

Regular Meeting, Wednesday, February 13, 2019, 7:00 p.m. Government Center, Verona, VA.

PRESENT: Gerald W. Garber, Chairman
Carolyn S. Bragg-Vice Chairman
G.L. "Butch" Wells
Michael L. Shull
Wendell L. Coleman
Marshall W. Pattie
Pam L. Carter
Timothy K. Fitzgerald, County Administrator
Jennifer M. Whetzel, Deputy County Administrator
John Wilkinson, Director of Community Development
Leslie Tate, Planner
James R. Benkahla, County Attorney
Angie Michael, Executive Assistant

VIRGINIA: At a regular meeting of the Augusta County Board of Supervisors held on Wednesday, February 13, 2019, at 7:00 p.m., at the Government Center, Verona, Virginia, and in the 243rd year of the Commonwealth....

* * * * *

Chairman Garber welcomed the citizens present.

* * * * *

The following students from the Fort Defiance High School FFA led us with the Pledge of Allegiance:

Jacob Jones is a senior at Fort Defiance High School. He participates in FD Pride, FD Tribe, National Honor Society and SCA. Mr. Jones played football, basketball and ran indoor, outdoor track and cross-country. He plans to attend Charleston Southern University where he received a \$26,000.00 per year academic/sports scholarship and major in Biology. Mr. Jones hopes to become a Pediatrician or Physical Therapist.

* * * * *

Pam Carter, Supervisor for the Pastures District, delivered the invocation.

* * * * *

CENTRAL SHENANDOAH PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION 50TH ANNIVERSARY RESOLUTION

Ms. Bragg read the following resolution:

WHEREAS, in 1966, the General Assembly created the Metropolitan Areas Study Commission (the Hahn Commission), which found that a holistic approach to solving local and regional problems needed to be taken, and recommended a new concept, the creation of Planning District Commissions (PDCs); and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Area Development Act, passed in 1968, created the PDC framework "to encourage and facilitate local government cooperation and state-local cooperation in addressing on a regional basis problems of greater than local significance;" and

WHEREAS, following passage of this Act, the State undertook an aggressive effort to establish PDC boundaries, and by 1969, the final district boundaries were announced; and

WHEREAS, on October 1, 1969, the Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission

February 13, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.

SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK -- PRESENTATION

The Board heard a presentation by Jennifer Flynn, Superintendent of Shenandoah National Park. Ms. Flynn reminded the Board the complexity of the operation of the park and stated that in many ways it is like operating a small town. She presented an overview of what the park consists of and what it takes to operate. Operation costs have averaged twelve million dollars over the last decade. Funds to run the park are supplemented with recreational fees. Eighty percent of the fees remain at the park.

The park employs two hundred eighty people. They also receive help from outside partners. Potomac Appalachian Trail Club has been a big asset.

Renovations are going to be made at Big Meadows Lodge and the Wayside is getting an entire renovation.

Shenandoah National Park Association is the park's educational partner. Last year it had over a million dollars in book sales at the two visitor centers.

Finally our Shenandoah National Park Trust is the philanthropic partner based in Charlottesville. This year will be granting \$450,000 in grants for a variety of different projects.

The Government shutdown was very impactful on the park. It did not have as much of an impact on the public but did impact park officials. There was very little disrespect shown by public during the shutdown. We were very thankful for members of community who cared for the park during staff absence.

* * * * *

BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE -- UPDATE

The Board heard a presentation by John Downey, President of BRCC, regarding college activities.

Dr. John Downey, President of Blue Ridge Community College, gave the annual update on Blue Ridge Community College and thanked the Board for their ongoing support of the college. Debbie Callison from the Advisory Board was present and she represents Augusta County on the Board. Lynn Dively is also a County representative. Ms. Dively's term on the Advisory Board will be ending in June 2019. The college transforms student's lives and in turn transforms the community served. Dr. Downey gave the Board packets of information which includes the Annual Report and a Fast Fact Sheet. Last fall, of the 4,129 students served in credit programs, 1,093 were residents of Augusta County. Also served this year was another 142 residents in non-credit workforce and personal enrichment courses. There has been a new parking deck constructed. Dr. Downey is excited about the anticipated opening of a new Bioscience building with a state of the art nursing lab. A new Paramedic EMT program will be starting in the fall. Dr. Downey appreciates being able to work with Amanda Glover and her staff in the Economic Development Department. The credit and non-credit training programs provide local youth and young adults with tremendous life changing career options. For every job in the future that will require a Master's Degree or higher, there will be two jobs that will require a Bachelor's Degree, but seven jobs that will require some post-secondary training or an Associate's Degree. Blue Ridge is pleased to work hard to fill that skills gap and partnership with the secondary schools and the technical center to make sure the skills gap is addressed. Non-credit workforce certifications that lead

February 13, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION (CONT'D)

call the roll noting members of the Board who approve the certification shall answer AYE and those who cannot shall answer NAY.

Roll Call Vote was as follows:

Yeas: Garber, Bragg, Wells, Shull, Coleman, Pattie,
and Carter
Nays: None

Motion carried.

The Chairman authorized the County Administrator/Clerk of the Board to record this certification in the minutes.

* * * * *

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Ms. Carter moved, seconded by Ms. Bragg, that the Board appoint the following to serve on the listed Boards and Commissions effective immediately:

Lauren Henderson Youth Commission Exp. 2/13/2023

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Bragg, Wells, Shull, Coleman, Pattie,
and Carter
Nays: None

Motion carried.

* * * * *

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, Dr. Pattie moved, seconded by Ms. Bragg, the Board adjourn subject to call of the Chairman.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Bragg, Shull, Wells, Coleman, Pattie
and Carter
Nays: None

Motion carried.

* * * * *

Chairman

County Administrator