

**Pittsylvania County Board of Supervisors  
Legislative Committee  
Tuesday, June 4, 2019, Meeting**

**VIRGINIA:** The Legislative Committee of the Pittsylvania County Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, June 4, 2019, in the Main Conference Room of the County Administration Building in Chatham, Virginia 24531. Ben L. Farmer, Chairman, called the Meeting to Order at 5:00 p.m. The following Committee Members were present:

Ben L. Farmer  
Tim R. Barber  
Ronald S. Scarce

The following Board of Supervisors Members were also present:

Joe B. Davis  
Robert W. Warren

Mr. David M. Smitherman, County Administrator; Mr. J. Vaden Hunt Esq., County Attorney; Mr. Greg L. Sides, Assistant County Administrator for Planning & Administration; and Mrs. Kaylyn M. McCluster, Deputy Clerk, were also present.

**Approval of Agenda**

Motion made by Mr. Scarce, seconded by Mr. Barber, to approve Agenda, which was unanimously approved.

Mr. Farmer pointed out a letter that was received from the Olde Dominion Agriculture Foundation. (attached) There was no discussion about the letter, but it will be on the Business Meeting Agenda on June 18, 2019.

**New Business**

**(a) Review of Proposed Enterprise Zone Amendments**

Mr. Rowe was present and stated that the Board made the right decision to table this item at the May Business Meeting due to citizen concerns. He stated that he had looked into those concerns and there is enough room to include Hargrave Military Academy into the Enterprise Zone, if the Board so chooses. There were other businesses that were of concern, but they had not previously been in the Zones and did not meet the requirements that the Board stated they desired for these Zones. There was consensus of the Committee to re-advertise with the addition of Hargrave Military Academy and authorize Staff to notify property owners that will be added. This item will be listed under the "Unfinished Business" section at the June 18, 2019, Business Meeting.

**(b) Review of Proposed Fire and Rescue Ordinance**

Mr. Slemp reviewed the proposed Fire and Rescue Ordinance. A lot of the items were recommended by the study that was conducted. The Ordinance will allow billing of things that are

currently not in the Code, which will allow the County to recoup expenses incurred for certain illegal acts. The Ordinance does not require the rescue squads to come under the County for their EMS billing. It does add the ability to begin billing treating on site, if a patient is treated without being transported to a hospital. The Ordinance will allow the Fire Departments to bill for their services, if they choose to do so, and it also allows the County to put a stipulation on large events where they have to carry some type of EMS or Fire coverage. This allows the local Fire and Rescue Squads to be informed of large events like that in their areas. Mr. Slemp stated that the Fire and Rescue Association will be looking at this Ordinance and then he would like for the Ad-hoc Committee to look at it once more before it is sent back to the full Board for consideration. There was discussion about the Board being conscious when appointing members, and making sure they were being rotated fairly due to the many different squads throughout the County. There was consensus of the Committee to endorse Staff changes, and allow Mr. Slemp to run the Ordinance by the Fire and Rescue Association and the Ad-Hoc Committee before bringing it back to the Board.

**(c) Discussion of Potential Revisions to Dog Control Areas Ordinance**

Mr. Hunt stated there have been some concerns raised with the County's current Dog Control Area Ordinance. The intent of this Ordinance is being strained and County Staff believes it is very vague, because there is no actual definition of the Dog Control Area; it is left up to the Petitioner to define. There were eight (8) revisions that were presented to possibly include in this Ordinance. Some of these would be to limit the dog control areas to only R-1 zones properties and platted subdivisions, raising the percentage required to submit the petition from 51% to a higher percentage, revising the Ordinance to balance equities regarding residents vs. property owners, requiring a minimum total density and parcels, charging Administrative Fees to consider/process the petitions, requiring the petitioner to pay County for the Public Hearing Advertisements, and assessing the Dog Control Area property owners annual fee to offset County Animal Control expenses for policing Dog Control Areas and creating/installing Dog Control Area signs. There was consensus from the Committee for Staff to create a revised Running at Large Ordinance and bring it back to the Committee for review.

**(d) Review of Potential Lack of Control of Companion Animal Ordinance**

Mr. Hunt stated that there has been previous discussion about putting an Animal Nuisance Ordinance in place, but the Agriculture Community does not want this to affect them in any way. Mr. Hunt, Mr. Sides, and Mr. Harris had a conversation about removing the word "nuisance" and only applying this to dogs and cats. This seemed to be a good compromise that the farming community is okay with. The intent of this Ordinance is to have something citizens can utilize when they are in these types of situations and not have to resort to a dog-controlled area. Staff also does not want this Ordinance to have language that is redundant to other sections of the County Code. There will be a recap of this item on the June 18, 2019, Work Session, and it will be an action item on the June 18, 2019, Business Meeting Agenda.

**(e) Discussion of Proposed PCC Additions Requested by Sheriff**

Sheriff Taylor has been researching Ordinances that are available for the County to adopt to allow fees/fines to be assessed to certain crimes where that money will come back to the locality. In order for the County to recover these costs, there has to be a local Ordinance adopted. The Code of Virginia Sections Sheriff Taylor referenced were § 15.2-1716.1, § 15.2-1716.2, § 15.2-1717, § 15.2-

1717.1, and § 15.2-1719. There was consensus from the Committee to direct Staff to put together an Ordinance that includes the mentioned items, and potentially including this into the Public Safety Ordinance.

## Adjournment

Mr. Farmer adjourned the Meeting at 6:25 PM.

**OLDE DOMINION  
AGRICULTURE  
FOUNDATION**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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*Mission Statement: Our mission is to promote and support regional agriculture while offering a community-based facility to educate and entertain*

June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

Supervisor Joe Davis  
Chairman, Dan River District  
2749 Kentuck Road  
Ringgold, VA 24586

To Whom This Matter May Concern:

The Olde Dominion Agricultural Foundation, unofficially representing Pittsylvania County's largest industry, employer and taxpayer, wishes to inform the County Board of Supervisors and Legislative Committee of our concern at the current pace of utility scale solar energy facility (USSEF) approvals under existing county code.

Though there is much controversy regarding solar energy, our concern is limited to the long-term Impact to the land, landowner and the community.

We are seeing a multitude of upstart "green" companies with little experience and much leverage chasing state tax incentives and soon to expire Federal tax credits wooing rural communities with deals that are too good to be true. We also see the rapid consolidation of those over-leveraged upstarts as an indicator that they may not have the financial capacity to honor their commitments over the long term.

We are discouraged that USSEF proposals are long on speculative positive impacts but fail to include the documentable negative environmental, carbon sequestration and economic impacts realized by taking cropland out of production.

Even a casual investigation will reveal thousands of projects, many still on the drawing board, some under construction, some completed and operational but NONE operational long enough to assess the overall impact to the community and CERTAINLY NONE long enough to confirm that the developer can and will honor commitments.

We suggest that County Code's regarding USSEF be reviewed and "best practices" of solar development be considered and implemented as part of the Pittsylvania Zoning Code. We further suggest that solar developments under Pittsylvania County Code Sections 35-141. (D), (E)

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and (F) regarding USSEF's be suspended until a thorough review is conducted. Please ensure that the overall impact to the land, landowner and community is fully considered and that commitments offered can and will be honored upon decommissioning.

Thank you for considering our request. Our aim is the long-term best interest of the agriculture industry, the land and the taxpayer of Pittsylvania County.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Lisa B. Shorter DVM'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lisa B. Shorter DVM

Chairman - Olde Dominion Agricultural Foundation