglas stated that the County's health insurance plan through Local Choice is scheduled to increase by 10.5 percent for the upcoming fiscal year, increasing by \$127,296 to \$1.34 million per year. While the County offers the "Cadillac" Key Advantage Expanded plan at no cost to its employees, over 60 percent did not incur any expenses against the deductible last year, and less than 10 percent reached the full out-of-pocket maximum. As a result of our escalating insurance costs, the County's management team has been meeting with our insurance consultant, David Rowe, to review insurance plan alternatives, and is recommending a high deductible health plan option through Local Choice with a Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) for each employee.

In reviewing health insurance plan alternatives, four objectives were identified: 1) reducing the amount of funds being paid to the insurance company; 2) not placing any additional financial burden on the employee for health care costs (premium/deductible/total out-of-pocket expenses); 3) maintaining the same level of benefits (network, prescription plan, etc.); and 4) maintaining or reducing the employee's contribution for dual/family insurance plans).

The proposed insurance plan should meet all four objectives. First, the estimated health insurance savings is \$91,952 per year, representing a 7.6 percent decrease from current year costs (note that this estimate is based on a 25 percent plan utilization rate, and savings could increase or decrease based on utilization, and it is anticipated that the County would realize a larger increase in 2023; this savings also excludes an HRA administrative fee estimated to range from \$5,000-\$10,000/year). Second, this plan does not place any additional financial burden on the employees—while the deductible and out-of-pocket amounts will increase, each employee will be issued a debit card with a \$5,000 limit to cover these additional costs related to doctor visits, medical procedures, and prescriptions. Third, benefits will remain the same under this plan, with the same network of doctors, prescription coverage, etc. Fourth, with the cost savings, the County can absorb an increase for dual/family premiums by maintaining the existing employee cost of



\$714/month (It is anticipated that dual/family premium costs could be further reduced in 2023 based on plan utilization and cost savings).

A group comprised of the Sheriff, Treasurer, Commonwealth's Attorney, Commissioner of the Revenue, DSS Director, and Finance Director met with David Rowe on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and unanimously recommends the approval of the Local Choice high deductible health plan with the HRA. It is also recommended that a small of fund balance (i.e., \$100,000) be designated as a reserve account to cover any overages, in the event that overall plan utilization exceeds 25 percent. If approved, this plan would be evaluated and adjusted as necessary in 2023.

Staff recommends approval of the high deductible health plan.

A copy of the Plan Summary was included in the Board packet.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FUTRELL, seconded by SUPERVISOR W. JONES and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the health insurance HRA option high deductible health plan for the upcoming fiscal year. All Board members present voted aye.

#### 6.02 Lifestar EMS Billing Services Agreement

County Administrator Douglas stated that the County has assumed responsibility of EMS operations on the east side of the County that was previously served by Waverly Rescue Squad. The County is requesting Lifestar to bill for services they provide to the County and reimburse the County for the portion that is agreed upon and specified in the agreement attached for your consideration.

Staff recommends approval of the Billing Services Agreement

A copy of the Billing Services Agreement was included in the Board packet.

There was discussion of parking and space for the citizens visiting the drive-through bank.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FLY, seconded by SUPERVISOR SEWARD and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the Billing Services Agreement.

Voting aye: Supervisors Fly, W. Jones, Seward

Voting nay: none

Abstained: Supervisors Futrell, Tyler

Absent during vote: Supervisor D. Jones

Supervisor D. Jones joined meeting virtually.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR TYLER, seconded by SUPERVISOR W. JONES and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves remote participation of Supervisor D. Jones. All Board members present voted aye.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR TYLER, seconded by SUPERVISOR W. JONES and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby reconsiders the motion for the Billing Services Agreement. All Board members present voted aye.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR TYLER, seconded by SUPERVISOR W. JONES and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the Billing Services Agreement. All Board members present voted aye.

#### 6.03 GardaWorld Contract Increase Request

County Administrator Douglas stated that attached for your consideration is a request from GardaWorld Security Services to increase the rate of compensation for solid waste convenience center staffing by \$67.08 per site per week. This request would result in an overall increase of \$27,905.28 per year, increasing from \$14.39 per hour to \$15.25 per hour. GardaWorld is requesting this change in compensation due to the State minimum wage increase effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, apparently not factoring the minimum wage increase into its proposed rate calculation when it submitted its staffing proposal in Fall 2021. After discussion with the County Attorney and due to the fact that the County recently completed an RFP process that excluded another firm from consideration due to its submitted hourly rate, staff does not recommend approval of the requested increase.

Approval of requested rate increase is not recommended by staff.

A copy of GardaWorld's request letter is included in the Board packet.

The Board took no action on the GardaWorld's Contract increase request.

#### 6.04 County Continued Discussions with Waverly Rescue Squad

Chair Seward stated that she and Mr. Mayes, Mr. Douglas, and Mr. Conmy stayed late after the last budget meeting and talked. She stated that she believe it was Waverly Rescue Squad's desire to sit down with two Board members to further discuss the seven options. She believes it's mutual to continue meeting. Only two Board members were attending. Supervisor Fly and Chair Seward had been meeting with them. Any additional Board members in attendance, the meeting would become a public body.

It was noted that Supervisor Fly and Chair Seward were attending the meeting due to their historical knowledge of the background.

County Attorney Gore advised that the Chair should see if there was any objection from the Board. There was no objection.

Chair Seward asked Mr. Mayes to get some dates that their group would be available. She noted that the evening on the weekend would work for Supervisor Fly and her. County Administrator Douglas clarified that he and Mr. Foster would be in attendance as well.

## 6.05 Public Safety Budget Amendment

This item was moved from the Consent Agenda (#Item 2.05). Supervisor Fly stated this was an expenditure for additional radios. He stated that at the start of radio system there continues to be problems with the radios. He inquired as to what is the problem with the radios. Mr. Douglas advised that the radios were additional radios. In Mr. Foster's, Public Safety Coordinator, memo, he stated that in recounting the number of apparatus the amount had changed. Fire includes 22 (10 remoted mount - \$45,187; 12 dash mount - \$7,442.88). EMS includes two (\$9,037.40).

Supervisor Fly discussed that it was his understanding that with the mutual aid radios, the County could not hear service over their radios. County Administrator Douglas advised that some of it isn't a radio issue, it is a computer issue.

Included for the Board's consideration is a budget resolution requested by the Public Safety Coordinator that will provide for the replacement of 24 volunteer fire/EMS radios, specifically being requested is the transfer of \$40,000 from capital funds designated for an emergency operations generator (the current facility is equipped with a generator). Existing operating funds will cover the approximate \$21,000 difference.

Staff recommends approval of the attached budget resolution.

Copies of Reid Foster's Follow-up 01/10/22 Transfer of Money Memo, dated February 28, 2022; Resolution #22-19, Copy of VITA Supply Chain Invitation for Bid (IFB), Reid Foster's Transfer of Money Memo, dated January 10, 2022; Sussex County Procurement Checklist; Mobile Communications of America (MCA) Quotation 419000143; and Motorola Solutions Quote-1626506 were included in the Board packet.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FLY, seconded by SUPERVISOR FUTRELL and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves Resolution #22-20 FY22 Budget Amendment, to-wit:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Sussex County Board of Supervisors that the following budget amendment for the Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services and hereby is made for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. This resolution will amend the budget to include a transfer of funds from FUND #302 to FUND #100 for Emergency Service Radios.

Fund #302 CIP Fund transfer from Fund 302 EOC Generator \$40,000.00 Total Transfer \$40,000.00; Fund #100 General Fund transfer to Fund 100 Fire, Rescue & Emergency \$40,000.00 for a Total Transfer of \$40,000.00. All Board members present voted aye.

## 6.06 Housing/Miscellaneous Budget Amendment

This item was moved from the Consent Agenda (#Item 2.06). Supervisor Fly inquired as to how the County incurred costs for Housing. Housing is no longer in the budget. County Administrator Douglas advised that the phones were removed and payout for personnel up to July 1st.

A budget amendment that addressed some transitional expenses for the former Housing Department, in addition to other budget line items that require additional funds, as explained in the memo included in the Board packet.

Staff recommends approval of the attached budget resolution.

Copies of Kelly Moore's Executive Summary, Resolution 22-21 Budget Amendment and Trial Balance of Expenses were included in the Board packet.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FLY, seconded by SUPERVISOR W. JONES and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves Resolution #22-21, FY22 Budget Amendment, to-wit:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Sussex County Board of Supervisors that the following budget amendment for the Community Development and hereby is made for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. This resolution will amend the budget to true-up close-out expenses for the Housing Department.

REVENUE Fund 100 Local Reserves \$10,796.07 Total Revenues \$10,796.07 EXPENDITURE Fund 100 Community Development \$10,796.07 Total Expenditures \$10,796.07. All Board members present voted aye.

#### 6.07 Fair Housing Resolution

This item was moved from the Consent Agenda.

Supervisor Fly stated that he decided that he would no longer support the Fair Housing Certification because of the last paragraph which states why you shouldn't discriminate

The Fair Housing Act is a federal law enacted in 1968 that prohibits discrimination in the purchase, sale, rental, or financing of housing – private or public – based on race, skin color, sex, nationality, religion, etc.

Each year that a locality has an active Community Development Block Grant, the locality is required to complete a fair housing activity.

This year, staff has prepared a Fair Housing Certification for adoption by the Board, certifying that the County firmly believes in equal opportunity for housing and that no person shall have the right to rent or purchase shelter of choice abridged because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation or gender identity.

Staff recommends adopting the Fair Housing Certification.

A copy of the Fair Housing Certification was included in the Board packet.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FLY, seconded by SUPERVISOR W. JONES and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby adopts Fair Housing Certification Compliance with Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 Pocahontas Neighborhood Improvement Project and Sussex County Urgent Need Regional Project, to-wit:

Whereas, the County of Sussex has accepted federal funds authorized under the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and;

Whereas, recipients of funding under the Act are required to take action to affirmatively further fair housing;

Whereas, Sussex County firmly believes in equal opportunity in housing;

Now therefore be it resolved, the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that no person shall have their right to rent or purchase shelter of choice abridged because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation or gender identity.

Duly adopted at the regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Sussex County on this 17th day of March 2022.

Voting aye: Supervisors Futrell, W. Jones, Seward, Tyler

Voting nay: Supervisor Fly

Absent during vote: Supervisor D. Jones

## 7. Citizens' Comments

The following gave comments:

- Angela McPhaul (Waverly Mayor) – Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Town of Waverly 1 Mile 5K Walk Run; partnered with Animal Shelter – proceeds will go towards having van come to Sussex spay and neuter cats and dogs for free; Chamber of Commerce/Town of Waverly Spring Fling – Thursday, May 5 Cinco de Mayo.
- Franklin Cox (Waverly District) – Property reassessments.
- Marcia Key (Dept. of Social Services-DSS) – Issues with Department of Social Services (DSS). Provided information to Board members. Stated DSS loss 15+ employees. Requested investigation regarding DSS Director's action.
- Essence Turner (Former DSS Employee) – DSS issues with DSS Director; resignation.
- Keyshia Taylor (Former DSS Employee) – DSS issues. Provided copy of exit interview.
- Ms. Bynum (Dept. of Social Services) DSS issues with Director.
- Doreatha Townes (Former DSS Employee) – Was an emergency hire; DSS issues with Director.
- Tykia Urquhart (Dept. of Social Services) – Extended workload since employees left; spoke with DSS Director regarding issues.

- Ms. Gillus (Dept. of Social Services) – Marcia Key spoke – Increased workload due to vacancies. DSS issues (?).

*Supervisor Tyler spoke briefly stating that DSS issues warrants the Board to do due diligence—not saying everything was true or false—and training. Never received information from Director of DSS regarding the number of employees who had left DSS. The chain of command established. The Board doesn't supervisor DSS. The Director reports to County Administrator about DSS matters.*

*Supervisor Futrell spoke briefly regarding inviting Ms. Key to speak to the Board.*

*County Administrator Douglas stated that he allows the Director of Social Services to oversee DSS as does the other department head. He stated that he met with Ms. Key and included Mr. Hagy (DSS Director) in this meeting. Will meet with the employee, but not without the director. He stated that there's a process in place for employees when they have a grievance.*

*Vice Chairman W. Jones spoke briefly about voting to change from Administrative Board to Advisory Board. Agrees that issues need to be investigated.*

## **8. Unfinished Business**

### 8.01 Redistricting Mapping Update

Supervisor Tyler provided a brief update that the Redistricting Committee, along with the County Administrator, Electoral Board Chair, and the General Registrar met with Crater Planning Commission staff and reviewed all the data and statistical information for the redistricting. He stated that it appears that the majority of the

Supervisor Tyler stated that the consultant and the majority of the Board members on the committee have considered that 98% done. Will review again tomorrow, Friday, March 18, 2022—probably nothing significant will change.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FLY, seconded by SUPERVISOR W. JONES and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the County Administrator to prepare the final documents and advertise for the Public Hearing for the April 21, 2022 Board meeting. All board members present voted aye.

## **9. New Business**

There was no New Business.

## **10. Board Member Comments**

10.01 Blackwater District – Welcomed Delegate Otto Wachsmann.

10.02 Courthouse District – none

10.03 Henry District – Community Meeting – County Administrator and Deputy County Administrator provided update; reassessment; recreation; safety – 301 Highway.

10.04 Stony Creek District – absent during comments

10.05 Wakefield District – none

10.06 Waverly District – All employees – ID Badges; Jessica Ann Moore Foundation – April 2 Waverly Community Day and April 16 from 1-3 p.m. Easter Egg Hunt; March 26 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. all three vaccinations and boosters at Jessica Ann Moore Foundation.

## **11. Closed Session**

### 11.01 Convene to Closed Session

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FUTRELL, seconded by SUPERVISOR W. JONES and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby enters Closed Session to discuss the following (1) discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community, pursuant to applicable Va. Code Section §2.2- 3711(A)5; and (2) to discuss personnel matters involving performance evaluation of specific Board appointed employee, pursuant to Va. Code Section 2.2-3711(A)1.

All Board members present voted aye.

### 11.02/03. Reconvene to Open Session/Certification of Closed Session

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR W. JONES, seconded by SUPERVISOR FUTRELL and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby reconvened to Open Session and convened a Closed Meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves adoption of resolution for certification, to-wit:

WHEREAS, that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors convened a Closed Meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, requires a certification by the Board that such Closed Meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from Open Meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the Closed Meeting to which this

certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the Closed Meeting were heard discussed or considered.

Voting aye: Supervisors Fly, Futrell, W. Jones, Seward, Tyler

Voting nay: none

Absent during vote: Supervisor Jones

#### 11.04 Action Resulting from Closed Session

There was no action on Closed Session item. Address item at the next Personnel Committee meeting.

### **12. Adjournment**

#### 12.01 Adjournment

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FUTRELL, seconded by SUPERVISOR W. JONES and carried: RESOLVED that the March 17, 2022 regular meeting of the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby adjourned at 10:32 p.m. All Board members present voted aye.

#### 12.02 Next Meeting

The next regular Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Thursday, April 21, 2022 at 6 p.m.