

At a regular meeting of the Caroline County Board of Supervisors held on Tuesday, April 15, 2008 in the auditorium of the Community Services Center, located at 17202 Richmond Turnpike, Milford, VA 22514.

**PRESENT**

Floyd W. Thomas - Chairman  
Jeff Sili – Vice-Chairman  
D. M. “Maxie” Rozell, Jr.  
Wayne A. Acors  
Bobby Popowicz

**ALSO PRESENT**

Percy C. Ashcraft – County Administrator  
Alan L. Partin – Assistant County Administrator  
Ann Neil Cosby – County Attorney  
Michael A. Finchum - Director of Planning & Community Development  
Gary R. Wilson – Director of Economic Development  
Allen T. Ramsay - Director of Public Works  
Joey Schiebel - Superintendent of Public Utilities

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Thomas called the meeting to order at approximately 6:07 p.m.

**INVOCATION**

Supervisor Rozell led the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Tim Dooley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

*Supervisor Sili moved and Supervisor Popowicz seconded to amend the agenda as follows:*

- ◆ *Addition of Item #3H to the Consent Agenda - Request from Treasurer to Destroy Old County Tax Records.*
- ◆ *Removal of Item #6 – “Approval of Lease with State Fair of Virginia for Office Space for Virginia Cooperative Extension Office”*

**Roll Call Vote:**        *Thomas*        *Yea*

<i>Sili</i>	<i>Yea</i>
<i>Rozell</i>	<i>Yea</i>
<i>Acors</i>	<i>Yea</i>
<i>Popowicz</i>	<i>Yea</i>

### **OPENING BOARD COMMENTS**

Supervisor Acors stated that as the Board knows, they approved a 5 cent tax increase last week instead of the 7 cent tax increase as proposed by the County Administrator. He said in doing that, it created a \$720,000 shortfall in the budget and the General Assembly shares in that shortfall. He said in addition, with the worksessions that they have had, there have been people that came before the Board and requested an additional \$147,000 not including any of the increases from Fire & Rescue. Supervisor Acors said that ranged from \$83,000 up to \$156,000. He said that he would only ask that they keep in mind that without the Fire Department expenditures added in, after they approved what the Departments have asked for, the gap is \$984,000. Supervisor Acors said that if they include what Fire & Rescue have requested, the gap will be somewhere between \$1.67 million and \$1 million plus dollars. He said they have to come up with a way to fill that gap. Supervisor Acors said that they have talked about asking Departments to come back and cut their budgets and Mr. Ashcraft sent an e-mail out to all Departments asking them to review their budgets and see what they could find.

Supervisor Acors stated that one Director has come back and has said that they can reduce their budget by \$20,000; however, they need more than that to fill a \$1 million dollar gap. He asked them to consider this because when they meet on May 20<sup>th</sup>, they are going to have to make some hard decisions as to where these cuts are going to take place, in order to have a balanced budget. Supervisor Acors said they are going to have to seriously look at what is being done and determine where they are willing to make cuts.

Supervisor Acors stated that the other issue was at the Finance Committee Meeting held this morning, and the area that possibly throws up a red flag is the ambulance recovery fees. He said unless they do something in the next few months, they may have some trouble in reaching that budget amount. Supervisor Acors said that the ambulance recovery people believe they will make that budget amount, but they are not sure.

Chairman Thomas stated that the Board of Supervisors has made efforts to maintain Herb Collins' historical collection, which is the largest Virginia Anna collection in the State. He said he spoke with Mr. Collins again last night, and he is willing to donate his collection to the County. Chairman Thomas said that he would need a letter from the County in the next 30 days, requesting this collection and stating the location for temporary storage and permanent storage measures. He then said that Mr. Collins had specifically asked that Mr. Partin look at the collection and evaluate the size again and said that this would need to be done within the next few weeks.

### **1. PRESENTATION/REPORTS**

◆ **Treasurer's Report**

Ms. Beth Curran, Treasurer, stated that the Board had a copy of the current Revenue Report through the end of March and the balance sheet showing fund balances and cash balances. She said they were able to finish the month of March in a positive position with the General Fund. Ms. Curran said with regard to tax collections, there should be more tax collections coming in, in the month of April as far as delinquent taxes are concerned. She said that since the Board has set the tax rate, the Commissioner's Office plans on running the real estate book tomorrow, which will give people more time to pay real estate and personal property taxes. Ms. Curran said they also hope to generate more cash and meet the budget amount with the new tax rate that was approved.

Supervisor Acors asked how many County automobile decals had been sold to date.

Ms. Curran responded that about 21,000 County decals have been sold so far.

Chairman Thomas said that Ms. Curran had mentioned the possible real estate surplus, and asked if the surplus was factored in by Mr. Rogers.

Ms. Curran responded that with the tax rate increase, they should come in close to what is budgeted here.

Chairman Thomas responded and asked if there were any other areas that they were better off than they originally thought.

Ms. Curran responded that other than a small increase in personal property, other different areas such as utility connections and building permits, etc., are not up to 75% at this point.

Chairman Thomas said that the County's budget was, for the most part, pretty conservative. He said that although all localities are having difficulties, he did not believe that Caroline is not in as bad a shape as Spotsylvania or Stafford.

Ms. Curran responded that was true, however, Spotsylvania and Stafford have a bigger tax base than Caroline.

Chairman Thomas said that the Board is trying to do their best to work with this, but he knows there will be some tight cash flow issues.

◆ **Presentation from Virginia Museum of Natural History**

Chairman Thomas stated that he asked Gary Wilson, Director of Economic Development, to invite Dr. Dooley to the meeting. He said there is a whale skeleton slated to be placed

in the new Visitor's Center and that he has asked what a whale has to do with Caroline County because he thought they all needed to be enlightened.

Mr. Wilson responded that the Department has been considering the inclusion of the gray whale skeleton that was found in Caroline County, which is approximately 12 to 14 million years old. He said Dr. Dooley made these discoveries and this is the most important archaeological find east of the Mississippi. Mr. Wilson said that he wanted to stress that this has nothing to do with the General Fund because he is looking to fund this through grants and donations. He pointed out that they currently have a pledge of \$25,000 and others are starting to line up. He said timing is not a huge issue. Mr. Wilson said that he thought the Board would be very interested to hear what Dr. Dooley has to say because again, Caroline County is very uniquely blessed with this discovery.

Dr. Alton Dooley came forward and presented PowerPoint presentation on the findings at the old Caroline Stone Quarry. He said he wanted to talk about the Carmel Church fossil site, which was designated as a fossil site in 1990 when a team from the Virginia Museum discovered three bones, which were vertebrae from a whale. Dr. Dooley said they excavated the site to see if there were any more of the skeleton and they found the backbone, ribs and flippers. He said this is as far west as a fossil whale has ever been seen.

Dr. Dooley explained the difficulties of working in all kinds of weather. He said that the bones are 14 million years old and very difficult to transport because they are very fragile. Dr. Dooley said that the bones have to be wrapped in plastic bandages and that the whale skeleton could actually take 2 years to clean and prepare. He said they have recovered about 50% of the whale skeleton, which is very rare to actually find that much. Dr. Dooley stated that it has been determined that this species has never been found before. He said they also found a large number of other bones on the same site and he showed the Board a storage file in the museum, representing 20 to 30 different organisms. Dr. Dooley explained that also at this site, 5 species of dolphins were found as well as sea cows, seals, marine crocodiles, sea turtles and also different fish. He said most of these species are still found in the Chesapeake Bay. Dr. Dooley said that they also have a large number of stingrays and sharks that were found at the site.

Dr. Dooley said another interesting thing with Carmel Church is that they do not only find marine fossils, but also a small number of fossil land mammal remains. He said land mammals are very rare in Virginia and there have only been about 15 specimens in the State, which 10 of those are from Caroline County. Dr. Dooley said these specimens have received prominent placement in the new museum for Natural History in Martinsville. He said they hope to have another exhibit in the Carmel Church Visitor's Center.

Dr. Dooley explained that approximately 14 million years ago, Caroline County and more specifically, Carmel Church, was directly visible from the coast and there was an erosional beard along the western edge. He explained that a quarry was previously

located very close to the shore. Dr. Dooley said that the current Interstate 95 is located where it is because of what happened here 14 million years ago and essentially parallels the fall line. He said that the Carmel Church site remains an active research site and they estimate that they have only collected 10% of the remains that are there and they go back for eight weeks every year to collect more fossils. Dr. Dooley said they have found two more whales skeletons and in fact, three weeks ago they collected the first camel fossil ever found in Virginia. He then recognized the groups that are funding the excavation at Carmel Church over the years.

Chairman Thomas thanked Dr. Dooley for his presentation and said that it was very interesting. He said he would like to capture Dr. Dooley's presentation electronically and have that video playing at the visitors center. Chairman Thomas then asked Dr. Dooley about the ownership of the fossils found at the Carmel Church site.

Dr. Dooley responded that all of the fossils that they have collected so far are stored in Martinsville in most cases. He explained that is necessary because of the specialized care required. He said that he and Mr. Wilson have discussed taking some of the new discoveries and rotating them every 6 months or every year. Dr. Dooley said that there are also specimens like the shark's tooth that they do not need to catalogue and their intention is to have some of those specimens permanently transferred over to the County.

Chairman Thomas said that this was so fascinating because they have talked about a museum and asked if it would be possible for the County to have some of the exhibits located in the future Bowling Green Museum.

Dr. Dooley responded that he did not see why not. He said they were always looking for opportunities to get those items visible to the public and they would probably transfer ownership over to the County. Dr. Dooley stated that they would need to set up some type of long-term loan with the County and the specimens would only come back to the museum if they were needed for study or for some type of preservation, which is a fairly standard procedure with museums.

Chairman Thomas asked Mr. Wilson to prepare another press release about Dr. Dooley and the fossils at Carmel Church.

## 2. APPOINTMENTS

### ◆ Recreation Advisory Committee (Mattaponi District)

This appointment was deferred.

### ◆ Caroline Indoor Plumbing and Rehabilitation (IPR) Board

This appointment was deferred.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

*Supervisor Acors moved and Supervisor Rozell seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:*

A) Approval of Minutes

*Action Taken: Approval of the minutes from the March 18, 2008 Board of Supervisors meeting.*

B) Approval of Warrants

*Action Taken: Approval of the following warrants:*

<i>General Funds</i>	<i>\$72,444.40</i>
<i>Consumer Utility Tax 911</i>	<i>3,469.03</i>
<i>Law Library</i>	<i>310.00</i>
<i>Tourism</i>	<i>375.00</i>
<i>Capital Improvements Fund</i>	<i>2,536.07</i>
<i>Carmel Church Utilities</i>	<i><u>2,481.65</u></i>
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>\$81,616.15</i>

C) Request for Permission from Department of Army to Enter Peumansend Creek Regional Jail Site for Munitions Survey

*Action Taken: The Board granted the Department of the Army permission for its personnel to enter the property on which the Peumansend Creek Regional Jail is located to conduct a munitions survey. This will likely involve making a visual inspection of the property, surveying it with a metal detector or other instrument and collecting soil and/or water samples. The request required Board approval because the County owns the land under the federal legislation that created the jail authority.*

D) Adoption of a Resolution Endorsing Participation in the Virginia Juvenile Community Crime Control Act

*Action Taken: Adoption of the following resolution:*

R9/08

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CAROLINE COUNTY,  
VIRGINIA JUVENILE COMMUNITY CRIME CONTROL ACT

PLAN FOR FY 2009

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Caroline County Board of Supervisors will participate in the Virginia Juvenile Community Crime Control Act and accept funds appropriate for the purpose set forth in this Act for FY 2009.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator is hereby authorized to execute the locally approved plan on behalf of Caroline County.**

**Adopted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April 2008.**

**E) Adoption of a Resolution of Appreciation for Christine Sawyer Upon the Occasion of Her Retirement from the Commissioner of the Revenue's Office**

**Action Taken: Adoption of the following resolution:**

**R10/08**

**A RESOLUTION COMMENDING CHRISTINE SAWYER FOR  
OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF CAROLINE  
COUNTY UPON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT**

**WHEREAS, Mrs. Christine "Chris" Sawyer will retire on May 1, 2008 after thirty (30) years of service to the Commissioner of the Revenue's Office; and**

**WHEREAS, during her tenure, Chris always displayed the utmost integrity and professionalism in working with her colleagues, the public and other County employees; and**

**WHEREAS, during her tenure in the Commissioner of the Revenue's Office, she development an almost encyclopedic knowledge of real estate in Caroline County and set a standard for public service that will be very difficult to replace; and**

**WHEREAS, Chris was known for her warm spirit, generosity and willingness to help anyone she came in contact with;**

**WHEREAS, she will be greatly missed by her fellow employees and the citizens of Caroline County.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caroline County Board of Supervisors that Christine Sawyer be commended for her**

*accomplishments, her commitment to the community and her lifetime of public service.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Caroline County Board of Supervisors conveys heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to Christine Sawyer and wishes her a joy filled retirement and continued success in all her endeavors.***

*Adopted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April 2008.*

**F) Adoption of a Resolution Declaring the Week of May 25 through May 31 “Relay for Life Week” in Caroline County**

**Action Taken:** *Adoption of the following resolution:*

**R11/08**

**A RESOLUTION DECLARING MAY 25 THROUGH MAY 31, 2008 AS “RELAY FOR LIFE WEEK” IN CAROLINE COUNTY**

***WHEREAS, Relay for Life is the signature activity of the American Cancer Society’s fight against cancer, held each year in over 4,400 communities across the United States; and***

***WHEREAS, the event is a unique and challenging way to raise funds for the American Cancer Society and to heighten an awareness of cancer and the work of the American Cancer Society; and***

***WHEREAS, Relay for Life represents the hope that those lost to cancer will never be forgotten, that those who face cancer will be supported and that one day, cancer will be eliminated; and***

***WHEREAS, on May 30 and 31, the American Cancer Society 2008 Relay for Life in Caroline County will be held at Caroline High School; and***

***WHEREAS, Caroline County wishes to call attention to the importance of the Relay for Life and encourage County citizens to actively participate in this very meaningful campaign.***

***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Caroline County Board of Supervisors hereby declares the week of May 25 through May 31, 2008 as Relay for Life Week in Caroline County.***

*Adopted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April 2008.*

**G) Approval to Submit Victim/Witness Grant Program Application to the Department of Criminal Justice Services**

**Action Taken:** *Approval to Submit Victim/Witness Grant Program Application to the Department of Criminal Justice Services.*

**H) Disposal of Old County Tax Records**

**Action Taken:** *The Treasurer was authorized to dispose of old Real Estate, Personal Property and State Income Tax records in accordance with the State Code.*

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<i>Thomas</i>	<i>Yea</i>
	<i>Sili</i>	<i>Yea</i>
	<i>Rozell</i>	<i>Yea</i>
	<i>Acors</i>	<i>Yea</i>
	<i>Popowicz</i>	<i>Yea</i>

Chairman Thomas pointed out that the Consent Agenda included the adoption of a resolution declaring the week of May 25-31, 2008 as *Relay for Life Week* in Caroline County.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**8. PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE REPORT**

Mr. Michael Finchum, Director of Planning & Economic Development, stated that this is a request for the Board to allow staff to take the next step in the County's annual Property Maintenance Code to bring properties into conformance with the Code. He said the Board has as a brief history of the Property Maintenance Code in their packet.

Mr. Finchum stated that to-date, properties cited under the Property Maintenance Code, of those 45 properties came into compliance voluntarily and 22 properties that were cleaned up by the County or it's subcontractors, pursuant to this Code. He said currently, they have 33 properties that they have sent letters to because they are in various stages of disrepair, or are hazardous or unsafe structures.

Mr. Finchum said that what they are asking for is, the Board's approval for staff to take the next step and the Board to acknowledge that these properties are candidate properties. He said then they would send additional notices to the property owners and advertise and post the properties as necessary. Mr. Finchum said that obviously, there is not enough funding in the current budget to clean up all of these properties; however, they would identify and establish a prioritized list prior to any additional action by staff.

Chairman Thomas asked about the funding included in the budget for this.

Mr. Finchum responded that they have \$75,000 in the budget.

Mr. Ashcraft stated that there is no money requested in the next year's budget unless the Board decides to change that.

Chairman Thomas asked about reimbursement.

Mr. Finchum responded that they have not gotten all of the money back that was previously expended; however, when the properties are sold they collect the money at that time. He said they also have a number of property owners who work with staff and pay demolition fees. Mr. Finchum said the most successful was the clean up of the old Brown's Motel and the large debris site off Route 30.

Chairman Thomas said that he just wanted to point out that it was the intent of the Board that it would be a revolving fund. He said he understands that some of it may be tied up because when you don't get any refund or financing from the actual property owner, they have to place a lien on the property and nothing is collected until it is sold.

Supervisor Sili asked for clarification on the properties that would be included on the priority list.

Mr. Finchum responded that they would prioritize the worst properties and come back to the Board with a list of priorities and request the expenditure of funds to clean them up.

Supervisor Rozell said that over the years this program has served the County really well. He said with the current economic situation, he wondered about the dangers of the proposed structures such as if any of these structures are being used as crack houses or are public safety issues. Supervisor Rozell said that they are looking for extra money and he knows that Mr. Finchum has been directed by the Board to do this, however, he was just curious as to how pressing some of these issues are as compared with past years.

Mr. Finchum responded that they can specifically address those issues when prioritizing.

Supervisor Popowicz said that some properties are cited for motor vehicles and asked if any of these owners are actually occupying the properties.

Mr. Finchum responded that most of the properties appear to be abandoned and many are in the advanced stages of deterioration.

Supervisor Acors said that quite a few properties are in Caroline Pines and Four Winds and asked if they had a Property Owner's Association to take care of these issues.

Mr. Finchum responded that Caroline Pines was established 30 years ago and some of the regulations in that community are not as stringent as other home owners associations. He

said their programs have not developed over the years. Mr. Finchum said with regard to Four Winds, they could possibly get some assistance in terms of enforcement and that is something they can discuss.

Supervisor Acors said that Caroline Pines is not as old as Lake Caroline and asked if Mr. Finchum had talked with them.

Mr. Finchum responded that they have talked with them about this and they are assisting them somewhat; however, their Homeowners Association (HOA) is not capable of enforcing this at this time.

Chairman Thomas clarified that Mr. Finchum was asking the Board to authorize him to begin the abatement process, which at this stage, he is sending out letters now.

Mr. Finchum responded that was correct, they are sending out letters now. He said that this does not obligate the Board of Supervisors to expend any funds at this point in time.

*Supervisor Popowicz moved and Supervisor Sili seconded to authorize staff to move forward with the next step in the Property Maintenance Code and bring a list of prioritized projects back to the Board for approval.*

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Thomas</i>	<i>Yea</i>
	<i>Sili</i>	<i>Yea</i>
	<i>Rozell</i>	<i>Yea</i>
	<i>Acors</i>	<i>Yea</i>
	<i>Popowicz</i>	<i>Yea</i>

5. **IDENTIFICATION OF HOMES THAT LACK INDOOR PLUMBING FOR CABELL BRAND CENTER FUNDING**

Mr. Alan Partin, Assistant County Administrator, stated that staff recently received a letter from Mr. Cabell Brand of the Cabell Brand Center for International Poverty and Resource Studies (CBC) in Salem, Virginia, seeking the County's help in identifying at least ten (10) homes that lack indoor plumbing in Caroline.

Mr. Partin said Mr. Brand is a member of the Board of Directors of the Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project, Inc. (Southeast RCAP), an organization that seeks to provide water to as many of the estimated 17,000 homes in Virginia that lack indoor plumbing as possible. He said to implement the program locally, Southeast RCAP typically works with the local administrator of the Indoor Plumbing & Rehabilitation (IPR) Program (Quin Rivers Agency for Community Action in Caroline's case). Mr. Partin stated that no local matching funds are required.

Mr. Partin said that while the Dawn Wastewater Project will provide indoor plumbing to approximately 25 homes for the first time, there are other homes throughout the County

that lack this basic convenience. He said Social Services Director, Cynthia Green, and her staff have developed a list of nine homes that currently lack indoor plumbing. Mr. Partin said that DSS staff continues its work on the list to identify at least one more home as required by the Cabell Brand Center.

Mr. Partin stated that Staff would ask that the Board review the list as a starting point and advise of any changes or additions. He said to avoid any potential embarrassment for those citizens that lack indoor plumbing, it may be prudent to avoid public discussion of specific individuals. Mr. Partin stated that the Board can advise staff of its changes or additions and the list can be finalized at the April 28<sup>th</sup> joint meeting with the Town of Bowling Green or the next regular Board meeting on May 13<sup>th</sup>.

Supervisor Sili responded that they have one unit left for the grant and asked if they will have another opportunity to identify that last unit.

Mr. Partin responded yes, they are actually looking for at least 10 so they can identify more.

Chairman Thomas said that he was sure that they could find more if they continue to work with the Department of Social Services.

***Supervisor Sili moved and Supervisor Rozell seconded to authorize staff to submit the proposed list of nine homes in the County that lack indoor plumbing to the Cabell Brand Center for funding for those services. Staff was also directed to work with the Department of Social Services on identifying additional homes that lack indoor plumbing for this program.***

<b><i>Roll Call Vote:</i></b>	<b><i>Thomas</i></b>	<b><i>Yea</i></b>
	<b><i>Sili</i></b>	<b><i>Yea</i></b>
	<b><i>Rozell</i></b>	<b><i>Yea</i></b>
	<b><i>Acors</i></b>	<b><i>Yea</i></b>
	<b><i>Popowicz</i></b>	<b><i>Yea</i></b>

Supervisor Rozell said that Quin Rivers, the Health Department, and the George Washington Regional Commission has information on homes that lack indoor plumbing that could be helpful.

Mr. Partin responded that they have already spoken with Quin Rivers and they will speak with the Health Department and Regional Commission.

*\*The Board took at break at approximately 7:10 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at approximately 7:35 p.m.*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Roger Cavendish, of the Mattaponi District, said he was at the last Board meeting and there was some discussion about hiring a Fire Marshall for \$83,000 with no mention of vehicles or equipment, etc. He said he was overwhelmed by the numbers and on the internet the average every year is 13,000 for chimney fires with no fatalities. Mr. Cavendish said these were national figures. He said candle fires are 16,400 a year, with 200 deaths on the average. Mr. Cavendish said that there are 19,000 intentional fires a year with 310 deaths. He said the Fire Marshall could not stop this. Mr. Cavendish said that with clothes dryer there are 8,900 fires per year, etc., and gave other national average statistics.

Mr. Cavendish said that he just does not understand why Caroline would need a Fire Marshall for such a rural County and this is a lot of the money. He asked of all those places he mentioned, how many of them had a Fire Marshall.

Mr. Timothy Watson, of the Port Royal District, said that the Fire Marshall would be conducting inspections of businesses. He cited the Horne's Restaurant as an example and said that the aisles are very narrow, doors are locked, and asked what happens if a fire breaks out. He said as indicated by Mr. Fuzy, \$83,000 would be for training, cell phone, etc., not just salary for one employee.

Mr. Chuck Arbogast, of Maryland, stated that he has owned property since 1981 at Four Winds and it was set up to be a campground. He said he was here to ask a question if the Board is still addressing the problem of live-in people there. Mr. Arbogast said that he believes there are 80 families living there and the number is growing. He said last weekend they elected a new Board of Directors and hopefully they can get a handle on this to try to stop it. Mr. Arbogast said again, that he was a camper and asked if the Board was pursuing this problem.

Mr. Mike Taylor stated that he was also a lot owner at Four Winds and recently elected to the Board of Directors at Four Winds Campground. He said they need to start working with the County and the new Board has agreed to follow the rules and regulations established by the County. Mr. Taylor said that 5 years ago, the County enacted an ordinance regarding overnight stays. He said the ordinance is causing a hardship on the campground because they have in the past, relied on the County to take care of their own ordinances and they will try to take care of their bylaws. Mr. Taylor said because of financial constraints, they are wondering when and if the County intends on enforcing that ordinance and if not, the Board needs to tell them so they can make changes in order to be more self-sufficient. He said his question was if there was going to be enforcement and if not, does the Board plan on getting rid of the ordinance.

Mr. David Brown, of Ohio, stated that he also camps at Four Winds and has been coming to Four Winds for 21 years. He said that he loves it here and is now retired and has built a nice place there. Mr. Brown said that when he started coming down here, the dues were \$750 and now they are \$2,100. He said the problem with coming such a distance is not being able to stay but a certain number of days.

Mr. Wayne Roberts, of the Port Royal District, stated that he was also a member at Four Winds and back in 2003, the Board of Supervisors held a public hearing on this 180-day ordinance. He said he attended that hearing along with several others who opposed the passage of that ordinance. Mr. Roberts said the ordinance referred to not staying more than 180 days in a campground. He said that Four Winds was not a typical campground in that you do not go in and rent a space, you own the property that your trailer or motor home sits on. Mr. Roberts asked if the Board of Supervisors would leave their home every 180 days and that was his problem with the ordinance. He said if the County is going to enforce this, then let's go for it. Mr. Roberts said let's go to Court and let the Court decide the legality of the ordinance. He said that the alternative is for the Board of Supervisors to rescind the ordinance.

Ms. Faye Deeds, a property owner in Four Winds, said that she has been at Four Winds for some 20 years and it is true that they own their property; however, Indian Acres in Spotsylvania County is set up the exact same way as Four Winds. She said that Indian Acres does not have this problem with people coming in and staying. Ms. Deeds said that Four Winds is no longer a campground to be enjoyed, but a trailer park. She said people in Four Winds are living there and not paying taxes and those people's kids are going to school. Ms. Deeds said that the problem with the 180 days is that people can choose their 180 days whenever they want to, but they choose to use their 180 days 365 days a year. She said the problem is, what can we do to get this closed down and turn it back into a campground. Ms. Deeds said that she would appreciate it being turned back into a campground, which is what it is supposed to be.

Chairman Thomas stated in response to the concerns regarding Four Winds, he wanted to inform everyone that the Board actually has Four Winds scheduled for discussion on the Closed Meeting Agenda.

Chairman Thomas directed his comment to Mike Finchum and said that they were both here five years ago and he believed the ordinance also was to insure that Four Winds' residents complied with the original Charter of Four Winds.

Mr. Finchum responded that was correct and that the County Attorney has prepared some information to be discussed in the Closed Meeting.

Chairman Thomas explained the Closed Meeting.

Supervisor Popowicz stated that he has been to Four Winds to look at the situation as well and has talked to several people in the campground. He said he believes the newly elected Board of Directors does have the right idea and what they are really asking the County for is to help them get some peace. Supervisor Popowicz said that the Board needs to work with the current Board of Directors who just want some legitimacy and who are trying to do what is right.

Chairman Thomas stated in response to the Fire Marshall's position, that the Board of Supervisors has not made a determination on that position yet.

Mr. Ashcraft clarified that the \$83,000 is not the total salary for the position and that the amount covers equipment and training as well.

Chairman Thomas clarified further that this was the second time that Mr. Cavendish has been here to speak on this issue and that he will have Mr. Fuzy here at the next meeting to discuss this issue.

#### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

4. **SPEX-13-2007 - GOLDEN OAKS CONSTRUCTION, INC., OWNER; CLIFTON SHULL, APPLICANT:** *Request a Special Exception Permit in accordance with Article XVII, Section 13 (Use Permits) and Article X, Section 3.9 of the Caroline County Zoning Ordinance, on a portion of tax map #39-A-131, consisting of 1 acre, more or less, zoned M-1, Industrial (with no specified density). This property is located on Route 1 (Jefferson Davis Highway), approximately 1/2 mile north of Route 604 (Gatewood Road), Port Royal Voting District. Proposed Use: Dwelling for Resident Watchman. The 2006 - 2026 Comprehensive Plan identifies this area as rural preservation with a density of one dwelling unit per ten acres of land.*

Mr. Finchum stated that Golden Oaks Construction, Inc., owner, Clifton Shull, applicant, are requesting a special exception permit to allow for a watchman or caretaker's quarters to be used in conjunction with the previously approved Golden Oaks Mini-Storage facility on Route 1 (Jeff Davis Highway).

Mr. Finchum stated that no one spoke at the public hearing other than the applicant.

Mr. Finchum stated that the Planning Commission examined the application and the general development plan and after some questions regarding the appearance of the facility, Mr. Brown moved and Dr. Bush seconded to forward this application to the Board of Supervisors with a favorable recommendation including all recommended conditions.

Mr. Finchum gave the following suggested conditions/proffers:

1. *The applicant will record this proffer statement with the Caroline County Clerk's Office within 30 days of receiving the To-Witt from the Department of Planning and Community Development.*
2. *The use of the watchman quarters is limited to employee(s) and family (if applicable) of the mini-warehousing operation and not to be rented to or used by non-employees.*

3. *The exterior walls, roofing materials, and colors of the watchman's quarters shall be consistent with the proffered conditions associated with the mini-warehouse facility.*
4. *When County water and sewer is extended to this site any private septic or water supply shall be abandoned and connections shall be made to the County system.*
5. *A minimum of two (2) parking spaces shall be available for exclusive use by the occupant(s) of the watchman's quarters.*

Mr. Finchum stated that Mr. Brown moved and Dr. Bush seconded to forward this application to the Board of Supervisors with a favorable recommendation including all conditions. He said the motion carried on a 5-0 vote.

Chairman Thomas declared the Public Hearing open on SPEX-13-2007, Golden Oaks Construction. There were no comments and Chairman Thomas declared the Public Hearing closed.

Chairman Thomas asked if the Applicant was present.

Mr. Finchum responded that the applicant was not present.

Supervisor Acors asked if there was anything in the conditions that would require the building of the storage facility prior to the house being built. He said this rezoning took place three or four years ago and nothing has been done. Supervisor Acors said that next door to this property is some property that, from time to time, has been looked at for industrial and commercial prospects. He said he did not want to allow someone to go and build a house and then other development does takes place. Supervisor Acors said that he did not want a house surrounded by commercial and industrial development.

Mr. Finchum responded that actually, they do have a site plan; however, they can add to Condition #2 that the house for the caretaker is an accessory to the mini-storage facility.

Supervisor Sili stated for clarity, this special exception would allow a house to be built, but only after the storage facility is built.

Mr. Finchum responded that the house could only be built in conjunction with or after the construction of the storage facility. He said the first phase of the site plan is for several structures. Mr. Finchum explained that all facilities like this, build to-date, have been done in phases and the first phase has to be completely constructed prior to the house.

***Supervisor Popowicz moved and Supervisor Acors seconded to approve SPEX-13-2007 with the proffers recommended by the Planning Commission and a change to Condition #2 with the storage facility to be built prior to the house (1<sup>st</sup> Phase).***

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Thomas</i>	<i>Yea</i>
	<i>Sili</i>	<i>Yea</i>
	<i>Rozell</i>	<i>Yea</i>
	<i>Acors</i>	<i>Yea</i>
	<i>Popowicz</i>	<i>Yea</i>

**NEW BUSINESS**

**7. DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL CREATION OF FARMER'S MARKET AT CANNERY FACILITY**

Ms. Kathy Beard, Tourism Manager, stated that she was very pleased to have the opportunity to be here and working in Caroline County. She said on a personal note, she moved here six years ago and she wondered why it took her so long. Ms. Beard said that her two children and grandchildren have also moved here.

Ms. Beard stated that she is suggesting that staff take it upon themselves to build a rural, agricultural, tourism type of program to include the cannery, farmer's market and farms that open themselves up to allowing people to come in and actually pick their own vegetables, build bed and breakfasts, etc. She said all these things fit well with the location of Caroline County.

Ms. Beard stated that agricultural data indicates that Caroline County is home to approximately 237 farms resulting in a production market value of approximately \$11.5 million dollars annually in forestry and farming. She said that in 2002, the County was the fourth largest producer for forestry gross sales in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Ms. Beard stated that the goal of this program would be to enhance the business opportunities for the County's agricultural businesses. She said that the County's Extension Agent, Mac Saphir has developed a successful program called Farm and Family Celebration. Ms. Beard said that their efforts would be to build on that program by introducing additional attractors that move visitors throughout the County. She said that the Department of Economic Development and Tourism will cooperatively work with the Extension Office to develop marketing methods that manage costs while maximizing community awareness and visitor recruitment strategies.

Chairman Thomas said that he spoke at the Farm Bureau and told them that Caroline County wanted to highlight the cannery and he believes what Ms. Beard is proposing is a great idea and this program might be safer than vegetable stands on the edge of the highway. He said that it was not his intention to get rid of the Farmer's Market in Bowling Green, but to work with them. Chairman Thomas said that he appreciated Ms. Beard taking "the ball and running" with it. He asked her to let the Board know how things were going in a few weeks.

8. **INFORMATIONAL/CALENDAR ITEMS**

Mr. Ashcraft stated that the Fredericksburg Regional Chamber of Commerce was hosting SpringFest 2008 at Cannon Ridge Golf Course at Celebrate Virginia on Friday, June 6, 2008. He reminded Board members that tickets needed to be reserved by April 28<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Ashcraft stated that the next Business Roundtable meeting is scheduled for April 17<sup>th</sup>.

He reminded everyone that April 22<sup>nd</sup> – April 25<sup>th</sup> is Garden Week and there were several events scheduled as part of Garden Week. There will be a luncheon at Bowling Green Town Hall on April 22<sup>nd</sup> and an art show and a tour of historic homes throughout Bowling Green.

The groundbreaking ceremony for the State Fair of Virginia is also scheduled for April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The public hearing on the Six-Year Improvement Plan is scheduled on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Supervisor Sili has been asked to offer remarks on behalf of the Board of Supervisors because Chairman Thomas will be out of town.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch is sponsoring a “listening tour” throughout several localities in this area and will be hosting lunch in Caroline on April 29<sup>th</sup> at the Port Royal Tavern as part of this project. Board members, County department heads and business leaders have been invited to attend.

The Board will conduct a worksession with the Town of Bowling Green on April 28<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:30 p.m.

April 29<sup>th</sup> is also the next Regional Elected Officials Meeting in King George.

Supervisor Acors will be conducting a community meeting with Ladysmith Village on May 6<sup>th</sup> at the Ladysmith Library.

Mr. Ashcraft said that Supervisor Rozell has also asked staff to look into possible dates for a community meeting. Staff was directed to work with Mr. Rozell.

**CLOSING BOARD COMMENTS**

Chairman Thomas stated that the Board had previously discussed the possibility of a County museum once space becomes available. He said he believes it is a great concept with the presentation given earlier by Dr. Dooley. Chairman Thomas said that he believes they also need to appoint an exploratory committee, perhaps by the end of May.

**CLOSED MEETING**

*Supervisor Rozell moved and Supervisor Popowicz seconded to enter into Close Session under Section 2.2-3711 (A)(7): Consultation with Legal Counsel and Briefings by Staff and Section 2.2-3711 (A)(1): Personnel.*

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Thomas</i>	<i>Yea</i>
	<i>Sili</i>	<i>Yea</i>
	<i>Rozell</i>	<i>Yea</i>
	<i>Acors</i>	<i>Yea</i>
	<i>Popowicz</i>	<i>Yea</i>

The Board returned to regular session and adopted the following certification:

*Supervisor Rozell moved and Supervisor Popowicz seconded that the Caroline County Board of Supervisors certify that to the best of each Board member's knowledge:*

- (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open session requirements by Virginia law were discussed in closed session to which this certification applies; and*
- (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed session were heard, discussed or considered by the Board.*

<i>Certification by Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Thomas</i>	<i>Yea</i>
	<i>Sili</i>	<i>Yea</i>
	<i>Rozell</i>	<i>Yea</i>
	<i>Acors</i>	<i>Yea</i>
	<i>Popowicz</i>	<i>Yea</i>

**ACTIONS RESULTING FROM CLOSED MEETING**

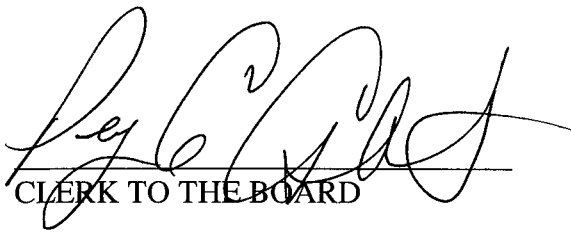
*Supervisor Sili moved to accept the recommendation from the County Administrator to fill the Public Works Director vacancy.*

Supervisor Acors stated that he would second the motion if Supervisor Sili would accept an amendment to identify where the required money would come from.

The motion died for lack of a second.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Supervisor Popowicz moved and Supervisor Acors seconded to adjourn the meeting to Monday, April 28, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. for a joint meeting with the Town of Bowling Green.*

  
CLERK TO THE BOARD

  
CHAIRMAN