



Agenda Item V. C.

Meeting Date: June 6, 2017

Office: County Attorney

Issue: **Commemorative Resolution for Dan French**

Board Action: The Board is being asked to adopt a Commemorative Resolution.

Attachment: Commemorative Resolution 2017-0003-CR

Summary: A commemorative resolution, honoring the service of Dan E. French, Director of Public Utilities, to Amherst County for the period November 1, 1980, to June 30, 2017.

Recommendation: That the Board adopt Commemorative Resolution 2017-0003-CR and direct the Clerk to prepare a framed version for presentation.



Amherst County Board of Supervisors
County Commemorative Resolution No. 2017-0003-CR

For consideration on June 6, 2017

A COMMEMORATIVE RESOLUTION, NO. 2017-0003-CR

A commemorative resolution, honoring the service of Dan E. French, Director of Public Utilities, to Amherst County for the period November 1, 1980, to June 30, 2017.

Approved as to form by the Amherst 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 honors the long and dedicated service of Dan E. French, Director of Public Utilities, to Amherst County, as follows:

WHEREAS, consistent and reliable access to good quality water, and appropriate treatment and disposal of wastewater, together are a vital necessity for functioning and effective communities; and

WHEREAS, Dan E. French joined the Madison Heights Sanitary District, later to become the Amherst County Service Authority ("ACSA"), on November 1, 1980, and rose to the Director's position two years later upon the retirement of Henry L. Lanum, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Mr. French guided the ACSA through its conversion from the Madison Heights Sanitary District into the critical community utility it is today, overseeing an increase in service area and in population served to levels more than twice their original size, during trying times that include central Virginia's worst-ever drought in 2002, and the severe economic recession that began in 2008; and

WHEREAS, Mr. French is a Virginia-licensed Class I Water Operator and Class I Wastewater Operator, and, as an adjunct instructor of water purification and wastewater treatment classes at Central Virginia Community College for 35 years, and of wastewater treatment classes at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University ("Virginia Tech") for 40 years, has taught hundreds of people about effective water and wastewater treatment methods; and

WHEREAS, as a result of his excellent instruction — which was feted at a ceremony at Virginia Tech in March 2017 — those licensed operators now contribute to the protection of public health and the environment in Amherst County, and in many other communities and businesses across the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Mr. French's leadership also has resulted in ACSA's being recognized by state and federal agencies, including receiving two awards for public water supply watershed protection from the

United States Environmental Protection Agency, and annual recognition by the Virginia Department of Health for the quality of drinking water provided by ACSA to its water customers; and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with routine daily utility operations, Mr. French also has overseen implementation of several significant projects which have ensured that Amherst County for nearly four decades has benefitted from consistent high quality processes in the treatment, storage, and distribution of its drinking water, and in the collection, treatment, and disposal of its wastewater; and

WHEREAS, some examples of those projects include:

- Developing ACSA's first unified water/wastewater facility plan and master specifications and construction standards for water and sewer facilities;
- Expanding water and sewer services into undeveloped and under-served developed areas, to promote public health and a better quality of life for County residents;
- Establishing a third raw water source for potable treatment, with an intake from James River during Virginia's record-breaking 2002 drought to ensure an uninterrupted supply of clean water to County residents and promote County growth and development;
- Enlarging Graham Creek Reservoir, the water plant's secondary raw water source, more than doubling its raw water storage capacity;
- Maintaining water quality at the Reservoir such that the water can be treated so as to render it potable, by acquiring properties to buffer the Reservoir from contamination and developing a watershed protection program that has twice received national recognition;
- Stabilizing the north bank of James River to prevent a potential rupture of ACSA's raw sewage force main crossing the James River to the Lynchburg wastewater treatment plant, and to protect Madison Heights's major sanitary sewer along the river; and
- Improving the water treatment processes at the Henry L. Lanum, Jr. Water Filtration Plant in 2010, and preparing the facility for its next potable water production capacity increase.

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

That the Board of Supervisors of Amherst County hereby recognizes the impending retirement of Dan E. French as Amherst County Director of Public Utilities, and expresses its most grateful and heartfelt thanks for the 37 years of service Mr. French has dedicated to Amherst County.

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

Adopted this 6th day of June, 2017.

Claudia D. Tucker, Chair
Amherst County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Dean C. Rodgers, Clerk
Amherst County Board of Supervisors