

VIRGINIA: AT THE CONTINUATION MEETING OF THE DINWIDDIE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HELD IN THE MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM OF THE PAMPLIN ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, DINWIDDIE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, ON THE 17TH DAY OF AUGUST 1999, AT 7:30 P.M.

PRESENT: LEENORA V. EVERETT, CHAIRMAN ELECTION DISTRICT #3
AUBREY S. CLAY, VICE-CHAIRMAN ELECTION DISTRICT #5
EDWARD A. BRACEY, JR. ELECTION DISTRICT #4
HARRISON A. MOODY ELECTION DISTRICT #1
DONALD L. HARAWAY ELECTION DISTRICT #2

IN RE: CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. LeeNora V. Everett, Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

IN RE: CHAIRMAN OPENING REMARKS

Mrs. Everett proceeded to read from the letter sent to Mrs. Troilen Seward, Superintendent of Schools, containing items the School Board should be prepared to discuss at this meeting. The items are as follows:

- 1) An update on how the maintenance items discussed at the May joint meeting with the School Board have been addressed.
 - 2) The status of the punch list for the three existing School projects and when they will be completed.
 - 3) An overview of the plans for the new maintenance building and the new physical education building to be located at Southside.
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IN RE: CALL TO ORDER – SCHOOL BOARD

Mr. Maitland requested a moment to call the meeting of the Dinwiddie County School Board to order.

IN RE: OPENING REMARKS – SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mrs. Everett stated Mrs. Seward had made arrangements to have the above listed items discussed and turned the meeting over to her.

Mrs. Seward stated she had invited Mr. Billy Upton and staff of Ballou, Justice, Upton, to be present to address the Boards on one big issue, which she wished to discuss regarding Dinwiddie Elementary. This item was the generator and the wiring for that area.

IN RE: MAINTENANCE OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS

Mrs. Seward stated she was going to back up and address the maintenance issue continuing they are still struggling with those issues. She further stated they had met with Marriott twice and Marriott had collected a great deal of information. Marriott is currently processing all of that information and should be back shortly to make a presentation to see what options, if any, Marriott might offer Dinwiddie County. Mrs. Seward stated the School Board is very hopeful that at one level that they can look at training and supervision. At this point that is where the School Board stands on the maintenance issue.

**IN RE: MAINTENANCE AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION BUILDINGS
SOUTHSIDE ELEMENTARY**

Mrs. Seward turned the meeting over to Mr. Upton and staff for the presentation of the plans for the maintenance and physical education buildings to be placed at Southside Elementary. The physical education building will be metal and partial block and the maintenance building will be constructed entirely of metal.

There was discussion on the size, ceiling height, showers, toilets, cost, time line for construction, materials used in construction, life expectancy and the current and future use of the buildings. Currently the buildings will be used as maintenance space and also to house P.E. at Southside Elementary. The P.E. building will provide some space because the cafeteria at Southside will be used to feed eight hundred and some children, which they have been doing in four rooms. The room designed for the cafeteria at Southside Elementary has been being used for P.E. space.

Mrs. Seward explained the School Board was looking at leasing some modulars to put out with what they are calling "modular city" to house P.E. As they got into that they realized that they could, for just a little more money, put something that they could have permanently. That is how the School Board moved into that after the lottery money came through.

The P. E. building/room will be 100 X 60 with 12' ceilings. There was concern regarding the basketball goals. It was explained, by Ballou, Justice, Upton staff, that for elementary schools the basket only needs to be 8'. The shower and toilet facilities are needed for the special classes for handicap youngsters. The cost of the two-(2) buildings in round figures is \$674,000. It is estimated the construction time will be 5 ½ months and they hope to be finished with the P. E. building by February 2000. It was estimated the building will last 25 to 30 years with good maintenance.

RE: DINWIDDIE ELEMENTARY

Mr. Upton moved forward to discuss the Dinwiddie Elementary renovation project closing in on the generator and wiring of some areas for use as an emergency shelter. Mr. Upton stated he wanted to be sure exactly what the County wanted prior to placing the project out for bid. The estimated additional cost for the generator and wiring is \$150,000. If additional services and or space will need power from the generator the cost will exceed the \$150,000. estimated figure.

There were questions posed regarding the area, the systems [heating, air conditioning, communications] the County wished the generator to operate, and the responsibility of maintenance on the system.

After a heated discussion it was decided to place the generator issue as an alternate bid. If the price comes back right they will keep it in, if not it can be pulled out.

Mr. Upton pointed out to the Boards that this did not constitute a true emergency shelter because that was much more detailed.

Mr. Bracey asked how much additional space we would be gaining through the renovation of Dinwiddie Elementary.

He was informed eight (8) classrooms or a total of two hundred (200) students.

IN RE: 4 SAFE VA PROGRAM

Mrs. Seward continued that Governor Gilmore had taken a number of steps to promote the safety of the Commonwealth's school children. These included a partnership with Bell Atlantic of Virginia, GTE, and the Virginia Information Providers Network to establish the 4 SAFE VA program. 4 SFAE VA offers the following options: a toll-free telephone number and/or on-line reporting, so that students can report safety concerns to adults in authority. Mrs. Seward recommended to the Board that the County participate in this program with the toll-free telephone line.

Mr. Bracey suggested it be taken to the Sheriff first because they would be handling the calls. There was a concern expressed about whether this would place an additional burden on existing personnel at the Sheriff's Office.

Upon Motion of Mr. Bracey, Seconded by Mr. Clay, Mr. Moody, Mr. Bracey, Mr. Haraway, Mr. Clay, Mrs. Everett voting "Aye",

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Dinwiddie County, Virginia that authorization is granted to the Dinwiddie County School Board to move forward with including Dinwiddie County in Governor Gilmore's 4 SAFE VA program at no cost to Dinwiddie County.

IN RE: PUNCH LIST ITEMS AT DINWIDDIE MIDDLE SCHOOL AND MIDWAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mr. Long asked Mrs. Seward to give a brief update on the punch list items that were discussed at the last joint meeting of the Boards.

Mrs. Seward asked if Mr. Upton was still here and if so she would like to have him address that because there are umpteen different lists because of the way these projects were phased.

Mrs. Seward stated she could tell the Board about two (2) big outstanding issues that are still there – the tile at the Middle School and sound from the units at Midway Elementary.

Mrs. Everett asked Mrs. Seward if she could explain briefly what the situation was opening day.

Mrs. Seward stated she felt they would be ready for opening day. They had an anticipated enrollment of 4150 – last year ended with 4168.

Mr. Clay asked about teachers, stating that last he heard 34 were needed. He wanted to know if she had them.

Mrs. Seward stated that actually she ended up needing 50 teachers. She still needs 5 teachers. She stated they had to hire one long-term sub. She has hired some provisional licensed people – more than usual.

Mrs. Everett stated she had a concern brought to her from both current and retired teachers regarding their insurance and some doctors that will no longer accept Healthkeepers.

There was discussion regarding this issue and promises to investigate the matter.

Mr. Haraway stated a call to the insurance company stating a large number of their female employees use this group/doctor and when renewal time comes around this will have to be taken into consideration; it will hold a lot of weight with the insurance company.

Mr. Upton took the floor to address the punch list items. He explained it seemed there was some concern over the fact that there seems to be on going lists of things that need to be done. As the Boards know there is more than one (1) school, a total of three (3) schools, and what makes it even more complex than that is that they are phased projects. When you work on the schools and the team is leaving there and then they are coming back later and working on the project again. Any time they work on an area there are certain protocols that they have to go through. It is a constant procedure. When the project is substantially complete the building can be occupied. Then punch lists are made and items are worked on. When a project is done in phases, they work, go out, and then come back in again when the next phase begins. Again the process of punch lists etc must be done. Also warranty plays a part. The clients make a punch list and the architectural firms also compile a punch list of items for correction by the contractor. He explained the longer you keep a contractor working on a project the longer warranty time you will have. He stated some items get drawn out more than we would like but everything is going real well. There are two (2) problems that they are concerned about; one is the tile and they think they know what is going on there. They know pretty close what is happening there. They are planning to do one more test to verify something else that they suspect is the case. That is basically a core sample through the concrete to see where they rutted out the concrete if they put the vapor barrier under there where they were supposed to. They suspect that they are getting on going moisture and they may not have put it in these patched areas. The other problem is the air conditioning. Based on the information that he has right now he feels their team did not do as good a job as they should have done. He is getting a price from the contractor to get it repaired. He will then send it to their HVAC guy stating to them that they have to fix this problem and if they can not prove that it was someone else's obligation it is going to be their obligation.

Mr. Upton stated Midway Elementary School interior is 100% complete.

Mr. Bracey asked if the problem at Midway with the tile had been solved? This tile is located in the main hall and in approximately six (6) classrooms. Mr. Bracey stated the black glue is coming through.

Mr. Upton stated he had been informed that problem had been resolved.

Mr. Bracey also asked what was done to resolve the problem?

Mr. Upton stated he did not know for sure because he was not there.

Mr. Bracey stated the only thing he knew that could be done was to pull the tile up and redo the floor. He stated they used the wrong glue or too much glue. He continued that the other problem at Midway was that there are two (2) different color tiles in the floor. They did not come from the same lot number.

IN RE: REMARKS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Mrs. Everett suggested they go around the table and have each person ask questions or voice concerns he or she might have.

Mr. Clay – He stated he had no questions or comments.

Mr. Haraway – He stated he had no questions or comments.

Mr. Moody – He questioned the High School roof and wanted to know if it had been taken care of.

Mr. Upton stated the High School is not complete on the interior but it is about 90% complete on the interior.

Mrs. Seward stated she could not remember what they said at the last meeting but the construction company got rid of the roofer that they had and they now have a company on board that they have hired to patch the holes. The entire roof is being replaced. KBS will be coming back to fix the ceiling in the cafeteria after the roof is complete. The cafeteria and library are the two-(2) areas they are concentrating on because these are the areas where the most trouble has been.

Mr. Moody asked about janitorial or maintenance issues.

Mrs. Seward stated they would have a report after their next meeting with Marriott.

Mr. Long - He had no questions or comments.

Mrs. Ralph - She had no questions or comments.

Mr. Faison - He had no questions or comments.

Mr. Walker - He had no questions or comments.

Mr. Maitland - He had no questions or comments.

Mrs. Fisher- She had no questions or comments.

Mr. Bracey - Mr. Bracey still had concerns about the maintenance at the schools. He still had concerns about the feet on the chairs at the Middle School which were making black marks on the floor. Knobs or new feet needed to be ordered for the chairs. He asked if that had been done.

Mrs. Seward informed him that that they had not been ordered.

Mr. Bracey stated they are going to have the same problem again when the children return to school. He stated he felt the janitors had done the very best that they could do with what they had to work with. Again he stated those marks are going to be right back in that floor. Mr. Perkins, Principal at the Middle School, had told him that they were supposed to get some new feet for those chairs.

Mrs. Everett stated she knew they were meeting with Marriott but also they had asked them to make an inventory of equipment and what the equipment needs were. We knew the equipment was not adequate to do the maintenance in the schools. She asked Mrs. Seward if that list had been developed?

Mrs. Seward stated she had two (2) equipment lists on her desk right now which represent a lot of money.

If at the end of September, when they do the adjusted ADM, if she has some money in that she is going to buy some equipment with that money. She stated they did not budget for that kind of equipment.

Mrs. Everett stated she thought the Board said they knew that you did not have the equipment to do the job that you needed. The Board wanted her to come back with a list of what equipment the schools really needed and they seemed to indicate that they were going to help out.

Mr. Bracey stated he would like for Mrs. Seward to understand that Mrs. Everett said that. We said we understood the equipment seemed to be one of the major problems. He stated he did not see too much of a problem with the workers. He stated they did not have supervision and they did not have equipment. We did not say we were going to purchase high price equipment –

Mrs. Everett interrupted Mr. Bracey stating she thought they did say that they did not have the needed basic equipment that we had to have for these schools. She stated she was not talking about glorified equipment, she was talking about basic needs being met.

Mr. Barnes-

He stated he was thinking back five (5) or six (6) years when we started out here. He stated he was amazed at what they had accomplished. It has been tough and it has taken a lot out of a lot of people. It was a lot of hard work. When you compile SOL scores, safety, - watching those children go back into that school in Colorado – it makes you think as a Board member, it makes you think as a parent and it gets tougher everyday. These are the things that he deals with first – safety; test scores and trying to stay competitive and trying to get good people into your school system. He stated he thanked the Board for their cooperation.

The School Board offered to host the next meeting, suggesting maybe the meeting could be held at Southside Elementary in November.

Mrs. Everett -

She stated we have got to keep working to make our salaries competitive.

Mrs. Seward stated she would like to make a comment on that and she did not want to say too much because she wanted to surprise the teachers when they get together. She stated they made phenomenal gains in our SOL test scores this year. Dinwiddie's gains were so great that the State is asking them to work with one of the best practice centers and is also asking Dinwiddie County to share, at the State Expo this year, what they have done to get their scores up by the percentages that they had. The State had done an analysis of all the divisions test scores and needless to say Mrs. Seward

expressed that she was very excited to receive that letter. She further stated when she was thinking that she is going to have fifty-(50) new teachers on board in September and they have to all start at ground zero with those SOL's. She knows that they are going to take a step back. Every time we get people prepared and they do two (2) or three (3) years and they have mastered something then she loses them then she steps back; it is like taking two (2) steps forward and one (1) step back. That does concern her, she has great concern about that.

Mr. Bracey -

He stated he had one other question and then he had to go. He stated he thought there was a problem – well not a problem – there was some question regarding what role that Mr. Faison was playing in this project. He stated he thought at their meeting that the Board wanted Mr. Faison to be a part of that Dinwiddie project so that we won't have a lot of these problems that we are having. It seems as if that has brought about problems. He would like to know what role Mr. Faison is supposed to play in having these things looked at before they are actually done. How many times do we call Mr. Faison for the initial stuff that this Company has done right now on this school.

Mrs. Seward stated Mr. Bracey could blame her for that. She stated she understood that it would be like it was before.

Mr. Bracey stated and asked Mrs. Seward if she remembered him telling her one of the School Board members stepped in on that. Mr. Bracey stated that if we can not work with Mr. Faison then he is going to have to draw his hand back.

There was considerable discussion between Mr. Bracey, Mrs. Everett, Mrs. Seward, Mr. Walker, Mrs. Fisher, and Mr. Barnes with no action taken.

Mr. Bracey left the meeting.

IN RE: ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Mr. Clay, seconded by Mr. Haraway, Mr. Moody, Mr. Haraway, Mr. Clay, Mrs. Everett voting "aye", the meeting adjourned at 8:56 P.M.



LeeNora V. Everett, Chairman

ATTEST:



R. Martin Long, County Administrator

/pam