

VIRGINIA:

A meeting of the Lancaster County Board of Supervisors was held in the Administrative Building Board/Commission Meeting Room of said county on Thursday, February 27, 2020.

Members Present: Jason D. Bellows, Chair
Ernest W. Palin, Jr., Vice Chair
Jack D. Larson, Board Member
William R. Lee, Board Member
Robert S. Westbrook, Board Member

Staff Present: Don G. Gill, County Administrator
Brian D. Barnes, Planning/Land Use Director and
Environmental Codes Compliance Officer
James Cornwell, County Attorney
Crystal Whay, Clerk to the Board and Building/Land Use Assistant

Mr. Bellows called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Bellows led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Bellows stated that there was one correction to tonight’s agenda. He referred to the scheduled public hearing for the Old Lively School Project and stated that the applicant has asked for a 30-day delay, so the public hearing will be postponed until next month. He stated that if anyone in attendance would like to speak on that subject, they can do so in the public input session.

PUBLIC INPUT

George Bott, a District 1 citizen, suggested that the Board of Supervisors consider again using a company called BoardDocs or something similar, so that the board packages could be transmitted electronically.

Mr. Bott referred to the School Board budget and asked how much do newly hired teachers earn including benefits. He stated that the answer was \$59,000.00 and that was the number that he had suggested the administrative staff talk about when they are recruiting. He stated that figure was not too bad when someone is first coming out of college.

Mr. Bott stated that the Comprehensive Plan has served the County well, but he was concerned that the statement, to preserve the County's rural character, might be an impediment to some of the things that the Board is trying to do when it comes to growth and to allow for projects, such as solar.

Mr. Bott stated that he understood that, in the Capital Improvement Budget, there was a request to match funds for a grant that the Broadband Authority intends to apply for. He stated that, in his opinion, he thought the County needed to grant that request if the Broadband Authority is successful in obtaining the grant. He stated that broadband is the number one issue that is holding the County back. He stated that Lancaster is a dying county and has lost 700 people since the last census. He stated that real estate is not selling either. He stated that broadband access could improve these issues and really needs to be pursued.

Mr. Bott suggested relocating the podium in the meeting room as well as the screens. He also suggested a better way for presentations to be done when using the hardware and thumb drives.

Rita Theisen, an Irvington resident, stated that she wanted to echo what Mr. Bott had said about broadband and its importance to the County. She also referred to solar development and stated that she had seen, in her home state of Montana, that a solar farm company wanted to develop in a residential area. She stated that there is a lot to the issue and pros and cons, particularly in a watershed. She stated that she hoped there was some opposition to the issue.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Alvin Balderson, Acting Residency Administrator, stated that they have been working on the normal maintenance of pothole repair, brush cutting and drainage issues. He stated that there was a pipe failure on Route 1010 in Kilmarnock recently, but it has since been repaired.

Mr. Balderson stated that he had given Mr. Gill a 2019 VDOT manual for the Board of Supervisors' use that is very informational and deals with the processes of VDOT, such as signage.

Mr. Balderson stated that he had been the Acting Residency Administrator for the last couple of months, but VDOT has hired a new Residency Engineer for the area and he will start on March 10th.

Dr. Westbrook asked if Mr. Balderson was aware of the potential of a new post office in Weems.

Mr. Balderson replied that he had read about it in the paper and Mike Bryant, the Brookvale Superintendent, told him that the topic might be brought up at tonight's meeting. He stated that VDOT has received nothing from the postal service concerning the proposed post office. He stated that the postal service is a federal entity and it is still in the planning stages. He stated that, because it is federal, they don't have to report to the state, but they usually do as a

courtesy. He stated that their engineers would typically go to the site and do a traffic study to see what the impacts would be, but they cannot do that until they see a plan.

Mr. Lee asked if the same guidelines for other commercial buildings, such as the entrance, apply to post offices.

Mr. Balderson replied that the guidelines would apply, but they don't necessarily have to be permitted through the Commonwealth of Virginia because it is federal property.

Dr. Westbrook stated that the post office is being proposed on private property and asked if that was a distinction that VDOT could work with.

Mr. Balderson stated that VDOT could check on it because it is private property. He stated that he had spoken with the land use staff before the meeting to see if they had received anything from the postal service and they had not. He stated that he went down there and found that it was a very narrow street with approximately 14 feet of pavement and VDOT would most likely bear the costs of repair if the traffic started to damage the pavement. He stated that they would hope that the traffic engineering study would show that the increased traffic count would help them to find some funds to do some work there. He stated that he would suggest that once the County started in negotiations with the postal service that they try to get money from them for road repairs.

Dr. Westbrook stated that it was not about money, but about violating the neighborhood. He stated that widening the road there would widen it onto people's property.

Mr. Balderson stated that he would not be working in the area after a couple of weeks, but can pass along the Board's concerns to the appropriate people.

Mr. Gill asked Mr. Balderson if they could give him the post office plans that have been submitted to the County and if it would be of any value to VDOT.

Mr. Balderson replied yes and he would have the proper department review them.

Mr. Bellows stated that he wanted to thank VDOT for getting the flashing yellow light installed at Harmony Grove. He stated that he has received a lot of positive calls and he thought it would really help with traffic flow in the towns.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Broadband Authority Update

Cassie Thompson of the Broadband Authority stated that their meeting with the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) was held on February 6th where they presented their project management plan, which was the final requirement prior to approval for the telecommunication planning grant funds. She stated that there was additional paperwork being required by DHCD that will be provided by the Broadband Authority in the coming weeks.

Mrs. Thompson stated that during the month they have held meetings with the contractor that they had selected from the respondents to their RFI. She stated that this individual is assisting them in the development of a comprehensive plan for delivering service to unserved areas in the County. She stated that these meetings were contractual in nature and were closed sessions. She stated that the agreement they had signed with the contractor was focused on assistance with the preparation and submission of a competitive grant application to the US Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service ReConnect Program for a 100% grant which will provide funds in an amount sufficient to complete all the work to provide top-quality service in unserved areas. She stated that the grant application has 247 pages and they have six weeks to get it done. She stated that, if the grant is awarded, it will require a local government contribution, which they have identified in their budget submission for FY 2021. She stated that the application is due on March 16th. She stated that, after the application has been submitted, they will then start on the VATI grant. She stated that there were no guarantees for any of these grants, so they feel they should try for several.

Mrs. Thompson stated that they had been talking to Northern Neck Electric Cooperative and Atlantic Broadband about the “River Road Project” and, at this point, it will not happen.

Dr. Westbrook asked when the Broadband Authority would have results for the USDA grant.

Mrs. Thompson replied they should know something in July.

Dr. Westbrook stated that he understood that the CEO or President of the Northern Neck Electric Cooperative is retiring in the summer and it would not be outside the realm of possibilities that perhaps the new person, Atlantic Broadband and perhaps the Broadband Authority could work out something.

Mrs. Thompson agreed.

Mrs. Thompson referred to the USDA grant and stated that she wanted to let the Board know that the Broadband Authority has received letters of support from Rob Wittman, Ryan McDougle, the RCC President, Dr. Shannon Kennedy and School Superintendent Dan Russell. She stated that they have also requested letters from Governor Northam and Senators Kaine and Warner.

Mr. Bellows stated that he would like to get Rob Wittman, Tim Kaine and some of the others here for a photo opportunity when that grant application has been submitted. He stated that it could brand Lancaster County as being the first rural county in America to actually get fiber to every home.

Mrs. Thompson stated that she knew someone who was well connected to that group and she will ask them about that.

Mr. Lee stated that the Broadband Authority is doing a phenomenal job.

Mrs. Thompson stated that they have a good team.

2. Lancaster Community Library Update

Alice Cooper, the Lancaster Community Library Director, stated some facts about the library. She discussed the Teen Center and ongoing programs for all ages. She stated that the support of Lancaster County is vital to the successful operation of the library.

Mr. Larson stated that the materials provided from the library say that 13,036 people have a library card. He stated that, since the County's population is approximately 10,500, he could assume that some library cards are issued to people who are not residents of the County.

Ms. Cooper stated that was correct.

Mr. Larson asked if the library ever had a problem with people not returning books.

Ms. Cooper replied no.

Mr. Larson referred to the 13,036 library card holders and asked if Ms. Cooper had a breakdown of where those people lived in relation to their town and/or county.

Ms. Cooper replied yes and she could get that information to the Board.

Dr. Westbrook asked Ms. Cooper if the library approached the other counties, whose residents use the library, with funding requests.

Ms. Cooper replied no. She stated that the entire Northern Neck is on an informal reciprocal agreement, so any resident of any county can come to another library for a library card.

Dr. Westbrook stated that it would seem appropriate to ask the counties, whose residents use the library, for funding.

Ms. Cooper stated that she thought that was a reasonable request and once Lancaster County gets up to the level of funding that some of the other counties do, then the library would be in a position to ask others.

Rita Theisen, the Lancaster Community Library Treasurer, stated that the library was an incredible resource for the County. She explained some of the history of the library. She stated that the County has been supportive of the library over the years and it is appreciated. She stated that their budget request for the coming year will be for level funding. She stated that the library receives most of its support from grants, donations and fund raisers. She stated that it was important for them to keep a level of funding that enables them to take advantage of grants-in-aid from the Library of Virginia.

Ms. Theisen referred to exhibit A of her materials and stated that it was a copy of the Virginia Code that covers the grants-in-aid program through which the library receives a grant of approximately \$100,000.00 annually. She stated that the grant-in-aid program is subject to a rule that requires the participation of tax-payer supported funds and endowment funds. She stated that the Commonwealth of Virginia considers the establishment of libraries to be a local obligation. She stated that most libraries in Virginia are primarily tax-payer supported. She stated that exhibit D of her materials, which is a list of 93 Virginia libraries, shows the total government income versus endowment. She stated that she included it because she wanted to show where Lancaster County ranks on the list. She stated that it is near the bottom because of the government funding. She stated that what they ask for from the County is a very small amount when they consider the value of what the library provides to the community. She referred to exhibits B and C and stated that those documents also discuss the importance of government funding.

Ms. Theisen referred to exhibit D again and stated that only 4 libraries out of 93 receive less in government funding than Lancaster County. She stated that everyone uses the library and they provide services that she was not sure would happen if they weren't there. She stated that she appreciated what the County had done for the library and hoped the support would continue.

Mr. Palin asked, since this time last year, what has been done to increase the endowment fund.

Ms. Theisen replied that, for the most part, the endowment benefits from the performance of the stock market. She stated that sometimes people will donate to the endowment, but they don't have great opportunities to attract outside money into the endowment. She stated that the endowment had been doing well with the investment performance. She stated that the endowment has to be managed prudently because there will be down times and up times.

Dr. Westbrook suggested that the library have a fund raiser specifically for increasing the endowment.

Bob Denton, the Lancaster Community Library's Board of Directors' President, stated that the library could have a fund raiser for the endowment fund. He stated that since the endowment has done so well with its investment strategy, they have not felt the need to do that, yet.

Dr. Westbrook stated that, according to the materials they have received from the library, the funds come from the local government or from the endowment and that was the argument that he had made last year. He stated that, if the library built up its endowment, then it would need less from the County.

Mr. Denton stated that in their discussions with people who manage fund raisers, they were told that it would be much less appealing to have a fund raiser just for the endowment fund than it would be to raise funds for operational expenses.

Dr. Westbrook referred to the list of libraries that had been provided and stated that some of those libraries, like Virginia Beach Public Library and Henrico County Public Library, are located in much richer communities than Lancaster County. He stated that he would also like to see a per capita ratio on the libraries list because if the County's population of approximately 10,000 was included, he thought that Lancaster County would be a lot higher on the list.

Ms. Theisen stated that, in the last year or so, their endowment increased by over a half million dollars. She stated that there was no way they could come close to that with fund raising.

Mr. Bellows asked if they were adding to the endowment when someone passes away and specifies that they would like for people to give to the library as a memorial for them.

Mr. Denton replied that, as a general practice, those funds would not be put into the endowment, unless specifically identified.

Mr. Bellows suggested that the library do more to promote bequests and donations with such things as newspaper articles, so that more people are aware.

Ms. Theisen referred to the libraries list and stated that it came from the Library of Virginia.

Dr. Westbrook stated that they were given the list by Ms. Theisen and it was not a fair comparison.

Ms. Theisen stated that the County has a first class library and it gets very little government funding.

Dr. Westbrook stated that everyone accepts the value of the library and the difficult thing is trying to decide where the tax payers' money gets distributed. He stated that the library is in competition with a lot of other things.

Mr. Denton stated that he will be speaking with the library's finance committee about raising funds as well as ways to have people think of the library when they are doing their estate planning.

Mr. Palin stated that he gave the library his support last year with the understanding that they were going to work on the endowment and he was a little disappointed.

Mr. Lee referred to fund raising and stated that the most important thing is that they have to keep the library running with the operating funds and they can't jeopardize the operating funds for the endowment.

Mr. Palin stated that he understood that.

Mr. Bellows stated that he thought the library was a great asset to the community.

Mr. Larson asked for clarification about the library's budget request for FY 21. He asked if the library was asking for what was initially approved last year or what was approved after it got the second bite at the apple.

Mr. Denton replied that the library was asking for what was finally approved in FY 20.

Mr. Larson stated that the Board has a very difficult job in trying to distribute money to many worthy organizations. He stated that, last year, when the library was level funded, before it got the second bite at the apple, the Board had done for them something that they hadn't done for most of the others because a lot of organizations received reduced funding. He stated that some of the organizations' funding was cut because the Board had to and they will have to continue to do so. He stated that the County does not have the money in their Capital Improvement Fund for upcoming requested projects and by the way, the County bought the old library building that the library would possibly still have to deal with if the County hadn't stepped in to purchase the building for the schools. He stated that the library representatives say each year that the County has given it piddly amounts compared to other localities, so he wanted to give them the Board's perspective when dealing with the budget.

Mr. Larson stated that, if this is in fact a community library, he would expect that the towns, who have a far greater taxing authority than the County does, would be donating more than they do. He stated that he was glad that the Town of Kilmarnock had given \$5,000 to the library last year. He stated that he thought that Kilmarnock should be approached again this year for a contribution as well as the other two towns.

Ms. Theisen stated that if she gave the impression that she thought the County's contribution was piddly, she was very sorry about that because that was not the way that anyone at the library felt. She stated that the library does think the County's contribution is important because it helps them to do what they need to do and also to be eligible for the state's contribution. She stated that she understood that it is a community library and one of the things that she was trying to emphasize was if this library did not exist, then there would have to be a public library and the County would have to fund the entire thing instead of just a part of it.

Mr. Larson stated that he was not sure the County would do that, but the Town of Kilmarnock might.

Mr. Denton stated that he would be back next month and have more direction concerning the endowment fund.

PUBLIC HEARING (POSTPONED)

1. Application for Master Plan, Preliminary Plat and Site Plan Approval by RRI, LLC for Redevelopment of the Old Lively School Property

CONSENSUS DOCKET

Motion was made by Mr. Lee to approve the Consensus Docket and recommendation as follows:

1. Minutes for January 30th Regular Meeting

Recommendation: Approve minutes as submitted

VOTE:	Jason D. Bellows	Aye
	Ernest W. Palin, Jr.	Aye
	Jack D. Larson	Aye
	William R. Lee	Aye
	Robert S. Westbrook	Aye

CONSIDERATION DOCKET

The Board considered the following items on its Consideration Docket:

1. Approval of February 2020 Salaries and Invoice Listings

The motion was made by Mr. Palin to approve the salaries for February 2020 in the amount of \$300,412.45 and invoice listings for February 2020 in the amount of \$509,144.65*.

*Capital Improvements - \$48,816.50

VOTE:	Jason D. Bellows	Aye
	Ernest W. Palin, Jr.	Aye
	Jack D. Larson	Aye
	William R. Lee	Aye
	Robert S. Westbrook	Aye

2. Consideration of a Resolution Supporting the Broadband Authority's USDA Rural Utilities Services Reconnect Grant and Support to Fund the Required 25% Match

Mr. Gill stated that the Board had earlier heard from Cassie Thompson of the Broadband Authority about how they have worked diligently in trying to provide broadband throughout the County. He stated that part of the grant package that is being put together is to have a resolution from the Board of Supervisors that states their support of the grant application as well as support to fund the 25 percent required match. He stated that the grant application is due on March 16th and he requested that the Board consider passing this resolution tonight, so it can be included in the application.

Mr. Bellows made a motion to Approve the Resolution Supporting the Broadband Authority's USDA Rural Utilities Services Reconnect Grant and Support to Fund the Required 25% Match.

Supporting the Lancaster County Broadband Authority's USDA Rural Utilities Services ReConnect Grant Application and Support to Fund the Required 25% Grant Match

WHEREAS, a significantly large portion of Lancaster County is currently unserved or underserved with high speed broadband coverage; and

WHEREAS, this lack of high-speed broadband coverage adversely affects the economic and commercial development within our county, the education of our children when at home, and the quality of life of our citizens, in general, to name just a few; and

WHEREAS, the provision of high-speed broadband coverage throughout the county is stated as "absolutely essential" in the Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Lancaster County Board of Supervisors created and established the Lancaster County Broadband Authority in July 2018 as a means to accomplish that goal of high-speed broadband coverage throughout the county; and

WHEREAS, the Lancaster County Broadband Authority has worked diligently and tirelessly to get to the point of submission of this USDA Rural Utilities Services ReConnect grant, that if successful, will bring high speed broadband coverage to the doorstep of every home and business in Lancaster County;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of Lancaster County expresses its unanimous support for the Lancaster County Broadband Authority's USDA Rural Utilities Services ReConnect Grant Application; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of Lancaster County expresses its unanimous support to fund the required 25% match for the Lancaster County Broadband Authority's USDA Rural Utilities Services ReConnect grant, if successful, as it will improve the lives of every Lancaster County citizen.

VOTE: Jason D. Bellows Aye

Ernest W. Palin, Jr.	Aye
Jack D. Larson	Aye
William R. Lee	Aye
Robert S. Westbrook	Aye

3. Consideration of Proclaiming April 25, 2020 as “County-Wide Clean-Up Day”

Mr. Gill stated that last year the Board of Supervisors proclaimed the last Saturday in April for its first County-Wide Clean-Up Day as one means of responding to the public’s outcry for litter control. He stated that the day was a success and after discussions with Mr. Lee, it is being suggested again this year. He stated that they would follow the same program and set-up as they did last year. He stated that they would advertise in the paper and engage local groups to participate. He stated that he still had supplies from last year, such as trash bags and safety vests. He stated that he was asking the Board to proclaim April 25, 2020 as this year’s County-Wide Clean-Up Day.

Mr. Bellows stated that last year’s clean-up day was very successful and would like to see it promoted more this year to try to encourage more people to get involved.

Mr. Larson stated that, at his recent town hall meeting, litter was probably the most emotional issue the citizens had. He stated that the concern and anger over the litter problem has not been abated. He stated that he obviously supported the County-Wide Clean-Up Day, but he wanted to say that he had picked up trash in his area for almost twenty years and it can be an exercise in futility because it will not solve the problem. He stated that only enforcement will do that and Sheriff McCranie has assigned one of his best deputies to work this issue and place cameras where they need to be to get input. He stated that they need the public to see it happening and they need to get some convictions for littering.

Mr. Bellows made a motion to Proclaim April 25, 2020 as “County-Wide Clean-Up Day”.

VOTE:	Jason D. Bellows	Aye
	Ernest W. Palin, Jr.	Aye
	Jack D. Larson	Aye
	William R. Lee	Aye
	Robert S. Westbrook	Aye

4. Consideration of a Resolution Opposing the Location of the Proposed New Weems Post Office

Mr. Bellows made a motion to Approve the Resolution and read it aloud.

OPPOSING THE LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED NEW WEEMS POST OFFICE

WHEREAS, the United States Postal Service has submitted plans to locate a new Post Office on Tax Map # 33-93 at 192 James Lane in the Village of Weems in Lancaster County, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, this proposed location is in a small, quaint residential neighborhood and James Lane is a side street that is very narrow and not of sufficient width to accommodate the increase in volume and size of traffic that will be generated by a Post Office open 24-hours a day; and

WHEREAS, this proposed Post Office will be a pre-fabricated structure with no water or sewer connections, yet staffed for 4-hours each working day by employees handling mail for distribution throughout the 22576 postal code area; and

WHEREAS, this proposed location is at one end of the 22576 postal code area and not centrally located within that area which would better serve those citizens, while other more centrally located parcels with better access from wider public highways are available and should be considered; and

WHEREAS, the submitted plans have been reviewed by the Lancaster County Zoning Administrator and found to be in **VIOLATION of the Lancaster County Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision Ordinance, Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance and the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act** and the United States Postal Service has received written notification of this non-compliance; and

WHEREAS, the United States Postal Act requires the Postal Service to consider local requirements and engage the local community in the process of establishing new Post Offices, but the Board of Supervisors questions whether these requirements are truly and duly considered;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lancaster County Board of Supervisors **VEHEMENTLY AND UNANIMOUSLY OPPOSES** the proposed location of this new Weems Post Office for the aforementioned reasons and others; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no private citizen would be allowed or permitted to do what the United States Postal Service is planning to do despite the vocal, strong and united opposition from the local community and the local governing body; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution expressing the sense of the Lancaster County Board of Supervisors on this issue be sent to the United States Postmaster General, Senator Mark Warner, Senator Tim Kaine and Congressman Rob Wittman.

VOTE:	Jason D. Bellows	Aye
	Ernest W. Palin, Jr.	Aye
	Jack D. Larson	Aye
	William R. Lee	Aye
	Robert S. Westbrook	Aye

Dr. Westbrook stated that he had spoken to County Attorney Jim Cornwell about the subject of an injunction by the people of Weems, who oppose the proposed post office, and that the most effective thing for them to do would be to hire an attorney to look into that.

Mr. Cornwell stated that the best way to attempt to resolve this issue for the citizens who are opposed to the post office is to hire counsel. He stated that what that counsel will suggest to those citizens, he could not predict. He stated that counsel might suggest an injunction against the post office, they may suggest to attempt to enjoin the property owner and many other things. He stated that if the County wanted to participate, it would be the Board of Supervisors' decision.

BOARD REPORTS

Mr. Lee made a motion to reappoint Tyrone Davis to the Building Codes Appeals Board as a representative from District 4.

VOTE:	Jason D. Bellows	Aye
	Ernest W. Palin, Jr.	Aye
	Jack D. Larson	Aye
	William R. Lee	Aye
	Robert S. Westbrook	Aye

Mr. Larson stated that this month he, Dr. Westbrook and Mr. Gill had the opportunity to meet with board members of the Northern Neck Regional Jail to discuss feasibility about securing correctional services with them rather than the County having its own jail, which maybe relatively inefficient. He stated that the Northern Neck Regional Jail would be very receptive to it because it would be a good situation for them as well. He stated that, obviously there are many considerations including that they may also want to talk to the people at the Middle Peninsula Regional Jail because that location might be more convenient. He stated that what he was asking of the Board was to get a consensus to start down this road, get the figures and bring it back to

the Board as soon as they could. He stated that he would like to find out if the County could realize some savings and at the same time, not sacrifice operational capabilities.

Mr. Lee stated that he did not have a problem with an investigation of the jails because it seemed like it had already started.

Dr. Westbrook stated that, as the Director of Emergency Services, and Mr. Larson being on the Finance Committee, it seemed like a reasonable thing to do. He stated that he was always willing to talk about issues, so he attended the meeting with the Northern Neck Regional Jail Board.

Mr. Bellows stated that he did not think it would hurt to get more information, but what they decide to do with that information would be up to the Board at that point.

There was a consensus of the Board to further investigate other jail options.

Dr. Westbrook stated that he and Mr. Gill had been discussing short-term rental properties. He stated that Mr. Gill had tried to get an estimate from a company that researches what properties are being offered for rent. He stated that option might be expensive and he would like to float the idea that they go to the schools and pay a student to do the online research of all of the websites for short-term rentals in the County.

Mr. Bellows stated that it was a great idea and that student could get credit and they could present their findings to the Board.

Mr. Gill stated that he could talk to the guidance counselor to see if a student or students could do that project.

The consensus of the Board was to proceed with the student project.

Dr. Westbrook stated that it was his understanding that Mr. Cronheim will be installing the T-coil that he had mentioned at last month's meeting. He stated that for people who have hearing aids, there is a program that can be accessed once the T-coil is installed and the microphones become much more effective.

Mr. Bellows stated that he would like to commend the press for its coverage this week on the Dominion Energy project and he was glad that they were keeping the County informed because it is an important project.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Gill stated that the first budget meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 12th and he asked that the Board adjourn to that date.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mr. Bellows to adjourn the meeting until Thursday, March 12th at 5:00 p.m.

VOTE:	Jason D. Bellows	Aye
	Ernest W. Palin, Jr.	Aye
	Jack D. Larson	Aye
	William R. Lee	Aye
	Robert S. Westbrook	Aye