

COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL MEETING
March 24, 2009

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting on Tuesday, March 24, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. in the County Manager's Conference Room, Administration Building, Henrico County Government Center, Parham and Hungary Spring Roads, Henrico County, Virginia.

Members of the Board Present:

David A. Kaechele, Chairman, Three Chopt District
Patricia S. O'Bannon, Vice Chairman, Tuckahoe District
James B. Donati, Jr., Varina District
Richard W. Glover, Brookland District
Frank J. Thornton, Fairfield District

Other Officials Present:

Virgil R. Hazelett, P.E., County Manager
Joseph P. Rapisarda, Jr., County Attorney
Barry R. Lawrence CMC, Assistant to the County Manager/Clerk to the Board
Tanya B. Harding, Administrative Assistant/Deputy Clerk to the Board
George T. Drumwright, Jr., Deputy County Manager for Community Services
Angela N. Harper, Deputy County Manager for Community Services
Leon T. Johnson, Deputy County Manager for Administration
Randall R. Silber, Deputy County Manager for Community Development
Tamra R. McKinney, Director of Public Relations & Media Services
C. Michael Schnurman, Jr., Legislative Liaison

Mr. Kaechele called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

National and Local Trends for Career and Technical Education – Building Tomorrow's Workforce

Mr. Hazelett recognized Fred Morton, Superintendent of Schools, who briefly commented on trends in career and technical education and on the program offered by Henrico County Public Schools (HCPS). Dr. Morton introduced Mac Beaton, Director of Career and Technical Education (CTE) for HCPS, who in turn introduced the following members of his staff who were present: Bradford Beazley, Educational Specialist for Career Guidance; Cheryl Gould, Educational Specialist for Family and Consumer Sciences; Mary Eckert; Educational Specialist for Business and Marketing; and Bruce Watson, Educational Specialist for Pre-Engineering and Industrial Careers. Mr. Beaton also introduced Elaine Callahan, Administrator of the HCPS Adult Education Center. He then showed an eight-minute video, which Mr. Beazley commented on at its conclusion.

Mr. Beaton narrated a Power Point presentation that addressed changes in the American workplace; Bureau of Labor statistics; the education pipeline; the importance of career and technical education; jobs not requiring a bachelor's degree; the number of students taking CTE classes; the number of jobs and job growth in Virginia; career options; the difference between good jobs and others; the need for CTE; the goal for CTE in Henrico; and facts about CTE in HCPS, including current program offerings and enrollment trends. He noted that CTE programs are important because most Virginians do not have a bachelor's degree, most jobs do not require a bachelor's degree, and most employers are looking for technical and workplace readiness skills. Mr. Beaton also pointed out that HCPS CTE programs teach students these skills.

Mr. Beaton responded to questions from Board members regarding the grade levels served by CTE programs, the percentages of HCPS high school graduates who enter college, the proportion of one-year vs. two-year HCPS CTE participants, CTE course offerings in economics or personal finance, and projected enrollment for the new Glen Allen Technical Center. He commented on concerns expressed by Mr. Glover pertaining to job stability and loyalty among today's young people. At Mr. Donati's request, Mr. Beaton elaborated on the Red Bus program, which offers students information on career pathways and the CTE program that they can take home and share with their parents. Mr. Thornton gave kudos to the CTE program and acknowledged the benefits of a technical education for many students.

The Board recessed for dinner at 6:07 p.m. and reconvened at 6:17 p.m.

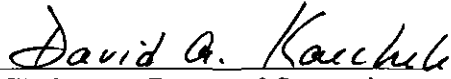
Mrs. McKinney reported statistics on the number of persons who have accessed video streams of Board of Supervisors meetings on the County's web site. Mrs. O'Bannon stated that she has received a lot of requests from citizens to watch broadcasts of Board meetings on HCTV, the County's cable television station. There was some discussion between Mrs. O'Bannon and Mr. Kaechele relating to the level of citizen demand for this service. There was also discussion between Mrs. O'Bannon and Mrs. McKinney regarding a citizen phone survey that was conducted by the County in 2004 at a cost of \$73,000 to determine how citizens get their news. Mrs. McKinney indicated that her department could look into having another survey done if the Board has an interest.

Mr. Hazelett briefly reviewed the evening's regular meeting agenda, noting that Richmond Mayor Dwight Jones would be speaking to the Board under Manager's Comments and that he had received a request to add a paper by unanimous consent for an appointment to the Board of Social Services from the Varina District. He responded to questions from the Board pertaining to Board Agenda Item No. 87-09, which would provide for the issuance of \$40 million in general obligation improvement refunding bonds. Mr. Hazelett also informed the Board that he would be bringing forward a resolution at the next Board meeting on April 14 to change the name of the 2011 Celebration Advisory Commission to the 2011 Commemoration Advisory Commission and showed the Board logo that will be used to publicize the year-long commemoration. The logo was designed by Joel Archibald, Public Relations Specialist for the Department of Public Relations and Media Services.

Mrs. O'Bannon questioned why Henrico County does not have a tourism brochure placed in information displays at Interstate rest areas. There was some discussion of this matter by the Board. Mr. Hazelett agreed to work on this with the Department of Public Relations and Media Services. Mr. Kaechele pointed out that the Richmond Metropolitan Convention and Visitors Bureau maintains visitor centers with information on Henrico County.

Mrs. O'Bannon inquired about the status of federal economic stimulus funds. There was some discussion of this matter by Mr. Hazelett and the Board. Mr. Donati asked about the status of Chesterfield County's Fiscal Year 2009-10 budget and a reduction in federal payroll taxes that will affect Henrico County employees. Mr. Hazelett updated the Board on citizen calls pertaining to the status of capital improvement funds for the new high school proposed in Varina.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.


Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Henrico County, Virginia