

April 9, 2015

Virginia:

AT A CONTINUED MEETING of the Nelson County Board of Supervisors at 4:00 p.m. in the General District Courtroom located on the third floor of the Nelson County Courthouse, in Lovingston Virginia.

Present:

Allen M. Hale, East District Supervisor – Vice Chair
Thomas H. Bruguiera, Jr. West District Supervisor
Larry D. Saunders, South District Supervisor – Chair
Constance Brennan, Central District Supervisor
Stephen A. Carter, County Administrator
Candice W. McGarry, Administrative Assistant/Deputy Clerk
Debra K. McCann, Director of Finance and Human Resources

Absent: Thomas D. Harvey, North District Supervisor

I. Call to Order

Mr. Saunders called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM, with four (4) Supervisors present to establish a quorum and Mr. Harvey being absent.

I. FY15-16 Budget Work Session
A. Agency Presentations

Blue Ridge Medical Center (School Nursing Program)

Ms. Sarah Tomlin, Director of the School Nurse Program addressed the Board and noted she was speaking as a school nurse who spent her time at Nelson County High School. She then thanked the Board for funding the program for the past eighteen (18) years. She noted that there were currently RNs in each school five (5) days a week for eight (8) hours a day. She noted that they had the ability to assess, triage, and treat illnesses and injuries as well as administer over the counter medications and prescription medications with authorization. Ms. Tomlin then noted that that they had never had to deal with a severe reaction or illness. She noted that in addition, they did health screenings, individual and group education, and maintained confidential health records. She reported that from this school year, August until March, they had 22,880 student encounters documented, had administered 6,511 prescription medications, and 18,377 over the counter medications were given.

Ms. Tomlin noted that they were contracted through Blue Ridge medical Center (BRMC) to provide services to the schools and they had direct access to BRMC doctors if they needed advice etc.

She then noted that if they could not get some additional funding for 2016, they would have to look at reducing their stock of over the counter medications and parents would have to bring them to the school in the original box and fill out a form for each medication to be

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received by their child. She noted that this would be a hardship on parents and would increase the number of students that would leave school early because of a headache or sore throat etc. Ms. Tomlin noted that salaries had been stagnant for years and they were all dedicated nurses who worked over forty (40) hours per week and did what needed to be done. She added that their last nurse was hired in February 2008 which demonstrated their dedication. Ms. Tomlin then noted that upgrading to their computer documentation program was needed to move to a hosting service with SNAP program. She noted that with this, the program would constantly be upgraded and records backed up more securely.

Ms. Debbie Williams, COO of BRMC then addressed the Board. She noted that the School Nurses were very dedicated and they were lucky to have no recent turnover. She noted that if they did, they would not be able to hire in new nurses at the current salaries. She added that it was difficult to get nurses in Nelson period because of the competition in the area. Ms. Williams clarified that the School Nurse Program was not a BRMC program, but rather was one that BRMC hosted with no benefit to them from receiving the funds. She noted that they would like to give the nurses a raise and be able to continue to provide over the counter medications in the schools. She added that the program was set up this way so it would not be in direct competition for education funding and she noted she would like to see an increase in funding in order to continue it the way it has been run.

Ms. Brennan then asked if the program bought and stocked the over the counter medications and Ms. Williams noted that they did purchase these medications through the pharmacy at BRMC. She added that they did currently have electronic medical records and used the SNAP program; which did not coordinate with medical records at BRMC. She noted that it did interface with the PowerSchool program for demographics only.

Mr. Hale asked for clarification of the increase in the projected cost for supplies, and it was noted that this was for the over the counter medications, office supplies, and the printing of student forms. Additionally, it was noted that the equipment line contained costs for computers and software.

Ms. Brennan thanked them for their services provided to the children of Nelson County and noted that she thought they would see an increase in the severity and complexity in conditions seen. She then asked if their salaries were tied to school salaries and it was noted that they were independent and that it had been since 2008-2009 since their last raise; because of the level funding provided by the Board. It was also noted that sports physical money had gone back into the school nurse program and that even though they bought their over the counter medications through the BRMC pharmacy, the money for this came from the funding provided by the County.

Mr. Bruguiere indicated that he thought this program should be in the School Board's budget and Mr. Carter advised that the funding was provided as a transfer from the County to the Schools. Ms. Williams noted that she thought it was set up this way so the funding was identified as being specifically for the School Nurse Program.

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Mr. Hale then noted he thought it was fortunate that BRMC managed the program and he thought otherwise it would be much more difficult.

Ms. Williams concluded by noting that a lot was done that was not reimbursed by the program, such as the pharmacy work, IT, and reporting to the County. She added that this had also not been requested to be reimbursed.

JAUNT, Inc.

Mr. Brad Sheffield, Executive Director addressed the Board and provided a handout.

Mr. Sheffield noted that a Nelson County resident, Debbie Taylor had been employed by JAUNT for thirty-seven (37) of the forty (40) years of its existence. Mr. Sheffield then noted that one of the County's JAUNT Board members, Mercedes Sotura, had submitted her resignation and was stepping down from the Board.

Mr. Sheffield then noted that JAUNT services were a combined partnership amongst member counties. He noted that annual ridership in Nelson was consistently around 1,200 with an uptick in recent months. He added that overall ridership was holding steady and he wanted a solid foundation to grow from.

Mr. Sheffield then noted that it cost \$321,371 to operate in Nelson County and that approximately 1/3 of these costs were provided by the County. He added that an approximate \$17,000 shortfall in local funds equated to a \$35,000 budget reduction; since if they were given more money, they would get more federal money. He added that State funding was provided to replace local funding in a 1 to 1 ratio and that they were trying to increase performance.

Mr. Sheffield then noted the services provided for in their FY16 budget request as follows:

- The Pine River and Lovingston commuter routes to Charlottesville
- Five days per week commuter route to Wintergreen for County residents funded by Wintergreen
- Five days per week midday service to Charlottesville
- Service to the Nelson Center on Mondays and Tuesdays
- Service to the Rockfish Center on Thursdays

Ms. Sheffield then noted the effect of the difference in not receiving the \$17,478 in requested funds as follows:

- Reduce midday service to Charlottesville from five days per week to three days for a savings of \$13,933
- Reduce hours of service to Nelson Center on Mondays and Tuesdays to 10am and 2pm, and 4pm to 6pm for a savings of \$3,545

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Mr. Sheffield then related that a grant now provided one day service to the Nelson Center without any local funding for this and the County paid for four (4) days with its funding. He noted that not funding their request would eliminate one day and would shift one day to the grant; which would mean the grant funds would be used more quickly. He added that in FY17, they would have to look at how to cover services when the grant ran out.

He then introduced Debbie Taylor to further note the effects of eliminating services.

Ms. Taylor noted that cutting out intracounty services would eliminate rides to BRMC, physical therapy, or shopping in Lovingston. She noted that in Afton, they offered services on Thursdays. She noted that they had one rider who used JAUNT to access Afton Medical Center and the midday route to Charlottesville. She noted that most riders using it were doing so for medical services and they usually had no alternative transportation. She noted that they had dialysis ridership to Charlottesville also who were dependent upon the service. She added that if they cut back intracounty services, this would affect access to senior centers and the four (4) trips per year that Gladstone took to Lovingston would be reduced.

Mr. Sheffield then related to the Board that Agency trips got a full rate paid to JAUNT and this reduced locality costs. He noted that they were building up that base in the County and providing them stable service with additional funding ensured they could provide Agency trips that would offset the local investment. He noted that the average cost was \$51 per hour per agency and they would be aggressive in getting Agency trips and the right balance to keep the local assistance levels reasonable.

Mr. Hale questioned why Nelson County's increase in funds requested was higher than any of the other localities and Mr. Sheffield noted it was because of the way the number of hours was formulated. He noted that they looked at what services were projected and divided up the operating expenses. He added that Nelson has had low agency services so the locality was taking on more of the burden and it was a combination of these factors. He added he wanted to get to stable ground to work from to make this more efficient.

Mr. Bruguiere noted that costs for fuel were down over \$1 per gallon and that they should have some carryover funds from this. Mr. Sheffield advised that part of their challenge was that the State did not fulfill its \$90,000 obligation in funding this time last year and the impact was to cut internally and cut the fuel budget this year and next year. He noted that this was compounded by the loss in federal funds related to this \$90,000. Mr. Bruguiere then noted that he thought JAUNT should be operated like a for profit entity. Mr. Sheffield noted they would look at rate increases as well and who those would impact.

Ms. Brennan noted that they could increase rates on specific services, which would impact certain riders and that seniors tended to use intracounty services. It was noted that local increases would be doubled by federal dollars. Mr. Sheffield then noted that people were using other providers for agency trips now, but they were less reliable than JAUNT. He added that the State gave agency providers money based on the service dynamics of the contract. He noted that their administrative costs were not increased by this; which was 10% of their costs. He noted that all increases except for about 10% of it were going to operating

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costs. He noted that they had very little employee turnover in drivers so benefit costs were increasing. He noted that Agency trips would not increase their operations substantially.

Jefferson-Madison Regional Library

Susan Huffman, Branch Manager addressed the Board and noted how much she has enjoyed her role since September when she took over after Tanith Knight retired.

She then noted that from July to now, they had a circulation of 39,096 items, they had 5,625 patrons, and 22,642 items in their collection and they continued to have it evolve to meet citizens' needs.

Ms. Huffman noted that one of her goals was to partner with the School system and she noted that they had hosted a pre-K night at the library, were working on an English as a second language book club, and were visiting all elementary schools about their summer reading program. She noted that they had held eight (8) sessions with 9th graders as an orientation to the library and had presented workshops to middle school classes on how to write a picture book based on a math concept.

Ms. Huffman then reported that last year at the same time, they were doing forty-seven (47) programs and this year they were doing ninety-nine (99) programs such as: books, passive crafts, expanded movie events: Monday evenings and Thursday afternoons, samplings of new books, working with a teen advisory board at NCHS, having a Juvenile book club on Friday afternoons, and having napping day, dragon day, and read to your child day. She added that they have implemented a reach out and read program with BRMC, where the doctor speaks to children and families about the importance of reading and books are then given out at the well child checkups.

Ms. Huffman then noted that she appreciated the work that was being done on the facility, such as the painting that was being done the next week. She added that they were moving things around to make it more open and welcoming and may be adding new furniture through working with the Torn Land committee. She concluded by noting the Library Advisory Board met once a month.

John Halliday, Director of JMRL addressed the Board and reiterated that great things were going on at the Nelson Library. He noted that the FY2016 proposed per capita cost of library services was \$15.85 which was below the state average of \$31.24, Amherst County's at \$28.18, and Lynchburg's at \$26.50.

Mr. Halliday noted that the Library budget was the same as in 2013. He noted that Nelson had a small staff and that they had sent staff from Charlottesville as necessary. He noted that the Library had closed for a week in a past fiscal year and he did not think that was good service and they would like to partially address a modest increase of 3.3% requested.

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Ms. Brennan inquired as to the status of the Library expanding and Mr. Halliday noted that it was small for the amount of visits it got; however there was no real plan at this point. He added the Library Advisory Committee was meeting on the issue.

Mr. Hale questioned the increase of local funds being 2% and Mr. Halliday confirmed this was shown on paper; however 3.3% was the overall increase to the Library.

Monticello Area Community Action Agency

There were no representatives present to report.

OAR/Jefferson Area Community Corrections

Mr. Jim Hall introduced himself as being a CCJB Member from Nelson, Neal Goodloe, the Criminal Justice Coordinator, and Pat Smith, Executive Director.

Mr. Hall noted that the Board should have gotten a letter from Commonwealth Attorney, Anthony Martin, regarding his support of pretrial and local probation programs. Mr. Hall noted that they supervised people and came to Nelson two to three times per month. He then noted that in the past, Nelson had not funded the Criminal Justice Planner. He then indicated he would turn over the presentation to Neal Goodloe, to speak about the benefits of Planning. He added that Nelson's share of total funding would be 0.3% which was the lowest compared to Albemarle at 8.5%, Charlottesville at 13.1%, Fluvanna at 0.75%, Greene at 0.4%, and Louisa at 0.95%.

Mr. Neal Goodloe noted that he was a thirty-two (32) year veteran of the Criminal Justice community, with twenty-five (25) years spent in the Charlottesville probation office. He noted that he had brought about an evidence based way of doing corrections. He noted that he retired from that in 2008 and joined a consulting firm to help facilities improve. He noted that he found that there was a struggle in the coordination of services between entities that did not communicate as well as they should for a variety of reasons. He added that his job was to provide coordination amongst the nine (9) entities that made up the community Criminal Justice Board. He then noted it was important to understand how crime traveled and affected neighboring localities and he wanted to bring to CCJB an opportunity for Nelson County to benefit from research, statistics, and from proximity to other counties.

Mr. Goodloe then reported that they now had data that suggested some good things were going on with crime rates such as: felonies down 10% from 2012-2013 and domestics were down. He noted that drug arrest rates were up 40% and they were finding that to be a common denominator among rural counties served by CCJB. He added that they wanted to reduce the arrest rate and recidivism and look at what could be done to reduce the flow of drugs into Nelson County.

Mr. Goodloe noted that the County's investment in this would allow him to be on call to the Board to assist them in securing CCJB data specific to Nelson County and to look at individualized services supported by data to reduce correctional costs.

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Ms. Pat Smith noted the \$3,500 asked for was based on a formula. She added that they wanted to make things better for citizens based on evidence based work and she asked the Board to consider funding this request.

Ms. Brennan thanked them and noted that she thought this type of coordination was vital and that the evidence based data was amazing. She reiterated Anthony Martin's letter supporting the request.

Mr. Hall concluded by noting that the 21% decrease in domestic violence was attributable to the CIT program that the deputies had been trained in.

JABA

Ms. Marta Keene, Executive Director addressed the Board and thanked them for their past forty (40) years of support and asked for their endorsement of the budget. She noted that they had requested level funding despite increases in health insurance etc. and that they were absorbing these costs.

Ms. Keene then noted that over the next 10-15 years, there would be growth in the senior population; by 2030 there would be a 68% increase in the number of people over 65. Those over 85 would go up 82%. She noted that people were staying here and living longer and would have a need for more services.

Ms. Keene then noted that local funds were 25% of the services they support and were used to leverage other federal and state funds.

Ms. Keene distributed a statistics sheet noting that 54% of JABA's population lived alone, which was more than the County average of 24%. She also noted that 32.6% of those over 65 were living in poverty. She then explained that 100% of poverty was \$11,000 per year in income; which was less than \$1,000 per month and 57% of JABA's clients were at this level.

Ms. Keene then reported that things were going well at the Community Center and noted that Ms. Connie Brittle was getting donations from Food Lion to help with this. She then noted that there had been great satisfaction with the home delivered meals and now chilled meals were delivered and there was higher satisfaction there.

Ms. Keene reported that they had been able to increase health services, noting that 76 people participated in Health Services not 41 as was shown. She added that 218 home visits were conducted. She noted that they had a nurse go to Ryan School Apartments since many there were homebound.

She then reported that the Ombudsman would continue to support residents and they were working with PACE and five (5) residents at Lovington Healthcare Center had been referred to this program. She added that this was an alternative program so these folks could continue to stay in Nelson to meet medical and social needs.

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Ms. Keene noted that they have had ninety (90) volunteers this year and would like to start a “Friends in Schools Helping” program. She noted that they would find sponsors for this and have identified seven (7) volunteers who wanted to participate.

She then noted that they got a grant to increase programming at Ryan School and this increased participation from those residents. She noted that they would be able to provide one more meal on site at Ryan and could do this once per week.

Mr. Hale asked about the PACE program and Ms. Keene noted that it was a Medicare and Medicaid integrated program to allow for someone needing nursing home care to stay in their home. She noted that the program set up a plan coordinating medical care and or adult day care during the day; some home care in the morning or at night, with medications etc. being done with the family or the patient. She noted that this was an insurance plan and Medicare was looking at a more integrated approach. Ms. Keene noted that there was very little out of pocket cost to the participant if they had Medicare and Medicaid. She added that right now, they went to Charlottesville on Carlton Avenue. She noted that the program was a year old, and if they had over 100 participants, they would create a satellite in Nelson if there was enough need. She noted that the program could include use of the Nelson Center for this.

Nelson County Health Department

Ms. Denise Bonds, introduced herself as the new District Health Director; noting that she had been at VDH since January and had learned a lot about its services and staff. She noted she has lived in the Charlottesville-Albemarle area for the past eight (8) years.

Ms. Bonds noted that the Nelson Health Department had permitted sixty-seven (67) wells and issued one hundred and three (103) septic permits in the previous fiscal year. Additionally, she noted that they had seen two hundred eighty-two (282) individuals in their family planning clinic, had provided nine hundred twenty-six (926) WIC nutrition visits, had provided sixty-nine (69) car seats, and thirty-five (35) safe sleep kits. Ms. Bonds then noted that three hundred ninety-one (391) immunizations were done in the Health Department last year.

Ms. Bonds then reported that their accreditation process was complete and they would know in August if they had been approved and if so, they would be the second to achieve this in the state. She noted that accredited meant that they had provided a Community Health Assessment Plan, a Community Health Improvement Plan, and had maintained standards equivalent to those across the nation. She added that this was a sign of improvement in standards in the Health Department.

Ms. Bonds noted they had just finished the 2015 update of the map in the Community Health Improvement plan and they would send out a bulletin on this update. She noted that the 2012 priority areas were the increasing rate of obesity, insufficient access to mental healthcare in the region, large and insufficient prenatal care, and racial disparities seen in birth outcomes, and tobacco use that was above the healthy people 2020.

She noted that they would begin this work again soon and would work with Martha Jefferson Hospital and UVA and any others interested parties.

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Ms. Bonds then noted that they would be working on a free flu clinic for next year in Nelson in the fall and would be setting a date for this. She added it would be free of charge to citizens and was considered an emergency preparedness exercise for their staff.

Ms. Bonds noted that County health rankings came out and Nelson was sixty-three (63) out of one hundred plus (100+) in health outcomes.

She then reported that they worked on permitting temporary events in the County and looked at water and septic systems to be used. She noted that Nelson had three labor intensive events: LOCKN, the FESTY, and the Virginia Craft Brewer's Festival. She noted that the man days for LOCKN required the equivalent of eighty-one (81) staff days; which included all of the planning, permitting, and being on site during the event to make sure there was adequate water and there were no issues with sewage/septic and food preparation. She noted that the FESTY and the Virginia Craft Brewer's Festival required an equivalent of five (5) staff days. Ms. Bonds further noted that the County had one (1) environmental specialist who assisted with all of this as well as was responsible for all of the well and septic permitting for citizens and restaurant inspections. She noted that the other health districts had been subsidizing this person to make sure these were done timely. She added that they charged \$40 for an event permit and she noted this was a bargain for LOCKN. She noted that they were not asking for any budget increases to cover this; however she noted that as these events became larger and more frequent; it would put a greater burden on him and it may require further discussion. She added that their objective was to be sure that people attending these events remained safe and their due diligence was done.

Ms. Bonds then noted that they had not asked for an increase in the last few years; however they were asking for a slight increase for next year. She reiterated that there were increasing demands on the health department with the special events that may need to be revisited. She then noted that she would be glad to come back and speak about the health of Nelson County and offered to take questions.

Mr. Hale noted he thought that the \$40 fee was set at the state level and Ms. Bonds noted that she thought it was; however there may be other fees that could be tacked on that would roll back to the County. Mr. Carter added that County staff was working on an amendment to this.

Mr. Bruguere noted his skepticism regarding the Health Department's activities for eighty-one (81) days for LOCKN. Ms. Bonds reiterated that they worked with the LOCKN organizers well ahead of and during the event. She noted that they made sure there were enough port-o-johns for the number of anticipated people; which was around 35,000 people for four (4) days. She added that they had to inspect their placement and make sure they were not near the food and water facilities and there was a plan in place to empty these timely. She noted that they made sure there was adequate water facilities on site and that an emergency planner worked with all others involved in the area. She noted that they had a hospital built on site and that a person worked with them to be sure that they had adequate supplies. She noted that they had to ensure there were adequate facilities and contingency plans for mass treatment of a food borne illness and evacuation plans for major weather

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events etc. She reiterated that it was a very extensive process and they wanted attendees to feel safe and not worried about food borne illness etc.

Mr. Bruguere suggested that the event organizers should submit these plans to VDH for their review and approval. Ms. Bonds noted that every year, the organizers were getting better and were well aware of what was required to host a festival of that size. She added that they were essentially creating a mini-city for four (4) days that was twice the population of the County. She noted that she gave them full credit, however they did not know what they needed and part of their job was to educate them and the public as to what was needed to be safe. She added that this was within their mandate; so they were spending time with them during the organizational process so they knew what was needed and so then the plans brought to them were sufficient. She added that they did do inspections at the festival and they were there to be sure that the refrigeration of all of the meat there was held at the correct temperature. She noted they used many generators and made sure these did not break down. She noted that they also ensured that the food being prepared and served was a sufficient distance from the port-o-johns and that there was sufficient hand washing facilities. She added that this was a substantial undertaking that has been very successful; with no large outbreaks and no complaints thus far; however it was their job to ensure this. She noted that they wanted patrons to have a good experience and wanted them to come back and spend their money in Nelson County; however they would not do that if they were to get sick.

Mr. Saunders commented that it did not seem fair that LOCKN paid \$40 for a permit for the festival and individuals were charged \$800 for a well and septic system permit. Ms. Bonds did not disagree and noted that she was just providing the facts.

Region Ten Community Services Board

Mr. Robert Johnson, Executive Director addressed the Board and showed a PowerPoint presentation that contained the following information:

Nelson Consumers Served in FY14 =524; 191 children (36%) and 333 Adults (64%)

Priority Populations:

- 19% (#97) = SMI (have Serious Mental Illness)
- 18% (#91) = SED (have Serious Emotional Disorders)
- 34% (#178) = Substance Abuse
- 12% (#64) = Intellectual Disability

Mr. Johnson noted that these numbers were duplicate; meaning that the same person could be counted in more than one category. He noted that the totals here were different because of the services that they provided to the non-priority population. He noted that they remained committed to the recovery process and their motto was a better life, a better community.

Top Three Mental Health Diagnosis in FY14

Adults: Depressive Disorders 17%, Bipolar Mood Disorders 16%, and Schizophrenia Psychotic Disorders 11%

Children: Attention Deficits/Disruptive Behavior Disorders 42%, Learning Disorders 16%, and Depressive Disorders 6%

Mr. Johnson noted that these numbers were common across CSBs in the state and that they worked closely with sister agencies such as the Department of Social Services and the School System. Mr. Johnson noted he wanted to note that their staff were specialists in these areas.

Top Three Primary Substances Used (for Nelson County)

- Alcohol (60%), Marijuana (21%), and Non-heroin opiates (painkillers) (5%)

Mr. Johnson noted that addiction to painkillers was becoming more prevalent nationwide. He added that they were seeing more complex issues with individuals and he noted it was important for staff to train year-round and for them to cross-train in disorders.

How the Appropriation Request is Determined Each Year

For FY2016:

- The % that Nelson County “cost of services” is of total cost of services = 6.3%
- The % that Nelson County population is of the total catchment area population = 6.4%
- The average of the two percentages = 6.4% (rounded to nearest tenth)
- The “Averaged Percent” times our overall Local Request = \$103,813

Mr. Johnson noted that Region Ten’s total cost of services was approximately \$33 Million and Nelson County’s costs were approximately \$2 Million; which was how the 6.3% was derived.

Mr. Johnson reported that the 2010 population in Region Ten per the Weldon Cooper Center was 234,712 and was used in the second calculation along with the 2010 population of Nelson County of 15,020 which equated to 6.4%. He noted that their FY16 requested increase from Nelson was derived by the above formula and was \$136,735.

Financial Impact

Nelson’s Current Appropriation: \$92,586

- Value of Services Provided = \$2,090,507
- Return on Investment = 23:1

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- Personnel \$ Community Reinvestment = \$1,028,734.05

Mr. Johnson then introduced Morgan Lanier to present program highlights.

Program Highlights

Mr. Morgan Lanier noted that since 2003, the Therapeutic Day Treatment Program had grown from one (1) staff member to twelve (12) and would be expanding to fourteen (14). He noted that they were serving eighty-three (83) kids in all of the schools and that they would be able to use the school facilities for their summer program this year. He noted that the Horizon House Program was a psychosocial rehabilitation program for adults with serious mental illness and intellectual disabilities; that focused on independent living and social skills, as well as recovery education. He advised that they were now using the Wii and smart board technology for their participant's physical health and it has been well received by participants.

Mr. Lanier then related that some of the Horizon House clients participated in a Consumer Advisory Council and that Nelson had three (3) people named to officer positions who would go to monthly meetings. He added that on April 22nd, they would participate in VSA activities. He advised the Board on a new program which was a free family support group that was started and led by licensed staff for the purpose of uniting families that had similar family issues. He noted this would be held from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm every third Wednesday of the month; with the first meeting being that Wednesday.

Mr. Johnson then introduced Ms. Marcia Becker, Senior Director of Rural Services, and former Director of the Nelson Clinic to discuss program opportunities.

Program Opportunities

Ms. Becker noted that the third floor of their Lovingson building was still vacant and unfinished. She advised that they were looking into bringing integrated care to that space as they had done in Charlottesville in conjunction with Martha Jefferson Hospital. She added that they were in preliminary talks with Blue Ridge Medical Center who had indicated a strong interest in partnering with them on this.

Ms. Becker then discussed the potential to establish a sixty-two (62) bed assisted living facility at the Lovingson Healthcare Center building that would be vacated in 2016. She noted that she saw this as a benefit to the County, Region Ten and County citizens. She noted that it would benefit the County by utilizing the facility that would be hard to market to other private providers. She added that they were proposing a mix of auxiliary beds and low cost private pay beds. She noted that the building was move in ready for them and no renovations were needed. She added that as is, the facility would be a Cadillac for their clients. She added that the County would be able to partner with them, an organization that has been in the County for forty (40) years and has had a good relationship with the County. She noted that this would benefit the citizens by providing them access to an assisted living facility in their community. She noted that they anticipated having twenty (20) private pay beds and this would also provide a home for some of their most vulnerable citizens. She then noted the recent closure of other assisted living facilities in the County. She noted that

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additionally, this would provide jobs and would benefit Region Ten by providing access to quality facilities for their clients; which would provide a continuum of services with their nearby facilities. She added this would provide the opportunity to get clients out of the hospital sooner and provide an intensive level of care within the community.

Mr. Hale noted that he thought that having an assisted living facility would be great and it was worth pursuing. Mr. Bruguiera agreed this was needed and noted it should be explored quickly.

Extension Service

Mr. Michael LaChance, Unit Coordinator in Lovingston addressed the Board and noted that they had requested \$52,597 for FY16. He noted this was level funding except for cost of living increases in salaries and retirement. He noted that the office had two Agents, Carissa Wilson and him and they covered 4-H and Ag and natural resources and 33.3% of their costs were covered by County funds. He added that they shared a livestock agent with Amherst and the County paid 15% for her. He then noted that he will have been with Nelson Extension for twenty-three (23) years and they had the best staffing of his tenure. He then complimented Carissa Wilson who has a Master's Degree and was showing great progress. He added that Alyssa Elliot also had a Master's Degree and he noted her background in meat products processing as well as in livestock. He noted his background was in entomology and pest management with a focus in commercial fruit production and he concluded by noting that their Office Assistant Lucinda McRae was also very capable and her position was 100% funded by the State.

Mr. LaChance then noted that they had completed a situational analysis on how to move forward in identifying local needs and had also undergone a Civil Rights review that found that their programs provided equal access.

He then noted that the staff participated in local and regional events and handled phone calls that came into the office. He added that they could relay these calls on to Virginia Tech and Virginia State University if needed. He noted that he was working with the Universities to empower new farmers and give them the necessary business sense to be successful. He noted he was called upon to give talks around the state to ease the transition of farms from one generation to the next over the next twenty (20) years.

Mr. LaChance reported that in the past year, there had been a good public response to their water testing program. He noted that in the winter, they had forty-five (45) people participate and they would repeat the program in the beginning of June. He noted that they were testing the integrity of home plumbing systems by testing the bottom of the well and the first run of water in the morning in order to determine if old systems needed rehabilitation.

He then noted that a couple of years ago, he wrote a grant to promote the awareness of home fruit and vegetable production and an anonymous benefactor had given them \$10,000 for this program. He added that there would be a teaching bee yard within the county schools as well as areas to learn about fruit and vegetable production. He advised that he and the other

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Agents would be going to Tye River Elementary School to revamp the outdoor classroom area and put in raised beds for each grade level there.

Mr. LaChance then noted that there were significant volunteers in the County such as the Master Gardeners & Naturalists and those involved in the 4-H program; which multiplied the impact of the Extension Office.

He then noted that in his responsibilities with Agricultural and Natural Resources, he made over 100 farm visits every year; usually to address a specific problem. He added that there were a lot startup operations happening which was encouraging. He advised that there was a shortage of wine grapes in the state and many people were having their land evaluated for producing this crop. He added that they were looking at going into production using the poorer soil locations in the Piedmont area that could be used for this purpose.

Mr. LaChance then discussed the interest in water quality in the county and noted that they were working with the Soil and Water Conservation District and DEQ to improve this. He then praised the quality of programming coming out of these efforts and he added that he was working monthly with DEQ and a volunteer group on a citizen's science project where they tested water quality at access points on the Tye River and Rockfish River. He noted that they were documenting that they were in good condition and he added that although the waterways were impaired; water quality was still doing okay.

He then noted the Office's involvement in the Nelson County Community Day, which would be at Devil's Backbone in May. He added that Extension was handling the community tent that would house other agencies such as TJSWCD. He noted that they would also have a tent at the Farmer's Market.

Mr. LaChance concluded by noting that the Extension system was unique and had a positive impact on health, nutrition, and the profitability of small business in the community.

Ms. Brennan inquired about his work with bees and he noted that they had a monthly bee meeting and he taught beekeeping in Nelson and in other Counties as well. He noted there was a lack of pollinators and there was now an incentive program that would underwrite the cost of bee equipment (boxes etc.) but not bees.

B. County Attorney Pay Adjustment Request (P. Payne)

This item was not considered by the Board.

II. Other Business (As May Be Presented)

Introduced: Letter to FERC

Ms. Brennan asked for the Board to endorse sending letters to all of the Federal Legislators asking them to request that FERC extend the Scoping Period for taking environmental comments on the Atlantic Coast Pipeline and to hold another Scoping meeting in Nelson County.

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Ms. Brennan then moved that the County send letters to our two Senators and Congressman Hurt asking them to ask FERC to extend the Atlantic Coast Pipeline Scoping period and to have another Scoping meeting. Mr. Hale seconded the motion and there being no further discussion, Supervisors voted unanimously (4-0) by roll call vote to approve the motion.

Introduced: Citizens Committee – Lovingson Healthcare Center Building

Ms. Brennan asked the Board to give its support to set up a citizens committee to get an assisted living facility in place at the Lovingson Healthcare Center building. She added that she had interested citizens that would like to investigate this further and the committee would then report its findings to the Board.

Mr. Hale suggested that prior to having this, she ought to provide a written proposal on who would be on the committee, how it was formed, and its purpose and Mr. Saunders agreed.

Ms. Brennan noted she had a list of people to be on the committee and she would do this on her own if the Board did not want to do it.

Mr. Saunders noted he would like for the full Board to discuss it and discuss the Region Ten proposal before doing this.

Ms. Brennan noted that she would like for the committee to look at all possibilities not just Region Ten. Mr. Saunders reiterated that he would like to see the full Board discuss it first and provide input on what the committee would do. Mr. Hale agreed that there needed to be full Board discussion on this.

Mr. Carter noted that Region Ten had provided the only proposal thus far; however a company from Harrisonburg wanted to come over and take a look at the building.

Mr. Saunders reiterated that he wanted the full Board to discuss it and Mr. Bruguiere agreed.

Supervisor then agreed by consensus to add this subject to the April 14, 2015 Agenda.

III. Adjournment

At 5:20 PM, Mr. Hale moved to adjourn and there was no second. Supervisors then voted unanimously by voice vote to approve the motion and the meeting adjourned.