

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEW KENT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WAS HELD ON THE 14th DAY OF JANUARY IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND EIGHT OF OUR LORD IN THE BOARDROOM OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING IN NEW KENT, VIRGINIA, AT 6:00 P.M.

IN RE: INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Burrell gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN RE: ROLL CALL

Thomas W. Evelyn	Present
David M. Sparks	Present
James H. Burrell	Present
Stran L. Trout	Present
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Present

The Chairman called the meeting to order, and welcomed Will Harris, Philipp Von Hitritz and Ben Jumper who were attending the meeting in pursuit of their Boy Scout citizenship merit badges.

IN RE: ANNUAL REORGANIZATION

Mr. Trout turned the meeting over to County Administrator John Budesky who opened the floor for nominations for the 2008 Chairman.

Mr. Davis nominated James H. Burrell to serve as Chairman of the Board for a term of one year.

Mr. Sparks moved to close nominations. The members were polled:

Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
David M. Sparks	Aye
James H. Burrell	Abstain
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
Stran L. Trout	Aye

The motion carried. Mr. Budesky turned the meeting over to Mr. Burrell.

Mr. Burrell presented to Mr. Trout a plaque in recognition and appreciation of his service as 2007 Chair. Mr. Burrell thanked his fellow Board members for having faith in him to serve as 2008 Chair, and then opened the floor for nominations for 2008 Vice Chairman.

Mr. Sparks nominated W. R. Davis, Jr. to serve as Vice Chairman of the Board for a term of one year.

Mr. Trout moved to close the nominations. The members were polled:

David M. Sparks	Aye
Stran L. Trout	Aye
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Abstain
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
James H. Burrell	Aye

The motion carried.

Mr. Trout moved to elect W. R. Davis, Jr. as Vice Chairman for a term of one year. The members were polled:

W. R. Davis, Jr.	Abstain
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
David M. Sparks	Aye
Stran L. Trout	Aye
James H. Burrell	Aye

The motion carried.

IN RE: 2008 MEETING SCHEDULE

Under consideration by the Board was Resolution R-1-08 setting the Board's 2008 meeting schedule.

Mr. Sparks suggested deferring discussion and adoption of the meeting schedule until the upcoming Retreat, to which the other Board members agreed.

Following discussion, the Board did schedule its Retreat for 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 23, 2008, at the Visitors Center and its January Work Session for 2 p.m. on Monday, January 28, 2008, in the Boardroom of the County Administration building.

IN RE: BYLAWS

Under consideration by the Board was review of suggested amendments to its bylaws.

Following discussion, Board members had no objection to the County Attorney's recommendation that a section be added to the bylaws requiring that all boards and committees be chartered. It was acknowledged that the Board would have to wait at least thirty days to adopt the amended bylaws.

Mr. Davis moved that the Board's bylaws be amended as follows and that a vote be taken at a future meeting: Adding paragraph C. under Article VII, to read *"The Board of Supervisors shall charter all committees, whether permanent or temporary. The charter shall, at a minimum, prescribe the committee's mission, membership, duration, authorize or prohibit the expenditure of public funds, and set forth any reports, results or other items the committee shall deliver to the Board"*, with the existing paragraph C. becoming paragraph D. The members were polled:

Stran L. Trout	Aye
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
David M. Sparks	Aye
James H. Burrell	Aye

The motion carried.

IN RE: CONSENT AGENDA

County Administrator John Budesky presented the Consent Agenda as follows:

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Regular meeting of December 10, 2007
 - b. Special meeting of December 14, 2007
 - c. Special meeting of December 20, 2007

2. Appropriations
 - a. Funds donated to the New Kent Animal Shelter, \$730.00
 - b. Funds donated to the Sheriff's Honor Guard, \$1,075.00
 - c. Insurance funds received for Sheriff's vehicles that struck deer on Oct 25 and Dec 8 2007, \$867.00
 - d. Insurance funds received for re-lettering and re-striping the ambulance damaged at Colonial Downs, \$175.00
 - e. Insurance funds received for property damage caused by sewage backup at Parham Landing Wastewater Treatment Plant on Oct 27 2007, \$3,359.00
 - f. Funds received for the New Kent Fire Department, \$1,000.00
 - g. Funds received for security at the Nov 9 football game and Dec 1 and 6 2007 basketball games, \$388.00
 - h. Funds received from Emmaus Baptist Church for Sheriff's personnel coverage for a Nov 30 2007 event, \$82.00
 - i. Funds received from Colonial Downs for Sheriff's personnel coverage for Nov 2007, \$3,474.00
 - j. Parks & Recreation funds donated for the scholarship sponsorship program, \$600.00
 - k. Funds received from the Va. Dept of health from the Advanced Life Support Training Fund for course funding for FY08, \$1,428.00
 - l. Funds received for burn permits, \$3,575.00
 - m. Funds received from the E-911 Wireless State Board for a grant for the new E-911 Center, \$150,000.00
 - n. Funds received for clean-up of a haz-mat incident on Aug 28 2007, \$1,460.00

Total Supplemental Appropriation:	\$ (168,213.00)	Total
	\$ 168,213.00	Money-in/Money-out

3. Inter-Departmental Budget Transfers
 - a. *Sheriff's Office*: \$3,036.00 from Construction to Part Time salary items
 - b. *Fire-Rescue*: \$33,900 from State Fire Program Fund and OSHA Compliant to Fire Tanker Truck
 - c. *Wastewater*: \$40,000 from Parham Landing Contract Services to Chickahominy Contract Services
 - d. *Fire-Rescue*: \$120 from Overtime to Special Duty
 - e. *Sheriff's Office*: \$6,106.00 from Mobile Data In Car Mapping to Maintenance Service contracts
 - f. *Fire-Rescue*: \$4,500 from Fire EMS Reporting System to Telecommunications-Cell
 - g. *Human Resources/Fire-Rescue*: \$1,650 from Human Professional Services to Fire & Rescue Part-Time Salaries & Wages
 - h. *Clerk of the Board*: \$48,090 from Reserved for Contingency to salary and office expense line items for new position
 - i. *Economic Development*: \$52,920 from supply and salary line items to printing & binding, contractual services, overtime and lease/rent of equipment

4. Treasurer's Report: Cash in Bank as of November 2007: \$20,439,967.45

Mr. Trout moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, and that it be made a part of the record. The members were polled:

W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
David M. Sparks	Aye
Stran L. Trout	Aye
James H. Burrell	Aye

The motion carried.

IN RE: FY07 COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Anne B. Wall, on behalf the Auditors, Robinson Farmer Cox, presented the FY07 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

She advised that New Kent had received the "cleanest report" - an "unqualified opinion" - which reflected that there were no issues to report. She indicated that the County continued to receive certificates of achievement from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) and she commended the Financial Services staff as well as staff from other County departments and offices for their cooperation and receptiveness.

She reminded that the report was prepared using the GASB34 report model and she reviewed some of the differences, including the fact that the report more closely resembled the financial statement of a business enterprise. She did warn that the model for future audits would present a whole new series of auditing standards dealing with risk assessment.

There was discussion regarding the management letter which referred to the non-reporting of interest on certificates of deposit (CDs) issued for erosion and sediment control bonds, as well as the signing of minutes in the official Board minute book. Regarding the bond interest, Ms. Wall advised that they had noted that the interest reported by the Bank on the bonds was not reflected "on the books". Treasurer Herb Jones pointed out that the interest was paid directly to the entity posting the bond after work was completed, and that such interest had never been posted on the County's books and had never been mentioned as a concern during prior audits. He advised that posting the interest on nearly 400 individual CDs would be staff intensive and he did not feel it was necessary because the County did not receive the interest. It was pointed out that bonds were no longer required on residential dwellings and had been replaced with a \$25 fee.

There was a brief discussion regarding the necessity to sign the minutes and the Board members indicated that they would take that under consideration.

Ms. Wall emphasized that neither of the two items in the management letter were considered material weaknesses nor did they rise to the level of being reported as a deficiency, but were merely comments as to their opinions.

The Board members commended and congratulated Financial Services Director Mary F. Altemus and her staff for the successful audit.

Mr. Evelyn moved to accept the FY07 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report as presented.

Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
D. M. Sparks	Aye

Stran L. Trout	Aye
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
James H. Burrell	Aye

The motion carried.

IN RE: RESIDENCY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Torrence Robinson, Residency Administrator with the Sandston Residency of the Virginia Department of Transportation, reported on issues in New Kent.

Mr. Robinson welcomed Mr. Evelyn and extended an invitation to join him on a tour through his district.

He reviewed some highlights of regular monthly maintenance, which included shoulder cutting and dead tree removal.

He confirmed that they had received the necessary documentation to rescind the Board's previous request to relinquish its revenue sharing funds, and that the next step in that process would be for the County to identify projects. He advised that he would need to meet with the Board at a work session in the near future to review the upcoming Secondary System Six Year Plan (SSYP).

He reported that lane markings had been modified in the area of the I-64 interchange at Route 155, and that the speed study conducted on Route 60 in Providence Forge did not support a request to extend the 45 mph speed limit zone east a distance of one-half mile.

Regarding a request to address drainage issues along Tabernacle Road, he advised that they were awaiting the owner's approval to enter the property.

He reported that tree trimming work had been completed along Route 646 to improve visibility.

Regarding the abandoned road to the old Eltham Bridge, he advised that they were looking into addressing the unsightly condition. He reported that the Saluda Residency was considering the request for "steep grade" signs on the Eltham Bridge entering West Point, and that a speed study was underway in Eltham in response to the request for a lowered speed limit.

Mr. Robinson reported that repairs were being made to fences damaged by falling trees in the area of the I-64 interchange at Route 33.

He advised that plans were being made to resurface Route 613 in the spring.

He indicated that the speed study on Route 249 in the area of the Food Lion had been completed and that results were under review at the Residency and would be brought to the Board at next month's meeting.

He reported that they were investigating a report of low shoulders on Route 611 which may have contributed to a recent automobile accident.

He advised that they were still reviewing options on South Waterside Drive but had installed water level indicator signs for routine monitoring.

He reported that in response to citizen comments, a mower had been removed from Routes 634/639 and a pothole repaired on Route 623.

He indicated that they were continuing to work with County staff on developing a process for subdivision street acceptance.

Mr. Davis commented about the "eyesore" resulting from the abandoned road leading to the old Eltham Bridge, noting that there was no longer any way to access the road in order to remove the asphalt, as had been previously promised by VDOT staff. Mr. Robinson indicated that they were continuing to look into the situation.

Mr. Davis spoke about the lane markings on Route 155 at I-64, noting that the current markings were confusing to those exiting interstate and unfamiliar with the area, and he suggested that arrows painted on the pavement might help.

He advised that he could assist in obtaining the landowner's permission to enter the property needed to address the drainage problem along Tabernacle Road.

Mr. Trout inquired if the revenue sharing decisions needed from the Board were related to the Rural Rustic Road projects scheduled for spring 2008. Sherry Eagle, Revenue Sharing Program Manager, explained that those Rural Rustic Road projects were already fully funded and ready to be done, and that the decisions needed from the Board were how to use the revenue sharing funds set aside (in the neighborhood of \$500,000) for New Kent that have not yet been designated. She suggested that if New Kent was planning to apply for Revenue Sharing funds for the upcoming year (deadline of March 20, 2008), it would be a good idea to identify projects for the existing funds at the same time.

Mr. Trout asked about pavement repair work in the area of Rescue Drive in Providence Forge, noting that pavement at the entranceway had been "caving in" over the years and that it was an area well-used by emergency vehicles day and night and it was important that it be kept in good condition.

Mr. Sparks thanked Mr. Robinson for participating in a recent ride through his district and asked that he maintain contact regarding the concerns they had previously discussed.

Mr. Evelyn talked about the possibility of restricting truck traffic along Route 608 in order to re-direct the truck traffic from the Basic Construction mining operation to the main arteries.

He also asked about the proposed roundabouts at the I-64 interchange at Route 106 and whether the truck traffic had been considered. Mr. Robinson advised that during construction there would be a traffic maintenance plan in effect, but that it was something that could be handled and that the roundabouts were designed to handle truck traffic.

Mr. Burrell advised that he was looking forward to riding through his district with Mr. Robinson in the near future.

Regarding the suggestion to install guardrails on Egypt Road in the vicinity of New Kent Elementary School, Mr. Robinson reported that the Central Office was still investigating the matter and he would report back as soon as he heard from them.

IN RE: CITIZENS COMMENT PERIOD

Chairman Burrell reviewed the time limits for the Citizens Comment Period and then asked County Administrator John Budesky to summarize the County's efforts in response to the recent closing of the Heritage Public Library (Library).

Mr. Budesky indicated that he recognized that there were many present to comment upon the recent closing of the Library and advised that he felt it was important to give an update to the Board and citizens. He reminded that the Library was not owned or operated by either New Kent or Charles City, but was an independently owned and operated non-profit to which both localities gave annual contributions. He emphasized that New Kent considered the Library as an asset and last year had increased its annual contribution for operations by more than 40%. He pointed out that a level of assistance for development of a new library facility had been included in New Kent's Capital Improvement Plan for a future fiscal year, and included in New Kent's last two Legislative Agendas were requests for funding from the General Assembly to assist in construction of a new library. He reported that since November 2007, he had been working with a group comprised of Library staff, members from the Library Board and the Friends of the Library, and that group had been tentatively scheduled to meet with the Board of Supervisors at its February work session to discuss the need for new facilities. He advised that when a recent inspection revealed serious electrical safety issues and resulted in the Library Board's decision to immediately close the facility to the public, he had continued to offer County assistance to the Library and its boards. He recounted that County staff and elected officials had met at the Library on the following morning, at which time the County's Building Official inspected the facility and agreed that the existing electrical conditions were of such nature that he could not support a re-opening. Mr. Budesky advised that later that morning at the County's request, an electrical contractor inspected the premises in order to provide an estimate of repairs. In an effort to identify all options and restore library services as quickly as possible, he advised that Library and County staff and officials also visited nearby building offered as a temporary site for the Library and, later that afternoon, Library and County staff also visited a second possible site.

He reminded that the decision now rested with the Library Board and that the Chairman of the Library Board would be the first to speak and would further expand upon the matter. He emphasized that he had been in constant communication with the Library Board Chair and Librarian since last week and had been working closely with them in an effort to get the Library back in operation to serve the citizens.

Mr. Burrell added that the County remained very concerned about the Library's being closed and would continue to offer whatever assistance it could.

Lee Tyson, as Chairman of the Heritage Public Library Board of Trustees, made the following statement: *"Good evening, Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. My name is Lee Tyson, and I am the Chairman of the Heritage Public Library Board of Trustees. I appreciate this opportunity to speak to you, and would like to spend a few minutes giving you a "State of the Library" update. I believe this information will help answer many of the questions I know you, and the public, have concerning the facility. I also believe it will help clear up some misconceptions the public may have concerning the operation of the library and the relationship the counties of New Kent and Charles City have with the library board.*

The Heritage Public Library was created in 1981, as the working entity of the Charles City-New Kent Heritage Foundation, which was organized as a 501(c)(3) non-stock corporation to provide library services to the residents of both counties. The library moved into its present location in August 1984.

In 1985, the two counties contracted with the library to “establish, maintain, and operate a free public regional library serving the participating localities.” That same year, the State Library recognized the Heritage Public Library as the public library for the two localities. This recognition allows the Library to receive State financial aid that is combined with the annual financial contributions from the two participating localities. State allocations are used to fund collection acquisition. Local contributions are used to fund general operations. The building currently occupied by the Library was purchased in 1987 and the mortgage paid in full in 1999. The Heritage Public Library is not now and never has been, owned or operated by either New Kent or Charles City Counties. The facility is privately owned and operated under the terms of the contractual agreement agreed to in 1985.

Policy decisions concerning the operation of the Library rest with the Board of Trustees, which currently consists of 11 members. Four members are from Charles City County – three appointed by the Board of Supervisors and one appointed by the Board of Trustees itself as an “at large member.” Seven members are from New Kent County – one from each of the five magisterial districts and two appointed by the Board of Trustees as “at large members.” Members are appointed for 4 year staggered terms, and members may not serve more than two consecutive terms. Members are not compensated for their service.

Day-to-day operations of the library are carried out by one full time employee and four part-time employees. Additional staffing is provided by 20 volunteers who provide approximately 46 hours of staffing per week. The Board of Trustees is deeply indebted to the volunteers who work so diligently to provide needed services to the community. It was with great admiration that I recently awarded a certificate of appreciation to a volunteer who was completing her 25th year of service to our organization.

In Fiscal Year 2006/2007, 28,660 patron visits were made to the Library. This represents an increase of approximately 3,100 patron visits from the previous fiscal year. 60,455 items were circulated – including books and audio-visual materials. The current total collection consists of 43,000 items of which 38,000 are books. Providing books and audio-visual material to the public is only a fraction of the services the Heritage Public Library provides. In addition to the circulating and non-circulating printed or audio-visual materials, the library has 13 patron-use computers. Included in the many non-traditional library services provided are:

- The library serves as a wireless Internet “hotspot” used by local businesses and the New Kent County Sheriffs office*
- Job application access is provided for major employers in New Kent who are now paperless, including Food Lion*
- Seasonal computer access is provided to Colonial Downs trainers and employees for home and business management*
- Staff provides technical assistance to patrons unfamiliar with computer use to access job search and application functions, to prepare and pay taxes online and to purchase goods online. Security software is maintained by the staff for patron privacy protection*
- The Heritage Public Library provides meeting space for business meetings, including Project Hope, Lay Health Services, the local Domestic Violence Task Force and other social service and welfare agencies*
- GED classes and adult computer literacy classes are provided*
- Youth programs including an art camp, VA Cooperative Extension programs, summer reading programs and a chess classes are provided*
- Adult art programs and space for art displays are provided*
- Historical reenactments and presentations take place at the library, as do presentations by nationally known authors*
- The Library is used as a DMV online driving test site; DMV online application site*
- The VA Employment Commission uses the library as a remote, online application site*
- English as a Second Language courses are taught at the library.*

These are just a few of the many services provided.

All of these services have heretofore been provided in a building constructed, in various stages, between the 1930s and the 1950s and intended as commercial structure. A quick survey of local

residents has indicated the building has been used as a dry goods market, a bait and tackle shop, a variety store, and a fish market. The age of the building and wear and tear of daily use for nearly 25 years has taken its toll, and in 2000 the Board of Trustees began to investigate moving to another location. During the intervening years sites have been identified as potential locations, preliminary investigations conducted, negotiations conducted, and yet nothing has materialized. As new developments have occurred in and around the County, the potential for proffered sites have been discussed as real estate developers recognize not only the need for library services, but also recognize the draw a library located in their respective communities would be. Again, none of these discussions have borne fruit. Unfortunately, time and our own success have caught up with us.

The current Board of Trustees, working with two support groups, the Heritage Public Library Foundation, which was created to accept donations for the furtherance of the Library's goals, and the Friends of the Heritage Public Library, which provides fund raising and other general assistance, have for the past two years been laying the groundwork for tackling the issue of new library facilities. Both Counties' have provided assistance from their own limited staff resources, and for that the Board of Trustees is particularly grateful. As part of this planning process, two working groups – one charged with investigating the needs and service delivery options for each of the member localities – were created. The Board of Trustees is on record as believing a "two branch" approach – one in each locality – is the preferred method of service delivery. This will allow the Library to best serve the individual needs of the localities, while still maintaining the "regional" approach favored by the State Library. This will also allow the Board to continue to receive State-aide, which may not otherwise be available if the "regional" approach is abandoned.

Last month, the New Kent County working group met with County staff with the aim of identifying information that could be provided to you for the purpose of identifying the issues associated with providing new facilities in the County. It was decided at that time to undertake an assessment of the current structure to identify outstanding structural or safety issues and what it may cost to correct these problems. The findings of that assessment were troubling, to say the least.

The laundry list of building deficiencies runs the gamut from drainage and flooding issues, which have seriously undermined the integrity of the flooring, to plumbing issues, to the outdated and insufficient electrical system, which is particularly problematic given the heavy reliance on technology the Library is experiencing and will continue to experience. The electrical system was found to be in such poor condition that serious concerns were raised in the report as to whether the building could safely be used. As the Chairman of the Board, I called an emergency meeting of the Board of Trustees on Monday, January 7, 2008 to discuss the report's findings. Board members representing both counties were in attendance, and it was the unanimous choice of the Board to immediately close the facility. The health, safety and welfare of our patrons and staff, and the preservation and protection of our collection were the Board's ONLY concern. It has been suggested the Board took the action it did to somehow force the localities' hands in providing new facilities – this is completely and unequivocally NOT true.

Subsequent investigation by a licensed electrical contractor and the New Kent County Department of Public Safety have confirmed and validated the Board's fears – the building is not safe to occupy given its current deficiencies. It has been estimated it would cost approximately \$25,000 to bring the electrical system up to the requirements of the Building Code. Other items would also need to be addressed, and there is no guarantee that once the work was undertaken additional problems, heretofore not identified, would be discovered.

Which brings us to our present state.

The Board of Trustees is not inclined at this time to spend our limited resources in repairing a building that has long since served its usefulness. Such a move would not be a prudent investment in the organizations future; however, we remain committed to providing library services to the New Kent/Charles City County community. The Board takes its responsibility very, very seriously and we would not have taken the drastic step we did if there was any reasonable way of avoiding it.

Working with both County Administrators during the past week, several potential temporary sites have been identified. Each has their own pros and cons. In evaluating these locations, the Board believes it has three criteria that must be met:

- 1. The cost of the space.*
- 2. The location of the space.*
- 3. The services that can be provided within that space.*

Furthermore, the Board believes it has two options for providing services:

- 1. The library can be temporarily moved to one single location, located either in New Kent or Charles City. This has certain advantages, including being able to provide the same level of service hours and programs that were provided at the Providence Forge site. It would also be easier and cheaper to physically move the collection and equipment to one site.*
- 2. The other option is to provide temporary services to two "branches," one located in each County. This would necessitate splitting the collection and staff time between two locations and paying for the establishment of two physical spaces.*

Based solely on the current levels of funding provided by each locality, which is approximately 60% provided by New Kent and 40% provided by Charles City, the Library Director and his staff have determined 16 hours of staff time would be provided to the Charles City County site and 39 hours of staff time provided to the New Kent County site.

The Board and the staff are continuing to investigate potential sites, staffing levels, and the costs associated with moving and set-up of temporary quarters. We are not prepared tonight to make any announcements as to what the outcome of those discussions may be. We can say as a Board that we are just as anxious to resume our operations as you are. We continue to have daily contact with the Administrators of both counties and we are working as hard as we can to resolve the issue. As the Board Chairman, I intend to call weekly meetings of the Board so that timely decisions can be made and we can get back to providing the services I've outlined above.

In conclusion, let me first take the time to thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak to you. I speak for the Board when I say I appreciate it. I also know I speak for the Board when I say that we appreciate the time and attention you and your staff have given this issue.

I'd also like to publicly thank the other members of the Board of Trustees, the Heritage Public Library Foundation, the Friends of the Heritage Public Library, the staff and volunteers for their understanding and support during not only this rough last week, but during the past 23 years. I would ask that the members of these bodies stand and be recognized at this time.

In 1901, Andrew Carnegie, who had come to this country from Scotland and began work as a young boy as a telegraph operator, sold his shares of U.S. Steel, a company which he had founded and grown into the first company in the world worth \$1 billion, sold his shares to J. P. Morgan. He received \$225 million for his shares – in 1901 dollars. He immediately began to give it away – and over the course of the remainder of his life he helped fund more than 3,000 public libraries around the world. He said:

There is not such a cradle of democracy upon the earth as the Free Public Library, this republic of letters, where neither rank, office, nor wealth receives the slightest consideration.

In speaking with one of you recently, the comment was made, "Lee, I realize the library is a priority to the Board of Trustees – unfortunately, there are a lot of priorities in the County and we can't fund all of them." The Board of Trustees appreciates the job you as the Board of Supervisors has to do – you have to weigh the priorities before you and split the pie of revenue as best you can among many competing interests. Again, we appreciate that as your job and appreciate the assistance you have provided to us over the past 23 years.

As a member of the Board of Trustees, I pledge to you that the Board will continue to have as our number one sole priority the provision of library services delivered where, as Carnegie put it, "neither ran,

office, nor wealth receives the slightest consideration." We look forward to working with you and the staff to make this a reality.

Thank you, again. I'd be happy to try and answer any questions."

Board members thanked Mr. Tyson for his informative remarks.

Mr. Sparks inquired when a decision was expected from the Library Board. Mr. Tyson advised that the Board was continuing to weigh the options and were awaiting some level of commitment from Charles City County. He emphasized that they were working diligently on the issue and hoped to have a resolution within weeks. He stated that he recognized the hardship that the closure was having upon those who relied upon the Library, but their decision to close the Library was based upon a public safety issue and that they wanted to make sure that when library services were restored, they could offer the same level of service.

He confirmed that New Kent residents could access the library systems in neighboring localities. He also reported that the Library Board felt that the collection was in good shape and should be safe as long as there was no fire. He advised that the Fire Department had increased its patrol in the area and staff remained in the building doing research and other work.

Mr. Tyson added that they were in constant communication with the Library of Virginia who was aware of the issue. He also emphasized how helpful, professional and dedicated Mr. Budesky and County staff had been in the process.

The Chairman opened the Citizens Comment Period.

Hal Wallof spoke about the history of the Library, which he felt actually began in 1770 when the Reverend Charles Jefferson, who founded Providence Forge, made plans for a library and academy but died in a hunting accident before the projects could be completed. He noted that some 200 years later, in 1977, the dream was revived when members of the local Presbyterian Church began to plan for a tri-cultural library involving Native Americans, African Americans, and English Americans. He said that despite dire predictions, their plans came to fruition when, in 1981, the Heritage Public Library became a part of the State's library system. He commented that New Kent's population had dramatically increased since the decision to have a bi-county library and that he felt that New Kent needed its own library in a more central location. He urged the Board to have a "bold and intelligent plan" and thanked the Board for its support.

Librarian Alan Bernstein thanked the County for its efforts and cooperation over the past week in the effort to restore services as soon as possible.

Will Harris spoke about how many people enjoyed the Library and depended upon its services.

Cynthia Hartmann echoed those comments, stating that the Library had been a second home, she missed it already, and she hoped it would reopen quickly.

Philipp Von Hitritz asked that the Library be reopened quickly.

Chris Wells advised that she supported what everyone else had said, and that she also supported the high level of cooperation between the County staff and the Library.

Lee Wells echoed the comments of his wife.

Judy Harris stated that she was both a patron and employee of the Library and hoped it re-opened soon.

Steve Harris said it was important "to do it right the first time", indicating that he felt New Kent should have its own library.

Ben Jumper spoke about his use of the Library.

Marcia Gardy, on behalf of the New Kent Junior Women's Club, spoke in support of the Library, who was their beneficiary. She advised that they would continue to look for ways to help the Library, which they felt was a vital component of the community.

There being no one else signed up to speak, the Citizens Comment Period was closed.

Mr. Burrell commented that he was delighted that so many had shown up to speak on the issue, stating that "democracy works best when citizens get involved" and that it was especially gratifying when the young came out to express their thoughts. He thanked everyone for their input and reminded that the decision was in the hands of the Library Board. He added that the Board valued the Library and would keep it in mind during the upcoming budget process.

The Board took a short break and then resumed the meeting.

IN RE: INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF

Planning Manager Rodney Hathaway introduced new Planner, Matthew Ebinger.

Maintenance Supervisor David Bednarczyk introduced new Maintenance Technician, Gary Martin.

The Board welcomed the new employees.

IN RE: ELECTED OFFICIALS' REPORTS

Mr. Davis commented that it had been a quiet holiday season, noting that 36 hours passed on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day without a call for fire/rescue services. He also reported that New Kent hunters had donated a significant amount of prepared meat to the Central Virginia Food Bank.

Mr. Trout reported that New Kent's Jamestown 2007 Committee had held its final meeting. He spoke about the hard work and dedication of this group, noting that it had sponsored a school poster contest, published a booklet *History Making Women of New Kent* and a book on black churches, participated in Historic Garden Week, helped with the development of the County's tear-off maps, developed restaurant brochures, provided new Welcome to New Kent signs for the roadways, had been involved in several theatrical productions, supported the TransAtlantic Golf Tournament, and culminated the year with the Godspeed Festival, attended by about 2,000 people. He congratulated the group on a job well done, recognized committee member Alease Christian who was in attendance, and commended staff support Marilyn Mills for her commitment and hard work.

Mr. Sparks expressed his thanks to the residents who were using the recycling facilities at the Route 612 site, noting that increased recycling had resulted in additional pulls. Mr. Burrell concurred, noting that the residents' increased recycling would assist the County in reaching its "Cool Counties" goals.

Mr. Evelyn expressed his thanks to citizens in his district as well as to his election committee, and thanked Mr. Mark Hill for his service to the County. He stated that it was an honor and privilege to serve on the Board and that he looked forward to working with the other Board members, staff and citizens.

Mr. Burrell reported that he would be attending a upcoming meeting of the Board of Directors of the Richmond Metropolitan Convention and Visitors Bureau and that he would make a report at a future meeting on some things that group had planned that would benefit New Kent.

IN RE: STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Budesky congratulated Ms. Altemus and the staff of the Financial Services Department for the successful audit, adding that while Financial Services received the credit, it was a project that involved other offices and that the cooperation received from staff in the offices of the Commissioner of Revenue and the Treasurer were truly appreciated.

He reported that until library services were restored, New Kent residents could use the library system in Williamsburg/James City County at no charge, as well as the library system in Henrico for a small fee.

He indicated that in an effort to merge Richmond's workforce investment board with that of the workforce consortium of seven surrounding localities, the Governor had provided a \$50,000 grant to pay for a consultant from Virginia Commonwealth University to develop a process by July 1, 2008, and that he would report back on the process.

Mr. Budesky reminded that County offices would be closed for observance of Lee-Jackson Day and Martin Luther King's birthday, and urged everyone to remember what the holidays meant.

He reported that staff and officials had met with Senator Tommy Norment the previous week to review New Kent's 2008 Legislative Agenda. He noted that Senator Norment was the Minority Leader in the Senate and had expressed his assurances that he would continue to work with his counterpart in the House of Delegates to advance New Kent's initiatives and address its concerns.

IN RE: DISTRICT APPOINTMENTS

The Board continued to make district appointments.

Mr. Evelyn moved to appoint George Tate Jr. as a District One representative to the Agricultural and Forestal District Advisory Committee to serve a four year term ending December 31, 2011.

Mr. Evelyn moved to appoint George Tate, Jr. as District One's representative to the Board of Road Viewers to serve a one year term ending December 31, 2008.

Mr. Evelyn moved to appoint George Gregory, Jr. as a District One representative to the Planning Commission to complete a term ending December 31, 2010.

Mr. Sparks moved to appoint Douglas Raynor as District Two's alternate representative to the New Kent County Historic Commission to serve a term ending December 31, 2008

Mr. Sparks moved to appoint Larry Haislip as District Two's representative to the New Kent Economic Development Authority to complete a term ending December 31, 2010.

Mr. Sparks moved to appoint Mike Salmon as District Two's representative to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission to serve a three year term ending December 31, 2010.

Mr. Sparks moved to appoint Clarence Tiller as a District Two representative to the Planning Commission to serve a term ending December 31, 2008.

Mr. Sparks moved to appoint Steve Rocha as a District Two representative to the Planning Commission to serve a term ending December 31, 2010.

Mr. Sparks moved to appoint Claude Baldwin as District Two's representative to the Board of Road Viewers to serve a one year term ending December 31, 2008.

Mr. Sparks moved to appoint Pete Sweet as a District Two representative to the Transportation Safety Commission to serve a term ending December 31, 2008.

Mr. Sparks moved to appoint Lyle Gleason as District Two's representative to the Wetlands Board/Chesapeake Bay Preservation Board to serve a five year term ending December 31, 2012.

Mr. Sparks moved to recommend Michael Lane for Circuit Court appointment as District Two's representative to the Board of Equalization.

Mr. Burrell moved to appoint James Moody as District Three's representative to the Board of Road Viewers to serve a one year term ending December 31, 2008.

Mr. Burrell moved to appoint Herman Burrell as a District Three representative to the Transportation Safety Commission to serve a term ending December 31, 2011.

Mr. Burrell moved to recommend Brenda Snyder for Circuit Court appointment as District Three's representative to the Equalization Board.

Mr. Trout moved to appoint Ronald Lang as District Four's representative to the Board of Road Viewers to serve a one year term ending December 31, 2008.

Mr. Trout moved to appoint Floyd C. Jefferson as District Four representative to the Transportation Safety Commission to serve a term ending December 31, 2011.

Mr. Trout moved to appoint Richard Weyant as a District Four representative to the Transportation Safety Commission to serve a term ending December 31, 2010.

Mr. Trout moved to recommend Bill Chandler for Circuit Court appointment as District Four's representative to the Board of Equalization.

Mr. Davis moved to appoint Bill Simpson as District Five's representative to the Airport Advisory Commission to serve a four year term ending December 31, 2011.

Mr. Davis moved to appoint Craig Pierce as District Five's representative to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission to serve a three year term ending December 31, 2010.

Mr. Davis moved to appoint Bruce Howard as District Five's representative to the Board of Road Viewers to serve a one year term ending December 31, 2008.

Mr. Davis moved to nominate Philip Hickman as District Five's representative to the Board of Zoning Appeals to serve a five year term ending December 31, 2012.

Mr. Davis moved to recommend Edgar Hayes for Circuit Court appointment as District Five's representative to the Board of Equalization.

The members were polled:

David M. Sparks	Aye
Stran L. Trout	Aye
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
James H. Burrell	Aye

The motions carried.

IN RE: NON-DISTRICT APPOINTMENTS

The Board continued to make appointments to boards and commissions not designated by district.

Mr. Burrell moved to appoint W. R. Davis, Jr. as a member of the Farms of New Kent Community Development Authority Board to serve a four-year term beginning January 1, 2008 and ending December 31, 2011.

Mr. Davis moved to appoint Donald Seeterlin as a member of the Board of Building Code Appeals/Board of Fire Prevent Code of Appeals to serve a four year term beginning January 1, 2008 and ending December 31, 2011.

Mr. Burrell moved to appoint Jean Street as a New Kent representative to the Chickahominy District Health Advisory Board to serve a two year term beginning January 1, 2008 and ending December 31, 2009.

Mr. Trout moved to appoint Carolyn Ito as a New Kent representative to the Chickahominy Disability Services Board to serve a one year term ending December 31, 2008.

Mr. Burrell moved to appoint W. R. Davis, Jr. as the Board representative to the Agricultural and Forestal District Advisory Committee to serve a one year term ending December 31, 2008.

Mr. Evelyn moved to appoint D. M. Sparks as the Board representative to the Airport Advisory Commission to serve a one year term ending December 31, 2008.

Mr. Davis moved to appoint Stran L. Trout as the Board representative to the Historic Commission to serve a one year term ending December 31, 2008.

Mr. Trout moved to appoint W. R. Davis, Jr. as the Board representative to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission to serve a one year term ending December 31, 2008.

Mr. Davis moved to appoint James H. Burrell as the Board representative to the Planning Commission to serve a one year term ending December 31, 2008.

Mr. Burrell moved to appoint Thomas W. Evelyn as the Board representative to the Social Services Advisory Board to serve a one year term ending December 31, 2008.

Mr. Burrell moved to appoint Thomas W. Evelyn as New Kent's Board representative to the Capital Area Policy Board/Capital Area Training Consortium to serve a four year term beginning January 1, 2008 and ending December 31, 2011.

Mr. Evelyn moved to appoint D. M. Sparks as New Kent's Board representative to the Chickahominy District Health Advisory Board to serve a one year term ending December 31, 2008.

Mr. Sparks moved to appoint Stran Trout as New Kent's Board representative to the Metropolitan Planning Organization to serve a one year term ending December 31, 2008.

Mr. Sparks moved to appoint Stran Trout as New Kent's Board representative to the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission to serve a one year term ending December 31, 2008.

Mr. Trout moved to appoint John A. Budesky as New Kent's alternative representative to the Metropolitan Planning Organization to serve a one year term ending December 31, 2008.

Mr. Trout moved to appoint George Homewood as New Kent's staff representative to the Metropolitan Planning Organization to serve a one year term ending December 31, 2008.

Mr. Trout moved to appoint Rodney Hathaway as New Kent's alternate staff representative to the Metropolitan Planning Organization to serve a one year term ending December 31, 2008.

Mr. Trout moved to appoint John A. Budesky as New Kent's alternate representative to the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission to serve a one year term ending December 31, 2008.

Mr. Trout moved to appoint James H. Burrell as New Kent's Director of Emergency Management to serve a one year term ending December 31, 2008 as required by Virginia Code Section 44-146.19.

Mr. Trout moved to appoint D. M. Sparks as the Board of Supervisors' representative to the School Board's Six-Year Improvement Plan Committee.

The members were polled:

Stran L. Trout	Aye
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye

David M. Sparks	Aye
James H. Burrell	Aye

The motions carried.

Mr. Sparks inquired as to whether appointments to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission could be for terms of one year in that he had several citizens in his district express interest in serving and one-year terms would allow opportunity for more to participate. It was consensus that the terms should remain as set and Mr. Sparks indicated that he would consider substituting representatives throughout the term. In the interim, Mr. Summers advised that he would review the master list and determine which boards and commissions were controlled by statutes and make some recommendations.

Mr. Burrell suggested that boards and commissions understand that quarterly or bi-monthly meetings might be sufficient, and that the body itself should decide how often it needed to meet, with the chair retaining the prerogative to call meetings during intervening times.

IN RE: MEETING SCHEDULE

The Chairman announced that the next meeting of the Board of Supervisors would be held at 6 p.m. on February 12, 2008, and the next work session at 2 p.m. on February 26, 2008, both in the Boardroom of the County Administration Building, New Kent, Virginia. It was further announced that the Board would meet for a Retreat on Wednesday January 23, 2008, at 4:30 p.m. at the Visitors Center.

IN RE: CLOSED SESSION

It was announced by staff that a Closed Session would not be needed.

IN RE: ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Davis moved to adjourn the meeting. The members were polled:

W. R. Davis, Jr.	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye
David M. Sparks	Aye
Stran L. Trout	Aye
James H. Burrell	Aye

The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.