



**BOOK 37**  
**Pages 324-333**



**AMHERST COUNTY**  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**Board of Supervisors**

Jennifer R. Moore, Chair  
District 5  
David W. Pugh, Jr., Vice-Chair  
District 4  
Tom Martin, Supervisor  
District 1  
L. J. Ayers III, Supervisor  
District 3  
Claudia D. Tucker, Supervisor  
District 2

**MINUTES**

**February 2, 2021**  
Administration Building - 153 Washington Street -  
Public Meeting Room  
Amherst, Virginia 24521  
Meeting Convened - 3:00 PM

**County Administrator**  
Dean C. Rodgers

**County Attorney**  
Mark Popovich

**I. Call to Order**

At a regular meeting of the Amherst County Board of Supervisors held on February 2, 2021 at 3:00 p.m., the following members were present:

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

Jennifer R. Moore, Chair  
David W. Pugh, Jr., Vice-Chair  
Tom Martin, Supervisor  
L. J. Ayers III, Supervisor  
Claudia D. Tucker, Supervisor

**ABSENT:** None

**STAFF:**

Dean C. Rodgers, County Administrator  
David R. Proffitt, Deputy County Administrator  
Michael Lockaby, County Attorney  
Regina M. Rice, Clerk to Boards

Chair Moore called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

By motion of Vice-Chair Pugh and with the following vote, the Board approved the agenda.

**AYE:** Ms. Moore, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Martin, Mr. Ayers and Mrs. Tucker

**NAY:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**III. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Supervisor Ayers led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **IV. Citizen Comment**

There was no public comment.

#### **V. Ordinance - First Read**

A. Ordinance 2021-0002, relocating a voting polling place in Election District 3. Registrar Francine Brown presented an amendment to an ordinance to relocate the Pleasant View Precinct (0303) polling place from 229 Dancing Creek Rd. to New Prospect Baptist Church at 2209 Buffalo Springs Turnpike, Monroe, VA 24574.

Supervisor Martin asked Ms. Brown if New Prospect Baptist Church was ADA accessible. Ms. Brown responded that it was accessible.

By motion of Vice-Chair Pugh and with the following vote, the Board directed staff to schedule a public hearing at the February 16 Board meeting at 7:00 p.m.

AYE: Ms. Moore, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Martin, Mr. Ayers and Mrs. Tucker

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

#### **VI. Consent Agenda**

By motion of Supervisor Tucker and with the following vote, the Board approved the Consent Agenda for February 2, 2021.

AYE: Ms. Moore, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Martin, Mr. Ayers and Mrs. Tucker

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

##### **A. Minutes - January 5, 2021**

It was moved that the Board adopt the Minutes of January 5, 2021.

##### **B. ACSO Revenue Appropriation**

It was moved that the Board approve the appropriation of funds as described.

C. Creation of Conservation Stewardship Fund

It was moved that the Board establish the Conservation Stewardship Fund and appropriate \$2,872.06 from the unobligated general fund balance for transfer of FY 2020 revenues to the Fund.

D. County Administrator Changes (CAC) to Regulation 1-1, Board of Supervisors Support

It was moved that the Board endorse 2021 CAC-1 to the Amherst County Regulation 1-1, Board of Supervisors Support, as presented.

E. County Administrator Changes (CAC) to Regulation 1-4, Representatives to External Boards, Commissions, Councils, and Committees

It was moved that the Board endorse 2021 CAC-1 to the Amherst County Regulation 1-4, Representatives to External Boards, Commissions, Councils, and Committees, as presented.

**VII. Special Presentation**

A. Commemorative Resolution Honoring Sara Lu Christian

The Board adopted a Commemorative Resolution honoring Ms. Sara Lu Christian's retirement as Director of Recreation and Parks.

By motion of Supervisor Martin and with the following vote, the Board adopted the Commemorative Resolution honoring Sara Lu Christian.

AYE: Ms. Moore, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Martin, Mr. Ayers and Mrs. Tucker

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Chair Moore presented the resolution to Ms. Christian and thanked her for her dedicated 32 years of service to Amherst County.

B. Second Stage/Amherst - Annual Report

Ms. Suny Monk, President of Second Stage, presented Second Stage's 2020 Annual Report to the Board. Ms. Monk provided an overview of accomplishments in 2020 and the plans for 2021. (See Attachment 1)

Ms. Monk delivered to the County Administrator the annual rental fee.

Board members congratulated Ms. Monk and Second Stage for its continued success.

## **VIII. Old Business**

### **A. Resolution 2021-0002-R, opposing boat landing access fees**

County Administrator Rodgers reported the General Assembly passed a bill in March 2020 that would allow the Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) to require citizens to obtain a permit to use a DWR facility. Mr. Rodgers proposed two questions to the Board; do we oppose the boat landing access fee, and do we terminate the County's agreement with DWR that addresses the maintenance on the upkeep of boat ramps in Amherst County?

Vice-Chair Pugh said that DWR is currently paying for the maintenance and upkeep on boat ramps, and this could become very expensive if the County terminated the agreement. He commented that if citizens have a hunting or fishing license they would be exempt from paying this fee.

Mr. Bill Tanger, Chair of the Friends of the Rivers of Virginia, provided the Board with additional information and answered questions concerning the "paddlers tax" and opposition to HB 1604.

By motion of Supervision Tucker and with the following vote, the Board approved the resolution supporting the rights of Amherst County citizens to access, without a fee, our lakes and rivers.

AYE: Ms. Moore, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Martin, Mr. Ayers and Mrs. Tucker

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

The Board directed the County Administrator to make an amendment to the resolution to reflect the revised wording approved by the Board.



**B. Riveredge Trail Grant Approval**

Community Development Director Jeremy Bryant presented information to the Board regarding an extension of the Riveredge Trail, Phase 3A. Mr. Bryant explained that the County was awarded a grant through the Recreational Trails Program of \$264,041.76 for the Riveredge Trail. He said the County's match of this grant would be \$66,010.44 and that money would be used for construction of approximately 500 linear feet of the trail.

By motion of Vice-Chair Pugh and with the following vote, the Board appropriated grant funds in the amount of \$264,041.76 and the county match of \$66,010.44 for the construction of Phase 3A of the Riveredge Trail extension project and authorized the County Administrator to sign the project agreement with the attached addendum.

AYE: Ms. Moore, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Martin, Mr. Ayers and Mrs. Tucker

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

**IX. New Business**

A. Amelon Commerce Center Lot 3

EDA Director Victoria Hanson presented information to the Board regarding Lot 3 at the Amelon Commence Center. She advised that businesses want “pad ready” sites and Lot 3 is a premiere site that provides a higher visibility for businesses. Lot 3 is owned by the County and not the EDA.

Ms. Hanson said she understood that Lot 3 was being held for a future EMS building, however, nothing has been done to the site. She proposed that the Board consider transferring the land to the EDA to market it or to give the EDA permission to remove the dirt off of the top to level and increase the lot size.

Supervisor Martin said the site was designated for a future EMS site and was still an item to consider. He said he did not have any issue with leveling the dirt off of Lot 3, but would not support transferring the lot to the EDA.

Vice-Chair Pugh said he would support transferring Lot 3 to the EDA and allow the EDA to market it as it was a great site for a new business. He believed the County could find another site for a future EMS building.

Chair Moore asked about the history of this site and the future EMS building. County Administrator Rodgers replied that this site has easy access and a good location for a fire station and increasing numbers of volunteers, however, the County decided not to move forward with construction of a fire station.

Supervisor Ayers agreed with Supervisor Martin to allow the EDA to remove the dirt from Lot 3, however, he was not in favor of transferring this site to the EDA.

By motion of Supervisor Ayers and with the following vote, the Board approved that Lot 3 remain as the property of the County in Amelon Industrial Park; and that the EDA utilize the dirt from that site to facilitate another site, as needed; and that appropriate measures are taken to ensure the site the dirt is removed from is stabilized once completed.

AYE: Ms. Moore, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Martin, Mr. Ayers and Mrs. Tucker

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

**B. Proposed Improvements to Coolwell Convenience Center**

Public Works Director Brian Thacker presented information to the Board regarding potential infrastructure improvements at Coolwell Convenience Center.

Mr. Thacker explained the Coolwell Convenience Center is the largest center in the County and there is a need for additional compactors, an additional entrance and repairs to the gate and fence.

Vice-Chair Pugh supported the expansion of the site and said it would save the County money to hire additional employees.

By motion of Vice-Chair Pugh and with the following vote, the Board proceeded with authorizing the funding of infrastructure improvements to the Coolwell Convenience Center.

AYE: Ms. Moore, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Martin, Mr. Ayers and Mrs. Tucker

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

**X. County Administrator's Report**

**A. Changes to County Holiday Calendar**

County Administrator Rodgers asked for the Board's confirmation to add an additional holiday to the County calendar. He advised that Lee-Jackson Day was eliminated and Juneteenth was created as a new holiday by the General Assembly in 2020. He said this change would be incorporated into the County's HR personnel manual.

By motion of Supervisor Ayers and with the following vote, the Board accepted the changes to HR Regulation 6.11 HOLIDAYS as presented.

AYE: Ms. Moore, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Martin, Mr. Ayers and Mrs. Tucker

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

**XI. County Attorney's Report**

County Attorney Lockaby advised the Board he would be contacting Registrar Francine Brown regarding a lease and insurance for the new voting precinct location at New Prospect Baptist Church.

**XII. Liaison and Committee Reports**

A. VML/VACo APCO Negotiations Steering Committee, January 22, 2021  
For information only.

B. Agricultural Complex - Ms. Claudia Tucker & Mr. Jimmy Ayers  
Supervisor Tucker reported she has received positive feedback from citizens regarding the proposed agricultural complex. She advised a meeting will be held with two members of the Nelson County Board of Supervisors and others to discuss the potential agricultural complex.

Supervisor Ayers remarked that there was a definite interest of both localities and he too has received very positive feedback.

### **XIII. Departmental Reports**

A. PPEA Procurement Project Report  
Deputy County Administrator/Purchasing Agent David Proffitt presented information to the Board regarding soliciting proposals for school and county HVAC maintenance services. He advised that the date has passed and he did not receive any comments on the proposal. He requested to proceed with negotiations with Southern Air and advised the School Board has asked to move forward with that proposal. Mr. Proffitt said an evaluation group has been formed and invited any Board members to participate.

### **XIV. Citizen Comment**

There was no public comment.



**XV. Matters from Members of the Board of Supervisors**

Supervisor Tucker had no matter to discuss.

Supervisor Martin requested the Community Development Director and the County Administrator provide an update on the status of Broadband in the County.

Supervisor Ayers had no matter to discuss.

Vice-Chair Pugh had no matter to discuss.

Chair Moore had no matter to discuss.

**XVI. Closed Session**

- A. A closed session, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(5), for the purpose of discussion concerning a prospective business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating its facilities in the County, specifically related to processes for determining suitability and potential locations for unannounced businesses.

Supervisor Tucker moved that the Amherst County Board of Supervisors convene in closed session pursuant Section 2.2-3711(A)(5), for the purpose of discussion concerning a prospective business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating its facilities in the County, specifically related to processes for determining suitability and potential locations for unannounced businesses.

AYE: Ms. Moore, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Martin, Mr. Ayers and Mrs. Tucker

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

## **XVII Certification of Closed Session**

Supervisor Tucker moved that the Amherst County Board of Supervisors certify by a recorded vote that, to the best of each Board member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and identified in the motion authorizing the closed session were heard, discussed, or considered in the closed session.

Ms. Moore AYE  
Mr. Pugh AYE  
Mr. Martin AYE  
Mr. Ayers AYE  
Mrs. Tucker AYE

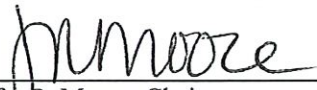
## **XVIII. Adjournment**

By motion of Supervisor Martin and with the following vote, the Board adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

AYE: Ms. Moore, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Martin, Mr. Ayers and Mrs. Tucker

NAY: None

ABSENT: None



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Jennifer R. Moore, Chair  
Amherst County Board of Supervisors



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Dean C. Rodgers, Clerk



## 2020 Annual Report

### OVERVIEW:

#### What we have accomplished in 2020:

- Most successful farm market since 2015, now open year round
- Fully funded food assistance programs
- Ongoing event programming, hosted outdoors and virtual
- Public events ready to roll out including adult and children's workshops and drive-in movies
- Tenant studios and offices at full capacity; rent abatement in force
- \$49,753 invested in capital Improvements
- State historic designation achieved, national recognition in process

#### What's ahead for 2021?

- Construction of coffee shop patio and interior painting coming in the spring
- Virtual cultural and educational programming
- Development of HumanKind daycare facility

#### INCOME:

\$20,593	Tenant Leases
\$4,550	Community Rentals
\$9,613	Donations
\$24,419	Local Government
\$2,835	State Government
\$77,750	Foundation Grants
\$17,539	Farmer's Market
\$3,023	Program Income

#### EXPENSES:

\$26,014	Operations and Payroll
\$100	Fees to Performers
\$11,381	Program Costs
\$11,913	Facilities
\$49,753	Capital Investment in Building
\$17,705	Farm Market

