



Agenda Item VIII. C.

Meeting Date: January 17, 2017

Department: County Administrator

Issue: **CVTC Resolution for General Assembly**

Board Action: The Board is being asked to adopt a resolution intended for the General Assembly.

Attachments: Proposed Resolution, 2017-0003-R

Summary: The Legislative Liaison retained by the County (Capital Results, LLC) to pursue funding and other authority to assist in the wise and successful disposition of unused CVTC property has worked closely with the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee to craft a resolution to be used by our region's legislative representatives in this year's General Assembly. The Liaison is also engaged in crafting the actual budget amendments that are needed for both the House and Senate.

The proposed resolution has been distributed to surrounding localities and regional organizations with a request that they adopt it, also.

Recommendation: That the Board adopt Resolution 2017-0003-R and direct the County Administrator to transmit it to members of our legislative delegation and inform surrounding localities of its adoption.



Amherst County Board of Supervisors
County Resolution No. 2017-0003-R

For consideration on January 17, 2017

A RESOLUTION, NO. 2017-0003-R

A resolution, expressing the belief of the Amherst County Board of Supervisors that it is the responsibility of the Commonwealth of Virginia to take certain specific actions relative to the Central Virginia Training Center to ensure its effective and efficient transition from active operation to disposition by the Commonwealth.

Approved as to form by the County Attorney

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF AMHERST, VIRGINIA:

I. That the Board of Supervisors of Amherst County hereby expresses its belief that it is the responsibility of the Commonwealth of Virginia to take certain specific actions relative to the Central Virginia Training Center to ensure its effective and efficient transition from active operation to disposition by the Commonwealth, as follows:

WHEREAS, in January 2012, Governor McDonnell announced the closure of four of Virginia's training centers over a ten-year period, and the continuation of the downsizing of a fifth center, pursuant to the Commonwealth's August 2012 settlement with the United States Department of Justice, and related matters; and

WHEREAS, the Central Virginia Training Center (the "Center") is scheduled to close by 2020, and may close earlier; and

WHEREAS, Center residents are among the most vulnerable and needy citizens requiring specialized care in our Commonwealth, and their family members are highly dependent on the services the Center provides; and

WHEREAS, it is as yet undetermined whether any portion of the Center will remain open to support those residents and their families, but it is certain that many buildings are no longer in use and large portions of the Center have never been used and will not ever be needed; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth still holds debt in excess of \$20 million on the property, and the Commonwealth manages a trust fund for the residents that must be supplemented in the near future; and

WHEREAS, delay in the gainful disposal of the Center's unneeded assets represents a great waste of Commonwealth resources, and if the Commonwealth is to maximize the financial potential of these unneeded assets to its own benefit and the benefit of Center residents and their families, it is only prudent to invest in the studies and demolition work needed so that the Commonwealth can move swiftly through the administrative processes needed to make the assets appealing to investors at their highest and best use; and

WHEREAS, the Center historically has been one of the largest employers in Region 2000, having a total economic impact for the Lynchburg MSA of 1,639 full-time equivalent jobs, \$53.6 million in labor income, and \$87.1 million in overall economic activity, and generating State and local tax revenue of \$3 million; and

WHEREAS, preparing the unused assets of the Center for redevelopment to fill the economic void its closure is creating does not preclude retaining part or all of the Center's current operations; and

WHEREAS, an economic and an environmental analysis are both needed and advisable given the significant economic disruption the Center's closing will have on the Region 2000 community, and given the community's vested interest in the Center's future use; and

WHEREAS, the Amherst County Board of Supervisors continues to insist that the Commonwealth inform itself regarding the environmental issues associated with the Center, take responsibility to resolve those issues, remove derelict structures with no present or future value, and undertake those planning and marketing efforts necessary to maximize proceeds from the Commonwealth's disposal of the unneeded assets at the facility; and

WHEREAS, our local delegation of state Senators and Delegates have worked to protect the Center's patients and continue to advocate on their behalf; and they are aware that the Commonwealth includes carrying costs of maintaining the facility to inflate the cost of care per patient to justify closure; and

WHEREAS, the Region's legislative delegation want to work to find solutions to bring the highest quality care for the Center's patients, while also finding ways to lower the cost per patient by supporting a process to declare unneeded assets that negatively impact the Center; and

WHEREAS, the Region's legislative delegation, and its local government officials also urge the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health & Development Services to declare the Center's excess property to the Virginia Department of General Services in order to begin the property disposition process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF AMHERST, VIRGINIA:

That the Board of Supervisors of Amherst County asserts that it is the responsibility of the Commonwealth, with regard to the Central Virginia Training Center, to:

1. Fund the necessary environmental investigative, assessment, and rehabilitation studies to gainfully market the Center's unused property to prospective developers for use at the property's highest and best potential through an amendment to the Virginia 2017 budget.

2. Direct its agencies, through budget language in the Virginia 2017 budget, to partner with local economic development agencies to move swiftly through the administrative processes to sell or find alternative uses for the excess property of the Center.

3. Fund the demolition and removal of structures and hazards that have no present or future value.

4. Fund planning and marketing efforts to maximize the return of value for the unneeded assets of the Center.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Board of Supervisors is committed to finding solutions to grow economic opportunities around the Center that will also help enhance the community for patients, families, and the Center's employees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Board of Supervisors will work to support the legislative and state budget initiatives introduced by the Region's legislative delegation to keep the necessary portions of Center open for as long as feasibly possible, while working alongside the relevant Commonwealth agencies to implement the economic opportunities and growth that will positively benefit our shared communities.

II. That this resolution shall be in force and effect upon adoption.

Adopted this 17th day of January, 2017.

Claudia D. Tucker, Chair
Amherst County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Dean C. Rodgers, Clerk
Amherst County Board of Supervisors

Ayes ____

Nays ____

Abstentions ____