

Meeting #25 — August 24th

At a regular meeting (#2) of the Madison County Board of Supervisors on August 24th, 2021 at 6:00PM in the Auditorium at 414 N. Main Street:

PRESENT R. Clay Jackson, Chair
 Charlotte Hoffman, Vice-Chair
 Kevin McGhee, Member
 Amber Foster, Member
 Carty Yowell, Member
 Jonathon Weakley, County Administrator
 Sean Gregg, County Attorney
 Alan Berry, Deputy Clerk

Call to Order, Determine Quorum, Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence

Determine Presence of a Quorum / Adopt Agenda

Chairman Jackson advised that a quorum was present.

Chairman Jackson advised of the following amendments to today's agenda:

Consent Agenda:

- *Add: Rollover Requests from FY21 (6a)*

Old Business:

- *Add: Leathers Lane Request (7a)*

Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to approve today's agenda as amended, seconded by Supervisor Foster. ***Aye: Jackson, Hoffman, McGhee, Foster, Yowell. Nay: (0).***

Public Comment

Chairman Jackson opened the floor for public comment. With no public comment being brought forth, the public comment opportunity was closed.

Special Appearances

1. Carrie Shepherd — VDOT Quarterly Presentation

Ms. Shepherd from VDOT was present and provided the quarterly presentation on VDOT's activities in Madison County. Of note:

- Preliminary Engineering:
 - Route 707 – Nethers Road – Bridge Replacement: Funds have been identified and moved into RW
 - Route 707 – Pine Hill Road – Bridge Replacement: Reached
 - Route 29 – RCUT at Shelby – HSIP: Moving towards public hearing, tentatively scheduled for October 12th
- Rural Rustic:
 - Forest Drive is under construction with surface treating beginning in the coming weeks
 - Pea Ridge Road set to begin construction in August
 - Desert Road has had a resolution requested

- Construction Activities
 - Road Project
 - CSOI: None at this time
 - Bridge Project
 - Route 607 Repton Mills Road superstructure replacement: Work has been completed
- Traffic Engineering
 - Finished Crash Review at Valley Road
 - Finished Intersection Review at 15 North James Madison Highway
 - Recommendations were to install rumble strips on two secondaries leading up to Route 15
 - Will be reviewed again due to traffic not slowing down
- Under Review
 - 705/614 Twyman's Mill Road is in progress, pending field data
- Other Information
 - Was made aware of crashes at Pratts
 - Spoke with Sheriff — crashes were mostly caused by people running the stop sign north of 231
 - Looking to install solar powered "Stop Ahead" or solar powered stop sign

➤ *Supervisor Yowell: Commented that either measure would need to be placed on the side of the road as stop signs placed in the middle do not last for very long.*

Ms. Shepherd replied that they had moved to place at stop sign at either side.

➤ *Supervisor Foster: Asked if the rumble strips needed to be replaced.*

Ms. Shepherd replied that she had drove over them and believed that they were in decent shape. Said VDOT was not looking to replace the rumble strips at this time. Said they would be daylighting signs and would Bumax the sign at the bank.

➤ *Chairman Jackson: Said that they needed to do something because the same accident just keeps happening over and over again.*

Ms. Shepherd responded that they would be starting on round 5 of funding and would work with the Board in submitting an application.

➤ *Chairman Jackson: Asked if there were specific reasons why the project didn't score for round 4 and asked if there was anything that could be added to make it score.*

Responded that there was potentially a way to rework the project to be scored. Also stated that one of the reasons it didn't score were the potential right-of-way costs required to obtain the parcel at the corner of the building.

➤ *Chairman Jackson: Asked about the progress made regarding the intersection between Route 15 and Oak Park Road.*

Said progress had been made and their maintenance forces would be cleaning and daylighting them. Said would proceed with the installation of rumble strips and adjusting the stop bars for the two secondaries. Also said they would be taking a look at the sight distance coming off of the secondaries.

- *Supervisor McGhee: Asked about a new sign north of Route 15 coming out of 634 where it is blocking sight of southbound traffic.*

The County Administrator noted that the rumble strips would provide an audio alert until the sight distance issue is addressed. Also stated that he had received a call from Mr. & Mrs. Wharton on Raceground Road with concerns that people are speeding. Asked if the Board would like a speed study done on the road.

- *Chairman Jackson: Asked if the results of a speed study simply result in more enforcement. Asked what the solution would be after the speed study is performed.*

Ms. Shepherd responded that speed studies are reviews of the speed people are traveling. Said a speed study could help determine if a lower speed is necessary.

The County Administrator responded that the Wharton's stated their preference for lowering the speed for the road in question.

- *Chairman Jackson: Asked the Board if they would like to do a speed study for Raceground Road, which the members all agreed to.*
- *Supervisor McGhee: Said the Board had been asked about unsurfaced roads being qualified as rural rustic such as John Meyers Road. Asked about the vehicle requirements to surface a road.*

Ms. Shepherd said she would review the requirements. Said that when VDOT comes around next year, they would have a good idea if the road qualifies or not.

- *Chairman Jackson: Thanked Mr. Smith and Mr. Rich from Clark Nexsen alongside Brian Gordon and Roger Berry and everyone else who participated in renovating the Administration building.*

The representative from Clark Nexsen stated that it was a team effort and thanked Roger Berry and the previous County Administrator for their input.

2. RISE – Firefly

Galen Creekmore from Firefly was present to update the Board on the status of the project. He spoke on the following

- The proposed project area that Firefly would cover
- The VATI budget and the additional funds being put into the program
- The changes to the proposed coverage
 - More unserved areas than previously expected
 - Included portions of RDOF won by CenturyLink & FiberLight
- Request for the County: \$2,563,200
- Project Schedule
 - August: Board makes decision on participation
 - September 14th: VATI application due
 - December: VATI awards announced
 - Late 2022: Construction begins
 - 2025: Finish build by year end

The County Administrator informed the Board about a monthly update within the agreement that the Board could use to track the project's progress throughout its lifetime. Informed the Board that the request was for local matching for the project and that the County was awarded \$2,575,794 — taking out the local match would leave the County with around \$13,000 in extra money.

- *Chairman Jackson: Asked if the billing for the project was Firefly > Planning District > Board of Supervisors and if it needed to go through an IDA or EDA.*

Mr. Creekmore responded that it would not have to take the extra step of going through an IDA or EDA alongside not having a requirement to go through the Planning District either, but that it was the most streamlined way to go about it.

- *Supervisor Yowell: Asked about the survey response.*

Mr. Creekmore responded that the survey and speed test were both helpful. Said that Firefly did a lot of ride-outs looking at infrastructure to gather more information on what portions of the County were being served;

- *Supervisor Yowell: Asked about the timing of the project and how it would match up with the ARPA funding.*

Mr. Creekmore said that it was his understanding that there was an extension on County expenditure of ARPA money to 2026. For the timeline, he responded that it was a three-year build that would involve concurrent construction

- *Supervisor Yowell: Asked why the ARPA money and local funding match was very similar.*

Mr. Creekmore responded that the costs associated with the amount of unserved recently discovered would have put the County over size of their ARPA funding and that they had to tweak some details to get it under the total ARPA limit.

- *Supervisor Yowell: Asked if the Board would need to address a presentation from Shentel involving the northern part of the County and if they would require matching funding as well.*

Mr. Creekmore responded that he couldn't speak for Shentel, but he did not believe they would need matching funding.

Supervisor McGhee made a motion to approve Resolution #2021-19, seconded by Supervisor Hoffman. ***Aye: Jackson, Hoffman, McGhee, Foster, Yowell. Nay: (0).***

The County Administrator, in response to an earlier question, informed the Board that funds do not have to be obligated until December 31st 2024 and unexpended funds are not subject to recapture or return until December 31st 2026.

Consent Agenda

3. Approve Minutes from the August 10 Meeting
4. Encumbrance for GeoComm (\$6,477)
5. Encumbrance for MCP (\$2064.85)
6. Approve Invoices for Clark Nexsen (\$47,655.65)
- 6a. Rollover Requests for FY21***

Supervisor Foster made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Supervisor Hoffman. *Aye: Jackson, Hoffman, McGhee, Foster, Yowell. Nay: (0).*

Constitutional Officers, County Departments, Committees & Organizations

Mr. Frye was present to give an update to the Board in regards to the Finance Department's activities:

- Currently reviewing FY21 budget and making sure every supplemental appropriation is recorded properly
- Currently examining some FY22 budget anomalies; possibly due to some coding errors
- Looking at each department's budget and comparing it to the actuals
- Planning the audit for FY21 (Erhardt - October 25th-27th; Robinson, Farmer, Cox – November 8th)
- Cross-training for payroll
- May need to implement some Standard Operating Procedures
- ERP Training starting in September

Clarissa Berry asked if the Board had received her requested encumbrance.

- *Chairman Jackson: Responded that the Board did not receive the request for encumbrance.*

Old Business

7. Fiber Run from ECC to Hoover Ridge

Mr. Gordon was present and advised the Board on the fiber run from ECC to Hoover Ridge:

- Said that the tower at ECC was specced for \$245,422.23 after site-work, tower, and implementation
- A soft quote for the ECC to the tower site is ~\$110,000; this would save around \$135,000 and would be more resistant to things such as weather
- Mr. Gordon stated that his preference was for the blue line identified on the map presented to the Board

- *Chairman Jackson: Asked which option of the three was the cheapest.*

Mr. Gordon responded that he was told all three line options will run about the same cost-wise within a couple hundred dollars.

- *Supervisor Yowell: Asked if the project would help the schools.*

Mr. Gordon responded that this is a direct fiber link and that the school already has their own fiber line.

- *Supervisor Yowell: Stated the fiber link for the schools was lacking.*
- *Chairman Jackson: Asked what the cost would be to go from 28 to 56.*

Mr. Gordon responded that he did not know exact amount. He also stated that an effort could be made to help the schools by tying into their infrastructure. Mr. Gordon said he was working on getting quotes, but that the Board needed to make a decision on the bandwidth of the fiber run.

- *Chairman Jackson: Said the Board needed to know prices and how much bandwidth the County needed. Also asked about handholds.*

Mr. Gordon said that the handholds were access points and that they could put in as many of them as they wanted.

- *Chairman Jackson: After discussion with the rest of the Board, the Chairman reported that they had decided to pursue the fiber line as indicated by the blue line on the map.*

The County Administrator, in response to an earlier question asked by the Chairman, informed him that procurement for the project would come out of the radio project.

- *Chairman Jackson: Asked when Mr. Gordon thought he would be back before the Board to present the award of funding.*

Mr. Gordon said he is getting information next week and will be in contact with other parties interested / involved with the project. Also stated that he didn't think it would be longer than a month-and-a-half. Said he was looking for the project to be done in either November or December.

7a. Leathers Lane Request

The County Administrator informed the Board that the County had received a request from Mr. Whidby to do maintenance on the road at Leathers Lane. However, the position paper for Leathers Lane stipulates that there is a 14-day requirement for feedback from all involved parties that has not been completed yet. He also stated that the letter did not list a schedule, which is in disagreement with the position paper. Matt Aylor visited the area and did not see any issues and said that Mr. Whidby's request should not negatively affect the road; also stated that the road was not substantially narrower in regards to the logs and sod placed by the Whidby's and neither appeared to be affecting traffic.

The County Administrator stated that the County needed to follow the 14-day feedback period and then follow up at the Board level.

The County Attorney stated that, if there was no opposition, then a hearing would not be necessary, but, if there was opposition, then there would need to be a hearing before the Board.

The County Administrator asked the County Attorney if the advertising for the hearing was the same as the others.

The County Attorney said there was no need to advertise and that an action item would be all that is necessary. Additionally, the residents of Leathers Lane would need to be provided notice.

- *Chairman Jackson: Asked Mr. Whidby if Lot 1 and Lot 20 are the lots he wanted to do work on.*

Mr. Whidby responded in the affirmative.

- *Supervisor Yowell: Asked Mr. Whidby what lots he owned.*

Mr. Whidby responded that he owned Lots 20 & 18.

- *Supervisor Foster: Asked about the logs on the side of the road and what Mr. Whidby was using them for.*

Mr. Whidby responded that he had placed the logs off of the road to mow.

New Business

8. MCRS Resolution

- *Chairman Jackson: Began by saying that it was not the volunteer or paid rescue squad's fault nor the County's that the current resolution was before the Board and that the requirements and volunteerism have become cumbersome to the volunteer system. Said he was saddened that it has come to this.*
- *Supervisor Yowell: Said his heart told him to vote nay, but that he couldn't deny the facts or the oath he took to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Also said he was in favor of the resolution and that he hoped that many of the volunteers would continue to assist the paid staff.*

Steve Grayson informed the Board that at least nine members of the volunteers have made applications to MEMS.

Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to approve resolution #2021-20, seconded by Supervisor McGhee. **Aye: Jackson, Hoffman, McGhee, Foster, Yowell. Nay: (0).**

- *Chairman Jackson: Thanked the volunteers for their service and said it was a sad day for Madison County.*

Information & Correspondence

The County Administrator updated the Board on the Town of Madison's request for the County to acknowledge the Town as an Urban Development Area. He stated that he had reviewed the letter sent by the Mayor requesting the next step in the process. Said that, as he understood it, the main change would be an increased ability to receive grants. Stated that his plan was to meet with them alongside Tracey Gardner and Ligon Webb.

Secondly, said he appreciated Tracey Gardner who is the main point of contact for the Business Incubator. Stated that a new tenant had signed on to use some of the office space.

Third, he stated that the park put out a press release regarding an increase in fees (Campground & Backpack Country Permits). Said that they may be pushing out the idea of tickets for Old Rag. Will try to get the Blue Ridge Committee back together.

- *Supervisor Yowell: Said he wanted people visiting Old Rag to come into Madison's establishments rather than simply leaving after hiking the mountain. Also asked when the final numbers for the Primary School's renovation would come in.*

The County Administrator said he would ask on the 1st of September to find out. Also informed the Board that the reason that everything had not been finalized to make sure punch-list items were completed.

Public Comment

Chairman Jackson opened the floor for public comment. With no public comment being brought forth, the public comment opportunity was closed.

- *Chairman Jackson: Asked the attendees if the sound quality was better in the renovated auditorium.*

Members of the public responded that the sound was much better than what it was before the renovation.

Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to adjourn the Board, seconded by Supervisor Foster. *Aye: Jackson, Hoffman, McGhee, Foster, Yowell. Nay: (0).*

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Agenda
Board of Supervisors Meeting
Madison County Board of Supervisors
Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at 6:00 PM
Administration Building Auditorium
414 N. Main Street, Virginia 22727

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence

Determine Presence of a Quorum/Adoption of Agenda

Public Comment

Special Appearances

1. Carrie Shephard - VDOT
2. RISE - Firefly

Consent Agenda

3. Approve Minutes from the August 10 Meeting
4. Encumbrance for GeoComm (\$6,477)
5. Encumbrance for Mission Critical Partners (\$2,064.85)
6. Approve Invoices for Clark Nexsen (\$47,655.65)

6a. Rollover Requests

Constitutional Officers, County Departments, Committees & Organizations

Old Business

7. Fiber Run from ECC to Hoover Ridge (Gordon)

7a. Leathers Lane Request

New Business

8. MCRS Resolution

Information/Correspondence

Public Comment

Closed Session

Adjourn