

COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL MEETING
November 30, 2021

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting at 5:15 p.m. on Tuesday, November 30, 2021, 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:

Daniel J. Schmitt, Chairman, Brookland District
Patricia S. O'Bannon, Vice-Chairman, Tuckahoe District
Thomas M. Branin, Three Chopt District
Tyrone E. Nelson, Varina District
Frank J. Thornton, Fairfield District

Other Officials Present:

John A. Vithoukias, County Manager
J. T. (Tom) Tokarz, County Attorney
Tanya N. Brackett, CMC, Assistant to the County Manager/Clerk to the Board
Monica Smith-Callahan, Deputy County Manager for Community Affairs
W. Brandon Hinton, Deputy County Manager for Administration
Anthony E. McDowell, Deputy County Manager for Public Safety
Cari Tretina, Assistant to the County Manager/Chief of Staff
Steven J. Yob, Deputy County Manager for Community Operations
Benjamin A. Sheppard, Director of Public Relations

Richmond Region Tourism Update

Jack Berry, President & CEO of Richmond Region Tourism, Katherine O'Donnell, Executive Vice President, and J. C. Poma, Vice President of Community Relations, updated the Board about the recovery of tourism in the region after the onset of COVID-19. Visitors are spending 20% more than before because they didn't get to travel last year, and many travelers are supporting local businesses.

Ms. O'Donnell noted that JetBlue and Breeze Airways have launched new flights out of Richmond International Airport, and Mr. Poma stated sports tourism is going strong with over 116 events. Also of note are the BlackRVA and OutRVA efforts to expand tourism diversity.

Charlotte, NC Staff Trip Update

Steve Yob, Deputy County Manager for Community Operations, discussed his trip to Charlotte, North Carolina with Kristen Owen, Floodplain Manager, and Rob Rowley, Director of Emergency Management. He described Charlotte's program for floodplain management, including a monthly stormwater fee, home purchases in flood-prone areas, and stream channel projects.

Henrico Community Food Bank

Sudeshna Das-Menezes, Founder of the Henrico Community Food Bank, stated its mission is to provide access to nutritious food to those in need in an equitable and dignified manner. Sarah Dovel, Vice Chair, discussed a partnership with FeedMore to serve County residents. Mr. Floyd Menezes, Founding Partner, explained how the Henrico Food Bank program will distribute food to families. The County has allocated \$50,000 as a non-department item in the County's budget and plans to provide additional funding in future years.

Water and Sewer Infill Projects

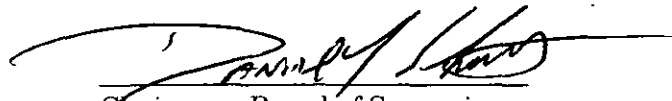
Bentley Chan, Director of Public Utilities, discussed the use of grant funding for extending and connecting County utilities to homes with failing septic systems. This is a multi-year effort requiring extensive design and construction. As plans progress, a resolution will be brought to the Board for action.

COVID Update

Rob Rowley, Director of Emergency Management, updated the Board about COVID cases in the County and the ongoing requirement for employees to wear masks in the workplace. He also discussed the new Omicron variant which has triggered travel restrictions from portions of Africa where it was discovered. The effects and transmissibility of the variant and its response to existing vaccines are unknown and require additional study.

Mr. Vithoukias briefly reviewed the agenda items for the 7:00 p.m. meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.



Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Henrico County, Virginia