

COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
October 14, 2014

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting on Tuesday, October 14, 2014, at 5:00 p.m., in the County Manager's Conference Room, Administration Building, Henrico County Government Center, Parham and Hungary Spring Roads, Henrico, Virginia.

**Members of the Board Present:**

Patricia S. O'Bannon, Chairman, Tuckahoe District  
Frank J. Thornton, Vice Chairman, Fairfield District  
Richard W. Glover, Brookland District  
David A. Kaechele, Three Chopt District  
Tyrone E. Nelson, Varina District

**Other Officials Present:**

John A. Vithoukas, County Manager  
Joseph P. Rapisarda, Jr., County Attorney  
J. T. (Tom) Tokarz, Deputy County Attorney  
Barry R. Lawrence, CMC, Assistant to the County Manager/Clerk to the Board  
Tanya B. Harding, Deputy Clerk to the Board/Administrative Assistant  
Joseph A. Casey, Ph.D., Deputy County Manager for Administration  
Jane D. Crawley, Deputy County Manager for Community Services  
Timothy A. Foster, P.E., Deputy County Manager for Community Operations  
Randall R. Silber, Deputy County Manager for Community Development  
C. Michael Schnurman, Legislative Liaison  
Tamra R. McKinney, Director of Public Relations & Media Services

Mrs. O'Bannon called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

**Office of Voter Registration and Elections Photo Voter Identification Program**

Mr. Vithoukas recognized Mark Coakley, General Registrar, who narrated a slide presentation on this item in anticipation of the November 4 elections. Mr. Coakley advised the Board that this program was established pursuant to Senate Bill 1256, which was introduced by Mark Obenshain. The legislation took effect on July 1. It requires photo identification at the polls. A voter who does not possess an acceptable form of photo identification will be provided a free photo voter identification card containing his or her photograph or signature. The legislation does not affect the right of a voter who does not present one of the required forms of identification to cast a provisional ballot. Mr. Coakley reviewed acceptable forms of photo identification and noted the General Registrar and other Department of Elections staff can solicit voter identification at locations other than their offices. He also reviewed the three simple pieces of equipment

necessary to obtain a voter's signature and photograph — a computer, webcam, and signature pad. Mr. Coakley explained the outreach efforts undertaken by the State Board of Elections and his office to ensure voters are aware of the new voter identification law.

Mr. Coakley responded to questions from the Board at the conclusion of his presentation. He advised Mr. Thornton that he does not foresee any problems with the new law, staff's outreach efforts have included assisted living facilities for senior citizens, and the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has been very cooperative in working with his office on voter registration matters. Mr. Coakley reiterated for Mr. Kaechele that 2,436 registered voters in Henrico County are currently without DMV identification cards. He noted for Mr. Nelson that his office has been coordinating its outreach efforts with the City of Richmond and has targeted GRTC Transit System bus routes in these efforts.

### **Henrico Health Department Updates: East Clinic and Ebola Virus Outbreak**

Mr. Vithoulkas recognized Dr. Susan Fischer Davis, Director of Health. Dr. Fischer Davis introduced two members of her team who were in the audience, Administrative Manager Carla Bennett and Environmental Manager and Emergency Coordinator Kevin Pannell, and noted the Police Division and Division of Fire were also represented. Dr. Davis presented the first portion of her slide presentation by updating the Board on the Henrico Health Department's new East Clinic, which opened on September 8 at 1400 North Laburnum Avenue. The grand opening celebration for this facility will be held on October 18. Dr. Fischer Davis shared outside photographs of the new facility and reviewed services that are being offered at this clinic as well as clinical services that are offered at the Health Department's west facility in the Government Center on Dixon Powers Drive. Although the two facilities provide most of the same clinical services, the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) is only offered at the East Clinic while the pediatric and refugee clinics are only offered at the western location. In response to a question from Mr. Thornton, Dr. Fischer Davis explained her department's efforts to reduce the number of no-show clinic appointments. She also responded to questions from Mr. Thornton and Mr. Kaechele regarding patient visit statistics at the eastern and western clinics and noted for Mr. Kaechele her department's staffing levels at the two locations.

Dr. Fischer Davis began the second part of her slide presentation, which addressed the recent Ebola virus outbreak. She pointed out that no cases of Ebola have been identified in Virginia to date although three people have been tested for this disease in Virginia. Dr. Fischer Davis reviewed the actions that the Virginia Department of Health and Henrico Health Department have taken to monitor, prepare for, and share information about the outbreak. She also advised that the Henrico Health Department is working collaboratively with County partners; screening 911 callers for flu-like symptoms and travel history to West Africa; collaborating with other agencies to develop a question and answer document for County staff; and developing plans and taking action based on facts about Ebola transmission, control, and prevention. Dr. Fischer Davis reviewed the African countries where the 2014 outbreak has occurred, noting there have been 8,399 Ebola cases and 4,033 deaths from Ebola during this outbreak, and provided statistical information on cases and deaths in specific counties with widespread transmission, travel-related cases, and localized transmission. She shared facts

about Ebola, explained how the virus is contracted, identified early symptoms of the virus and when someone is able to spread the disease to others, and provided information on how the virus is treated. Dr. Fischer Davis concluded her presentation by highlighting the County agencies and partners that have been collaborating with the Henrico Health Department in planning for Ebola and identifying federal, state, and local websites and Henrico Health Department staff resources for citizens who have questions or desire further information.

During and following her presentation, Dr. Fischer Davis responded to several questions from Mrs. O'Bannon and other members of the Board pertaining to the outbreak and transmission of the virus. At Mr. Vithoukas' request, Fire Chief Tony McDowell provided the Board with an overview of how his staff has been working with volunteer rescue personnel and other internal and external stakeholders who would be involved in responding to persons suspected of having the virus. He and Dr. Fischer Davis responded to questions from Mrs. O'Bannon and Mr. Nelson relating to the County's emergency response and clinical procedures for handling persons suspected of having Ebola. Mr. Vithoukas commented that the County is prepared to handle Ebola cases if the need arises but is hoping for the best. He thanked Dr. Fischer Davis and the County's Ebola response team for the efforts they have undertaken to prepare the County for the outbreak.

The Board recessed at 5:49 p.m. and reconvened at 5:59 p.m.

### **Regency Area Study**

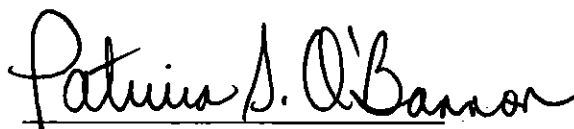
Mrs. O'Bannon recognized Joe Emerson, Director of Planning, who noted the Regency Area Study is a joint study between the Planning Department and Department of Community Revitalization. He reminded the Board this area is comprised of four Special Focus Areas and was identified in the County's 2026 Comprehensive Plan for further detailed study. The entire study area encompasses 818 acres, generally bounded by Gayton Road and Patterson Avenue to the south; Gaskins Road to the west; Quioccasin, Fargo, and Three Chopt Roads to the north; and Forest Avenue to the east. The four sub-areas include the Regency Square Revitalization and Reinvestment Opportunity Area and the Beverly Hills, Regency Park/Farmington, and Ridgehaven Neighborhood Enhancement Areas. Mr. Emerson provided background information on the study area and reviewed the area's future land uses, demographics, housing, and public infrastructure and services. He also reviewed revitalization tools and resources applicable to the study area and key findings for the Regency Square commercial area and the neighborhoods included in the study area. Mr. Emerson concluded his portion of the presentation by summarizing the study's recommendations for the commercial area and neighborhoods. The recommendations for the commercial area focus on design guidelines for future development and redevelopment and protecting the adjacent existing residential uses. They encourage increased pedestrian connections and protecting single family housing as much as possible. The recommendations for the neighborhoods focus on sustaining and enhancing the important existing housing stock. They encourage enhanced signage and landscaping, increased pedestrian connectivity, and use of the Homeowner's Enhancement Guide to sustain the housing inventory. No future land use changes are recommended for either the commercial area or those neighborhoods targeted in the study.

Mr. Silber concluded the presentation on this item by updating the Board on the County's ongoing efforts with the current owners of Regency Square Mall to sell the property. Jones Lang LaSalle (JLL), a commercial real estate company, has listed the mall for sale and met with prospective purchasers. Mr. Silber and Mr. Vithoukias are continuing to assess opportunities and challenges for the mall site and review Community Development Authority (CDA) guidelines for redevelopment. Three of the buildings on the site are independently owned — Sears, JCPenney, and the former Firestone business — and nearly half of the mall's leases are with temporary tenants who rent their space on a month-to-month basis. The mall's annual sales have declined in recent years. Mr. Silber and Mr. Vithoukias responded to questions from the Board concerning prospective buyers. Mr. Emerson was unable to provide Mr. Glover with data relating to the median household income within a two-mile radius of the mall but advised him that staff will research this information and report back to the Board. In response to a question from Mr. Kaechele, Mr. Foster commented on traffic count trends in the vicinity of the mall. Mr. Thornton suggested the County should in the future take a more pro-active approach in planning for and mitigating downward cycles in its commercial and residential areas. Mr. Silber pointed out the County's Comprehensive Plan has identified areas for future study and attention and the County now has the necessary tools to be more pro-active.

#### **Regular Meeting Agenda Items**

Mr. Vithoukias reviewed the agenda for the 7:00 p.m. regular meeting, which included two proclamations, eight zoning cases, and one provisional use permit request in addition to seven other public hearing items and three general agenda items. He advised the Board that the Tuckahoe District zoning case requested by Geriel DeOliveira had been withdrawn by the applicant. Mr. Vithoukias and Mr. Rapisarda responded to questions from Mrs. O'Bannon regarding two ordinances on the public hearing agenda to conform the County Code to state legislation that provides for the submission of documentation for septic tank pump-out.

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

  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors  
Henrico County, Virginia