

Board of Supervisors, January 11, 2021

A meeting of the Board of Supervisors was held in and for the County of Mecklenburg on January 11, 2021, at 9:30 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors meeting room of the Goode Bank Building.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Glenn Barbour, Chairman; Glanzy Spain, Jr., Vice-Chairman; David Brankley; Andy Hargrove; Jim Jennings; Charles Jones; Tom Tanner

MEMBERS ABSENT: Claudia Lundy; Sterling Wilkinson

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Upon motion of Mr. Spain, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2020, Board Meeting. Supervisors Barbour, Spain, Brankley, Hargrove, Jennings, Jones, and Tanner voted 'aye'.

Chairman Barbour added Item F-7, COVID Update, to the Agenda.

Upon motion of Mr. Jones, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as amended. Supervisors Barbour, Spain, Brankley, Hargrove, Jennings, Jones, and Tanner voted 'aye'.

The Chairman announced that the first meeting in January, 2021, is designated as the organizational meeting for the Board of Supervisors. The County Attorney, Russell Slaton, as Parliamentarian, presided over this portion of the meeting.

Mr. Slayton stated that the offices of Chairman and Vice-Chairman would be elected to serve a one-year term at the onset of the organizational meeting.

The County Attorney announced that the floor was now open for nominations.

Mr. Hargrove nominated Mr. Barbour to serve as Chairman and Mr. Spain to serve as Vice-Chairman.

Mr. Slayton stated that with no further nominations, the nominations would be closed.

By a unanimous vote, Mr. Barbour was elected as Chairman and Mr. Spain was elected as Vice-Chairman. Supervisors Barbour, Spain, Brankley, Hargrove, Jennings, Jones, and Tanner voted 'aye'.

Upon a motion of Mr. Jennings, the Board voted to accept the following schedule of meetings for the Year 2021. Supervisors Barbour, Spain, Brankley, Hargrove, Jennings, Jones, and Tanner voted 'aye'.

MECKLENBURG COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

2021 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

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<u>January 11th</u>	<u>9:30 AM</u>
<u>February 8th</u>	<u>9:30 AM</u>
<u>March 8th</u>	<u>7:00 PM</u>
<u>April 12th</u>	<u>9:30 AM</u>
<u>May 10th</u>	<u>9:30 AM</u>
<u>June 14th</u>	<u>7:00 PM</u>
<u>July 12th</u>	<u>9:30 AM</u>
<u>August 9th</u>	<u>9:30 AM</u>
<u>September 13th</u>	<u>7:00 PM</u>
* <u>October 12th</u>	<u>9:30 AM</u>
* <u>November 1st</u>	<u>9:30 AM</u>
<u>December 13th</u>	<u>7:00 PM</u>

Commented [JW1]: Date has been corrected

* October 11th is a State Holiday

* VACo Conference - November 7th-9th

All meetings are held at 350 Washington Street in Boydton, Virginia at the Goode Bank Building in the Board of Supervisor's Meeting Room.

Upon a motion of Mr. Tanner, the Board voted to adopt Robert Rules of Order and those rules previously adopted by the Board. Supervisors Barbour, Spain, Brankley, Hargrove, Jennings, Jones, and Tanner voted 'aye'.

A public hearing was held on the application by Microsoft Corporation to rezone 13.97 acres from Agriculture to Industrial M-1, located within the Microsoft BN Campus to allow for a circular cloud processing center. This property, identified as County Tax Number 090000-((A))-024B, zoned Agriculture, is located on the east side of highway 660 (Old Cox Road) approximately one tenth (1/10) mile south of its intersection with highway 608 (Ridge Road),

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Boydton District, Election District 7, County of Mecklenburg. Reference Deed Book LR-20-1761.

Mr. Jimmy Eppes, with B & B Consultants, was present to answer questions on behalf of Microsoft. He stated that this parcel was the residual from a previous land transaction and was not previously rezoned with the other parcels.

There was no public comment.

The public hearing was closed.

Upon a motion of Mr. Tanner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the application by Microsoft Corporation to rezone 13.97 acres from Agriculture to Industrial M-1, located within the Microsoft BN Campus to allow for a circular cloud processing center with the following recommendations. Supervisors Barbour, Spain, Brankley, Hargrove, Jennings, Jones, and Tanner voted 'aye'.

1. The re-zoning would allow future industrial development in the area.
2. It will not be detrimental to the public welfare.
3. It will not affect adversely the health or safety of persons or the neighborhood of the purposed use.
4. The site is located within Microsoft BN Campus.

A public hearing was held on the application by The Friends of The Meherrin River (John Janson) to amend Article 20 (Solar Ordinance) sections 20.5, 20.1, 20.4, 20.7, and 20.8.

Mr. Janson, attorney for the Friends of the Meherrin River, was not present at the Board meeting but was present at the Planning Commission meeting to answer questions. Mr. Janson advised the commission that the Friends of the Meherrin River had concerns on the development of new solar projects. Mr. Janson advised that their concerns were: the contamination of wells, sediment runoff going into the Meherrin River, and with the amount of erosion and sediment runoff that takes place during the development of solar projects.

There was no public comment.

The public hearing was closed.

Upon a motion of Mr. Brankley, the Board voted unanimously to deny the application by The Friends of The Meherrin River (John Janson) to amend Article 20 (Solar Ordinance) sections 20.5, 20.1, 20.4, 20.7, and 20.8, with the following recommendations. Supervisors Barbour, Spain, Brankley, Hargrove, Jennings, Jones, and Tanner voted 'aye'.

1. Mecklenburg County currently has a solar ordinance that was approved November 6, 2017 and is consistent with the current comprehensive plan.
2. The current solar ordinance covers many of the requested amendments.
3. Stormwater Management Plans and Erosion and Sediment Control Plans are developed and approved under state regulations.
4. The county requires a bond on decommission for the life of the project.

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5. The county requires a bond on the erosion and sediment control plan and the Stormwater Management Program.
6. The developer is required to complete an impact study of the area.

Mr. Barbour stated that discussion of the removal of the Courthouse Statue had been deferred from last month to give staff time to gather information on a site to relocate the statue and the relocation cost. Mr. Carter stated that the Town of Boydton had requested the statue and is proposing placing it on the property at the Presbyterian Church Cemetery in Boydton. He contacted Mr. James Jefferson with Newsom Monument Company and he also contacted Baxter Bailey to see if he knew of anyone that would be interested in bidding on the removal and relocation. Mr. Bailey gave Mr. Carter the name of a sculptor that helped move the monuments in Richmond. Mr. Jefferson has already relocated a statue for Brunswick County and has been approved by Greenville County to remove their statue. Mr. Jefferson has provided Mecklenburg County a bid for the removal and relocation of the statue in the amount of \$62,300.00; which, also includes the price of the foundation. This is the same price quoted to Greenville County.

The Board discussed that the statue would be donated to the Town of Boydton and that the County would absorb the cost of the removal and relocation of the statue. Mr. Brankley stated that it was his understanding that the statue would be donated to the Sons of the Confederacy and that they would work with the Town of Boydton on the placement of the statue. Mr. Slayton stated that the Town of Boydton is a favored recipient and has requested the statue in writing, and that the Sons of the Confederacy are not a favored recipient but that they are working together. Mr. Brankley is worried that if the Town of Boydton decides in the future that they do not want the statue, then the Sons of the Confederacy would not have a say in the process of the relocation of the statue at that time.

Upon a motion of Mr. Spain, the Board voted that the County's ownership interest in the Confederate monument be transferred to the Town of Boydton and the Sons of the Confederacy, jointly, conditioned on the monument being relocated and placed in the Boydton Presbyterian Church Cemetery. Supervisors Barbour, Spain, Hargrove, Jones, and Tanner voted 'aye'. Supervisors Brankley and Jennings voted 'naye'.

Mr. Jennings expressed, as a steward of County money, his concern regarding the cost of the removal and relocation of the Courthouse Statue provided in the bid by Newsom Monument Company. Based on work he has personally had performed in the past, he feels this price is very high.

Upon a motion of Mr. Jones, the Board voted unanimously to reject the bid by Newsom Monument Company in the amount of \$62,300.00 for the removal and relocation of the Courthouse Statue. Supervisors Barbour, Spain, Brankley, Hargrove, Jennings, Jones, and Tanner voted 'aye'.

Upon a motion of Mr. Tanner, the Board voted unanimously to direct staff to issue an invitation to bid through the Virginia Public Procurement Act for the removal and relocation of the

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Courthouse Statue. Supervisors Barbour, Spain, Brankley, Hargrove, Jennings, Jones, and Tanner voted 'aye'.

The Budget & Finance Committee met on Monday, January 11, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors Meeting Room.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Glanzy Spain, Chairman; Charles Jones; David Brankley; Jim Jennings

ALSO PRESENT: Glenn Barbour; Andy Hargrove; Tom Tanner; Wayne Carter, County Administrator; Judy Sheffield; Ed Taylor

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

Mr. Carter presented a supplemental appropriation from Michelle Gordon, Clerk of Circuit Court. Her office received a grant from the Library of Virginia in the amount of \$16,747.50 for record preservation. She is requesting those funds be appropriated to the Microfilming line item in the Circuit Court Budget.

Upon a motion of Mr. Brankley, the Committee unanimously recommends a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$16,747.50 to the Microfilm line item in the Circuit Court Budget.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Upon a motion of Mr. Spain, the Board voted unanimously to approve a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$16,747.50 to the Microfilm line item in the Circuit Court Budget.

Under the County Administrator's report:

Mr. Carter stated that the Building Inspector's report showed that the building permits was up. The Zoning Administrator's report also shows the number of zoning permits was up from last year. The Animal Warden's report was included in the packet. Approximately 75% of all dogs picked up were adopted out or returned to their owner. The Sheriff's Office reports and VDOT report were included in the packet. There was also a report from the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services regarding gypsy moth. There have been four locations identified in the County that contain gypsy moth and those locations will be treated.

Mr. Jon Taylor updated the Board on the CARES Act and COVID. President Trump signed new CARES Act legislation into law that gave an extension of one year to take care of CARES Act funding. All localities have been struggling to meet the deadline of December 31, 2020. There are currently 173 active COVID cases in the County. This is the highest the numbers have been without an outbreak. This is all community spread and is much worse than before when there were one or two places that accounted for those numbers. It is now throughout the county. There have been 120 first responders that have been vaccinated. This includes EMS and Fire personnel. They started with some law enforcement personnel last week. This process is based on the number of vaccine doses that the Health Department receives and the pace that they can administer the vaccines.

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Mr. Carter informed the Board that the County had finally received the vaccine protocol guidelines from the State. Links to that information will be put on the County's website. Fiber projects were also a large part of the county's CARES Act funding. There are three projects that are currently under construction throughout the county. The CARES Act funding extension greatly helps these projects. They were being pushed to complete these projects in a timely manner.

Chairman Barbour advised that the term of Ms. Lisa Gillispie on the Mecklenburg/Brunswick Regional Airport Commission will expire on January 30, 2021. Ms. Gillispie is eligible for re-appointment.

Upon a motion of Mr. Jennings, the Board voted unanimously to re-appoint Ms. Gillispie to serve another term on the Mecklenburg/Brunswick Regional Airport Commission. Supervisors Barbour, Spain, Brankley, Hargrove, Jennings, Jones, and Tanner voted 'aye'.

Chairman Barbour stated that two resolutions were being presented. The first honoring Mr. Jeff Hinkle for his years of service with the Roanoke River Service Authority and the other honoring Mrs. Denise Hight for her years of service with the Farm Services Agency.

Following is the resolution that will be presented to Mr. Jeff Hinkle.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the Mecklenburg County Board of Supervisors does hereby wish to honor Mr. Jeff Hinkle for his 40 years of service to the citizens of Mecklenburg County, and;

Whereas, Mr. Hinkle has served the community, first with the Town of South Hill and later as the Superintendent of the Roanoke River Service Authority, and in both capacities he led a team of dedicated employees who provided potable water to its citizens and our community, and;

Whereas, by providing this service, he helped promote the county through continued economic development by assuring reliable and clean water to residents, businesses, and industries, which allowed our County and its Towns continued prosperity;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Mecklenburg County Board of Supervisors does hereby wish to honor Mr. Jeff Hinkle upon his retirement and for his years of service to the citizens of Mecklenburg County in providing a safe and reliable water system.

Following is the resolution that will be presented to Mrs. Denise Hight.

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RESOLUTION

Whereas, the Mecklenburg County Board of Supervisors does hereby wish to honor Mrs. Denise L. Hight upon her retirement as the Mecklenburg County Farm Services Agency's Executive Director, and;

Whereas, Mrs. Hight has worked for the Farm Services Agency for over 31 years helping producers in Mecklenburg County and Vance/Warren Counties in North Carolina to learn about the many programs available to benefit their operations, and;

Whereas, through her leadership she was able to obtain funding from the Emergency Conservation Program, which enabled farmers to repair sod waterways and return washed out topsoil to our fields after the rains in the spring of 2018, and;

Whereas, Mrs. Hight helped farmers understand the many disaster programs available such as the Wildfire and Hurricane Indemnity Program in 2018 and 2019; also, she assisted with crop loss payments of \$1,593,552.50 as well as the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program in 2020 in the amount of \$3,512,438.63;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Mecklenburg County Board of Supervisors does hereby wish to honor Mrs. Denise Hight upon her retirement and for her years of service to the farmers and agricultural producers in Mecklenburg County.

Upon motion of Mr. Spain, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar as it relates to the December bills list. Supervisors Barbour, Spain, Brankley, Hargrove, Jennings, Jones, and Tanner voted 'aye'.

There was no public comment received via email.

Under Board Member matters:

Mr. Hargrove stated that Mr. Tanner had sent him a text regarding a video that aired on Channel 6 regarding Mr. George Sizemore, who turned 101. The Board honored Mr. Sizemore last year for reaching the milestone of turning 100. The video spoke of the Mr. Sizemore's family and his history. Mr. Sizemore is a dear friend of Mr. Hargrove's that, prior to COVID, did a lot of work with Mr. Hargrove in their Church. Mr. Hargrove also stated that he was thankful for Mr. Barbour and Mr. Spain and their responsibility for the New Year. Mr. Hargrove is also thankful to have another year to work with his constituents and friends.

Mr. Jennings stated this virus still has everything sideways and is now in the community. We do not know when this will be resolved. He appreciates what everyone is doing to prevent the

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spread of the virus and hopes that the vaccine will soon be available to everyone that wants it. Mr. Jennings read a preliminary bill going to the General Assembly now regarding recreational marijuana. He does not feel that it does anyone any good but wanted to share the information with the Board. He stated that this bill could be passed very easily.

Mr. Jones stated he would like to see everyone calm down from the elections and the mess in DC. He wishes everyone would stop the viciousness and come together; he would like to see our nation come together. People can talk to each other about their differences in a constructive manner.

Mr. Tanner congratulated Mr. Barbour and Mr. Spain on being re-elected as Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Board. He stated that the pandemic is still front and center and that a lot of people in the county are being affected by it. The children are still learning virtually, but he feels they need to be back in school; they need the social interaction. We all need social interaction. He agreed with Mr. Jones. We all need to learn how to treat people and how to respect differences of opinion. Mr. Tanner thanked Mr. Carter and his staff for all of their hard work. Saturday was National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day so Mr. Tanner thanked all Law Enforcement throughout the state for their service.

Mr. Brankley thanked Mr. Barbour and Mr. Spain for their leadership in the past and going forward. He stated that it was a shame that we cannot invite Washington leaders to come see how this Board conducts business and discusses topics. In regards to the resolution for Mrs. Hight, in his experience, she has done an outstanding job running her office. They have always gone the extra mile to help in any way possible. Mr. Brankley asked Mr. Carter where the next convenience center would be located. The dumpsters throughout the county have been a mess and the county landfill employees have to clean up the mess.

Mr. Carter stated that they are currently in the permitting phase on two convenience center sites. One will be at the Trading Post and the other will be on Pen Road. We will have to look at next year's budget for additional sites. Then possibly adding two more sites to the following year's budget. The average cost to permit and build a site is \$400,000.00.

Mr. Spain thanked the Board for putting their confidence in him last year and for another year. He will serve with honor. Mr. Spain agreed with Mr. Brankley; let our national leaders come to Mecklenburg County and see how we conduct business and how our elections are handled. Mr. Spain thanked staff for their work and hopes Mecklenburg County will have a good year.

Mr. Barbour thanked the Board for putting their confidence in him and stated he will do everything in his power to represent the County as honorably as he can. It is a pleasure working with everyone. He agreed with Mr. Brankley and Mr. Spain about our government, federal and state, could learn a lot from Mecklenburg County.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until February 8, 2021, unless sooner called to order by the Chairman.