

July 5, 2012

Virginia:

AT A CALLED MEETING of the Nelson County Board of Supervisors at 4:30 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors room located on the second floor of the Nelson County Courthouse in Lovingston, Virginia.

Present: Constance Brennan, Central District Supervisor
Thomas H. Bruguere, Jr. West District Supervisor - Vice Chair
Larry D. Saunders, South District Supervisor
Thomas D. Harvey, North District Supervisor -Chair
Stephen A. Carter, County Administrator/Clerk
Candice W. McGarry, Administrative Assistant/Deputy Clerk

Absent: Allen M. Hale, East District Supervisor

I. Call to Order

Mr. Harvey called the meeting to order at 4:35 pm with four (4) Supervisors present to establish a quorum and Mr. Hale being absent.

II. Declaration of Local Emergency

Mr. Carter noted that the declaration was in response to the storm, that staff had declared a local emergency and per the local plan, the local governing body had to endorse the declaration of emergency within five (5) days. He added that the Governor had also declared a statewide emergency. He noted that it was unknown what would happen once the disaster conditions were remedied or whether or not the County would get disaster relief funding. He concluded by noting that this was a step that enabled staff to respond and was also formal action to ensure that the County was included in any relief funding that may become available.

Mr. Bruguere then moved to approve resolution **R2012-50**, Declaration of a Local Emergency and Ms. Brennan seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Supervisors voted unanimously (4-0) by roll call vote to approve the motion and the following resolution was adopted:

**RESOLUTION-R2012-50
NELSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
DECLARATION OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY**

AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF NELSON COUNTY, VIRGINIA, HELD AT 4:30 PM IN THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ROOM, SECOND FLOOR OF THE COURTHOUSE IN LOVINGSTON, VA ON THURSDAY, JULY 5, 2012.

RESOLUTION R2012-50, DECLARING A LOCAL EMERGENCY TO EXIST IN NELSON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Nelson County, Virginia does hereby find as follows:

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1. That due to the occurrence of severe storm conditions occurring on Friday, June 29, 2012, Nelson County is facing a condition of extreme peril to the lives, safety and property of the residents of Nelson County; and
2. That as a result of this extreme peril, the proclamation of the existence of an emergency is necessary to permit the full powers of government to deal effectively with this condition of peril.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY PROCLAIMED by the Board of Supervisors of Nelson County, Virginia, that a local emergency now exists throughout Nelson County; and

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of this emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the Director of Emergency Services and the Emergency Services organization and functions of Nelson County shall be those prescribed by the Laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Ordinances, Resolutions, and approved plans of Nelson County in order to mitigate the effects of said emergency.

In order to carry out the effect of this Resolution, the County Administrator is hereby authorized to cover the reasonable operational costs of emergency services pending further report to this Board and including such additional appropriations as shall be deemed necessary to cover the expected scope of this emergency.

Mr. Carter then reported that Nelson United Methodist Church had been opened for a cooling station and has been open throughout the storm situation as well as six (6) others. He noted that there were seven (7) open at one time and that it was now down to one (1) and the County was supporting them with food, water, ice, and propane. He noted that they had been using propane to cook and that the County had secured 450 Meals Ready to Eat (MREs) from JABA and most had been used. He added that Blue Dog was able to provide these if needed.

Mr. Carter then reported that County staff has distributed some bottled water to impacted areas of Schuyler. He added that this may be extraordinary but there was still a need and the County was responding.

Mr. Carter then reported that as of that morning, CVEC was close to restoration and AEP had 950 customers out of power remaining. He noted that there was more damage in Schuyler than originally thought and that AEP restoration may go over until Monday.

Mr. Carter then noted that Jaime Miller had been there throughout the situation and that County staff has been engaged. He added that the volunteers and community have been outstanding. He noted that he was concerned about the amount of wood waste that the County may be getting and he noted that the Solid Waste Ordinance described what size wood waste would be taken. He noted that they could divert it to the Regional Landfill where it would be taken without question; however the haul distance was an inconvenience. He added that Staff was discussing what to do and that Paul Truslow had advised that there was a site at the transfer station to stockpile it, but that it had not yet been an issue.

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Mr. Harvey supposed that most would be usable for firewood and the rest was just brush. Mr. Carter noted that Staff had thought about bringing in a chipper for this. Mr. Carter noted that the charge at the Regional landfill was \$37 per ton if they were charged by them. It was then briefly discussed that it may be worthwhile to explore having a place to store the waste and then grind or chip it.

Mr. Harvey noted that he was proud of the lineman who were working so hard in the heat etc. and going home to no electricity themselves. He then also complimented the community on their response as well. Mr. Carter noted that he was in for twelve hours on Saturday and that the Staff was calm and professional, there was great cooperation, and he was very impressed. He added that David Johnson, Director of Transportation for the schools was very responsive and Dr. Collins was also very supportive.

In response to questions, Mr. Carter noted that there were nine (9) people in the cooling center during the day and 15-20 at the peak there at night. Mr. Carter added that the church would serve dinner that night and breakfast the following morning and then would gauge the need to stay open or not.

Ms. Brennan noted her surprise that there were no significant accidents or fatalities reported. Ms. Miller noted that there were some heat related incidences due to people not leaving their homes.

Mr. Carter noted that the County would keep up with it until power was restored and everyone was out of the cooling stations.

Mr. Bruguere commented that he has seen a lot of Verizon's lines covered with trees and that he would like to write a letter to them noting that communications were as important as power and that they needed to do a better job of taking care of their lines and right of ways.

Mr. Carter reported that there would be a staff meeting on the emergency response the following day. He noted that the County did not deploy the reverse 911 system ahead of the storm and once they did, it was not that functional. He added that they were going to discuss how to better get information out to people even though they were not ready to respond. Ms. Miller and Ms. Brennan both commented that no one had predicted that the storm would be so severe.

Mr. Carter then reported that the Wintergreen damage was unknown. He noted that Ms. Rorrer and Mr. Truslow had gone up to Sugarloaf to check the generator and had to get equipment in order to clear the area. He added that they would go up to High Top to clear that area also. It was then noted that it was also surprising as to how many trees were down on the Blue Ridge Trail.

Mr. Harvey then suggested waiting until next week to have the emergency response meeting and let staff recuperate first.

III. Adjournment

At 4:49 pm, Ms. Brennan moved to adjourn and Mr. Saunders seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Supervisors voted unanimously (4-0) by roll call vote to approve the motion and the meeting adjourned.