

COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL MEETING
April 28, 2015

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting on Tuesday, April 28, 2015, at 5:15 p.m., in the County Manager's Conference Room, Administration Building, Henrico County Government Center, Parham and Hungary Spring Roads, Henrico, Virginia.

Members of the Board Present:

Frank J. Thornton, Chairman, Fairfield District
Tyrone E. Nelson, Vice Chairman, Varina District
Richard W. Glover, Brookland District
David A. Kaechele, Three Chopt District
Patricia S. O'Bannon, Tuckahoe District

Other Officials Present:

John A. Vithoukias, County Manager
Joseph P. Rapisarda, Jr., County Attorney
Barry R. Lawrence, CMC, Assistant to the County Manager/Clerk to the Board
Tanya B. Harding, Deputy Clerk to the Board/Administrative Assistant
Joseph A. Casey, Ph.D., Deputy County Manager for Administration
Timothy A. Foster, P.E., Deputy County Manager for Community Operations
Randall R. Silber, Deputy County Manager for Community Development
Tamra R. McKinney, Director of Public Relations & Media Services

Mr. Thornton called the meeting to order at 5:18 p.m.

Ordinance Amendment Regarding Taxicab Rates for Trips Originating at Richmond International Airport

Mr. Vithoukias recognized Jon Mathiasen, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Capital Region Airport Commission (CRAC), who made a brief presentation. Mr. Mathiasen noted CRAC last asked the Board of Supervisors to raise the fees for taxicab trips originating at Richmond International Airport (RIC) in 2012. At that time, the Board approved an increase to \$2.00 per trip. This latest proposal would raise the fee to \$2.30 per trip for light duty vehicles (taxicabs). Mr. Mathiasen shared two diagrams, one highlighting CRAC's proposed new fee schedule for ground transportation for various vehicle classes and the other offering examples of vehicles that are classified as light duty, medium duty, and heavy duty for purposes of the fee schedule.

In response to a question from Mr. Vithoukias, Mr. Mathiasen noted the new rate schedule will ideally go into effect on July 1, but the new taxicab fees must first be approved by the governing

bodies of all four of the local jurisdictions that are members of CRAC. In response to a question from Mr. Thornton, Mr. Mathiasen briefly recapped the history of taxicab service at RIC over the past 30 years, including the recent influence of Uber service. He noted that taxicab operators are currently in the third year of a three-year contract with CRAC. The contract contains provisions for two one-year extensions. Mrs. O'Bannon commented that she likes CRAC's proposal to base the fee schedule on vehicle weights, which will help ensure that users of ground transportation at the airport pay their share of the cost of road improvements.

Mr. Vithoukas informed the Board the ordinance will be introduced at the Board's May 12 meeting for a public hearing on June 9.

Voting Equipment Update

Mr. Vithoukas reviewed a letter he sent to the Board on April 7 recapping the County's history with voting machines during the past ten years. He reminded the Board that the County transitioned in 2005 from punch-card-type voting machine to digital recording equipment (DRE) to make the voting process easier for the voter and to comply with the 2002 Help American Vote Act. In 2007, the State Board of Elections (SBE) required that localities using DRE machines could no longer replace them with similar products, but instead had to replace them with an optiscan product. Although the County has experienced no adverse issue from the use of DREs, the County began planning for their replacement as DREs began to enter the end of their useful life. The County Manager's proposed FY 16 budget included \$1 million allocated from reserves for 190 new voting machines, which would provide for two at each of the 92 precincts plus a small inventory.

Mr. Vithoukas recognized Mark Coakley, General Registrar, who in turn introduced Anne Marie Middlesworth, Deputy General Registrar. Mr. Coakley narrated a slide presentation, copies of which were distributed by Ms. Middlesworth. Mr. Coakley began his presentation by reviewing an April 14 letter from the Commission of the Virginia Department of Elections. The letter advised that SBE decertified the AFS WinVote System, effective immediately, because of serious security concerns uncovered during its ongoing review of voting equipment used across the Commonwealth. Mr. Coakley noted that a budget amendment will be forthcoming so the County can replace its voting equipment in FY15 prior to the June 9 primary election as mandated by SBE rather than after July 1 as originally planned (in FY16). Ms. Middlesworth distributed copies of the sample ballots for the June 9 primary election. During his presentation, Mr. Coakley explained and responded to questions from the Board regarding the features of the new voting equipment the County will be purchasing, the suggested layout of voting equipment within voting precincts, and sample ballots and the timeline for the June 9 primary election.

Mr. Vithoukas acknowledged the efforts of Mr. Rapisarda, Assistant County Attorney Michael Westermann, the Departments of Finance and General Services, and the Registrar's Office in expediting procurement of the new equipment. In response to questions from Mrs. O'Bannon, Mr. Coakley elaborated on the County's decision to purchase equipment from Elections System & Software (ES&S) as opposed to one of the other three vendors certified by SBE.


Mr. Thornton suggested it would be helpful to have town meetings prior to the primary election to expose citizens to the new voting machine technology and inform them of the reasons for the change. Mr. Coakley confirmed that he was available to do this. In response to a question from Mr. Thornton, Mr. Coakley explained that SBE's decision to decertify the WINVote system was based on glitches with the equipment that occurred in Virginia Beach and Spotsylvania and a subsequent investigation that determined smart phones could be used to access and connect to the wireless network hosted by WINVote machines. He reiterated that the County had not experienced any technological or security issues with its WINVote equipment. Mr. Coakley responded to questions from Mr. Glover regarding the June 9 ballot and from Mrs. O'Bannon pertaining to the process for printing and documenting paper ballots if a precinct runs out of them. Mr. Thornton passed along kudos to Mr. Coakley and his staff for their hard work and efficiency.

The Board recessed for dinner at 6:07 p.m. and reconvened at 6:24 p.m.

Regular Meeting Agenda Items

After recognizing Dr. Casey and wishing him a happy birthday, Mr. Vithoukas briefly reviewed the agenda for the 7:00 p.m. meeting. Mr. Vithoukas noted he would be making one Manager's Comment concerning a national award that the Division of Fire recently received. He further noted that the Law Enforcement Officers Week proclamation listed under the "Presentations" section of the agenda would not be accepted at the meeting but will be presented by Mr. Thornton to the Police Division on May 11 at the annual wreath-laying ceremony to be held in Police Memorial Park. Mrs. O'Bannon pointed out the resume for the resolution accepting the resignation of a person eligible to serve as the third member of employee grievance panels incorrectly identified the person as a Three Chopt rather than Tuckahoe District resident. Mr. Lawrence noted the Board paper accurately stated the district but that staff would make this correction to the resume. Mr. Vithoukas advised that Mr. Foster is coordinating a study of the County's water and sewer utility rates in response to questions from the Board that arose during and after this year's legislative budget reviews. He assured Mr. Kaechele the study will include a review of connection fees for assisted living facilities. Mr. Vithoukas indicated results of the study can be presented to the Board in a work session this coming fall before the FY 17 budget process begins. He responded to questions from Mr. Nelson relating to the scope of renovations that will be covered under the proposed contract for field renovations to the Dorey Park softball complex. Mr. Vithoukas concluded his review by pointing out that improvements to Sadler Road addressed by resolutions on the general agenda will provide 1.9 miles of connected pedestrian access around Innsbrook.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.


Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Henrico County, Virginia