

CULPEPER COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Minutes

March 23, 2015

A meeting of the School Board of Culpeper County was held March 23, 2015 at the School Board Office (Colin Owens Conference Room) at 450 Radio Lane at 6 p.m. Present were Robert A. Houck (West Fairfax District); Elizabeth Hutchins (Stevensburg District); Anne C. Luckinbill (Salem District); Michelle North (Jefferson District); Elizabeth "Betsy" Smith (Cedar Mountain District); Superintendent Dr. Bobbi F. Johnson; Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Technology Rob Hauman; Executive Director of Student Services Dr. Russell Houck; Executive Director of Special Education Angela Neely; Executive Director of Finance/Clerk Jeff Shomo; Executive Director of Human Resources Dr. Stacey Timmons; Budget Analyst Lauren Thomas; Director of Facilities, Planning and Construction Hunter Spencer and Deputy Clerk Pearl Jamison. Robert Beard (East Fairfax District) and Nathaniel "Nate" Clancy (Catalpa District) were absent.

At 6 p.m., Ms. Hutchins called the meeting to order.

On motion of Ms. North seconded by Ms. Smith, the School Board approved the agenda. Motion carried 5-0 by voice vote. (Mr. Beard and Mr. Clancy were absent.)

Those present observed a moment of silence. Ms. Hutchins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

On motion of Mr. Houck seconded by Ms. Luckinbill, the Board went into closed session at 6:03 p.m. regarding:

- [a] Discussion of Personnel Recommendations and Named Employee A as permitted by the Code of Virginia 2.2-3711 (A) (1)
- [b] Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body as permitted by the Code of Virginia 2.2-3711 (A) (7)

Motion carried 5-0 by voice vote. (Mr. Beard and Mr. Clancy were absent.)

On motion of Mr. Houck seconded by Ms. Luckinbill, the Board ended the closed session at 6:32 p.m. and certified that to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered.

YEAS: 5

**Robert Houck
Elizabeth Hutchins
Anne Luckinbill
Michelle North
Betsy Smith**

ABSENT: 2

**Robert Beard
Nate Clancy**

The board considered the following action items:

(a) Personnel Recommendations

On motion of Ms. North seconded by Ms. Luckinbill, the School Board approved the Personnel Recommendations. Motion carried 5-0 by voice vote. (Mr. Beard and Mr. Clancy were absent.)

(b) Recommendation for Entrance to Pearl Sample/A.G. Richardson

Ms. Hutchins shared with the Board that Roddy Reyes with ATCS, PLC developed two options to address the traffic and parking issues at Pearl Sample/A.G. Richardson. She noted that the CCSB Capital Planning Committee has reviewed both options and the committee recommended submitting the options to the full Board.

Mr. Spencer briefly described what each option entails. He noted the estimates do not include certain items.

Option 1 (2 entrances) - \$318,000 construction, \$55,000 off-site work, \$20,000 rock allowance, and \$25,000 soft costs – Total \$418,000

Option 2 (1 entrance) - \$218,000 construction, \$55,000 off-site work (possibly less), \$20,000 rock allowance, and \$25,000 soft costs – Total \$318,000

Ms. North asked how long the project will take. Mr. Spencer shared with the Board that we only have the concept and would need drawings and approvals.

Ms. Smith asked what ATCS recommended? Mr. Spencer said Option 1.

Ms. Luckinbill stated that neither option solves the access road to A. G. Richardson.

Ms. Hutchins said doing this would be a huge improvement. Ms. Luckinbill agreed. Ms. Hutchins stated the issue has existed since she has been on the Board but the division hasn't been able to address it. She said if VDOT is willing to allow us to do this she would like to move forward.

Mr. Houck asked if VDOT has reviewed the document. Mr. Spencer said yes, Roddy Reyes has had conversations with VDOT concerning these plans.

Ms. Luckinbill asked when the project could start. Mr. Spencer said we would need to talk with the engineers to find out more about the approval process. Mr. Parkinson stated that it would probably take about 18 months to get everything together.

Dr. Johnson recommended the project take place over the summer so it doesn't further impede traffic to/from those schools.

On motion of Mr. Houck seconded by Ms. Luckinbill, the School Board approved Option 1 for the Entrance to Pearl Sample/A.G. Richardson. Motion carried 5-0 by voice vote. (Mr. Beard and Clancy were absent.)

Naviance Presentation

Dr. Johnson introduced Lisa Walker, Guidance Director at CCHS. Ms. Walker briefly shared with the Board what the Naviance Program looks like from a student's perspective. Naviance is a collaborative tool that is an "all inclusive guidance program" for students in grades 6-12.

Ms. Walker shared the following statistics relative to Naviance:

- 8500+ users
- Used in 49 states
- 21.9M documents sent to colleges this year
- 250 schools in VA use the program (19 school districts)

Ms. Walker thanked Maria Weiss, Robert Hauman, and Randi Richards-Lutz for all the help that went into getting this program up and running.

Ms. North asked if student's who graduate will still have access to Naviance. Ms. Walker said the program will be available to alumni and guests.

Ms. Hutchins noted that the program can be used to survey graduates in the future.

Mr. Houck asked how difficult it is to input the data. Ms. Walker said staff has to manually add the information; however, in the future it will be uploaded from a disc.

Dr. Johnson noted that each guidance counselor is responsible for approximately 350 students.

All members agreed the program is wonderful.

Change in Economic Interest Statement Reporting

Mr. Houck shared with members that legislation has changed that will now require Board members to file a new Economic Interest Statement in June and December.

Update on Superintendent Search

Ms. Hutchins noted that individuals who did not attend the focus groups may attend the “Meet and Greet” session by contacting Ms. Jamison. She also noted that once the candidates’ names are released individuals may submit private letters to the School Board relative to the candidates. The sealed envelopes must be clearly marked and submitted to Ms. Jamison.

Ms. Hutchins asked members if they would be interested in moving the meeting with the McPherson and Jacobson from April 22nd to April 20th. The meeting will remain the same.

Ms. Hutchins noted that staff has tentatively secured a location for dinner and interviews with prospective candidates.

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

Ms. North said she asked for this item to be placed on the agenda. She said the enrollment has changed and the Board of Supervisors has received statistics from Weldon Cooper that portrays a different picture than what was first discussed. She said she would like the Board to reconsider the CIP and take into account ways to accommodate the school classroom concerns that we are experiencing now in a different way. She suggested the Board not request \$750,000 to acquire land but use those funds to take care of aging schools first and possibly do some construction on current facilities (Yowell closing in space and minor modification). She said the growth concerns are not nearly as pressing as we thought. She noted the community population growth is greatly tempered and she is not of the mindset to go with new construction before taking care of our aging buildings.

Ms. North stated that she has heard repeatedly that there is never have enough money to do the things we need to do. She said we need to do “triage” and take care of things in a timely fashion. She said if the roof needs fixing you need to fix the roof because everything under it will be affected. She said in light of some of the Board of Supervisor’s comments there is more sense of support for taking care of older buildings. She said we may have a better opportunity to get funding for our older buildings vs. new construction.

Mr. Houck said we have a committee structure and the topic should go back to the Capital Planning Committee for review. He said the Board does not need to discuss it before the committee has a chance to discuss it.

Ms. Luckinbill concurred with Mr. Houck. The committee should hammer out the details, Ms. Luckinbill said.

Ms. Smith said the issue with sending the discussion to committee first is that decisions are being made on the budget now. She said she did not feel there was any harm in talking about it.

Ms. Hutchins said she felt it should go through the committee as well. She said if it was an emergency situation she may feel different. She stated that she is not sold on the enrollment projections because we only have one year worth of real data. She said she thinks we need to wait and see if the numbers remain low or turnaround and go back up. She reminded members that the CIP is adjusted each year and throughout the year as needs arise.

Ms. Luckinbill said she didn't disagree with the concept but it needs to follow procedures.

Ms. North said she hates to see the Board lose an opportunity for \$750,000 when those funds could be used to fix a roof or make adjustments at other schools. She said her reason for bringing it forward is because if the discussion waits for committee to review it would be too late.

Ms. Smith noted the county planner agreed that we should proceed with purchasing land now.

Ms. North said she recommended pushing the purchase of land back a few years.

Ms. Hutchins stated that she was not aware the Board had been guaranteed any funds. Ms. North said it is on the CIP. Ms. Hutchins said we don't always get what is on the CIP.

Ms. North stated that the county owns four parcels of property that could be used in a crisis. She said she would like to look at things differently.

Members agreed to send the CIP back to committee for discussion.

On motion of Ms. Smith seconded by Mr. Houck, the School Board voted to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. Motion carried 5-0 by voice vote. (Mr. Beard and Mr. Clancy was absent.)

JEFFREY R. SHOMO, CLERK

ELIZABETH S. HUTCHINS, CHAIR