

AT AN ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA HELD ON THE 27<sup>TH</sup> DAY JUNE, 2016 AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE BOARD CHAMBERS, MONTGOMERY COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER, 755 ROANOKE STREET, CHRISTIANSBURG, VIRGINIA:

PRESENT: Christopher A. Tuck -Chair  
Gary D. Creed -Vice Chair  
M. Todd King -Supervisors  
Mary W. Biggs  
Darrell O. Sheppard  
April N. DeMotts  
Annette S. Perkins (arrived at 6:34 p.m.)  
F. Craig Meadows -County Administrator  
L. Carol Edmonds -Deputy County Administrator  
Martin M. McMahon -County Attorney  
Ruth Richey -Public Information Officer  
Mitchell Haugh -Director of Parks and Recreation  
Judy W. Kiser -Assistant to the County Administrator

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order.

### **INTO CLOSED MEETING**

On a motion by Mary W. Biggs, seconded by M. Todd King and carried unanimously,

BE IT RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors hereby enters into Closed Meeting for the purpose of discussing the following:

- Section 2.2-3711 (3) Discussion or Consideration of the Acquisition of Real Property for Public Purpose, or of the Disposition of Publicly Held Real Property, Where Discussion in an Open Meeting Would Adversely Affect the Bargaining Position or Negotiating Strategy of the Public Body
1. Former Blacksburg High School Property
- (7) Consultation with Legal Counsel and Briefings from Staff Members or Consultants Pertaining to Actual or Probably Litigation, Where Such Consultation or Briefing in Open Meeting Would Adversely Affect the Negotiating or Litigating Posture of the Public Body; and Consultation with Legal Counsel Employed or Retained by a Public Body Regarding Specific Legal Matters Requiring Provision of Legal Advice by Such Counsel

1. Mountain Valley Pipeline

- (1) Discussion, Consideration, or Interviews of Prospective Candidates for Employment, Assignment, Appointment, Promotion, Performance, Demotion, Salaries, Disciplining or Resignation of Specific Officers, Appointees or Employees of Any Public Body

1. Library Board  
2. Parks and Recreation Commission

The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows:

<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSENT DURING VOTE</u>
Mary W. Biggs	None	Annette S. Perkins
M. Todd King		
Gary D. Creed		
April N. DeMotts		
Darrell O. Sheppard		
Christopher A. Tuck		

Supervisor Annette Perkins arrived at 6:34 p.m.

**OUT OF CLOSED MEETING**

On a motion by M. Todd King, seconded by Annette S. Perkins and carried unanimously,

BE IT RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors ends their Closed Meeting to return to Regular Session.

The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows:

<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>
M. Todd King	None
Annette S. Perkins	
Mary W. Biggs	
Gary D. Creed	
Darrell O. Sheppard	
April N. DeMotts	
Christopher A. Tuck	

**CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING**

On a motion by Mary W. Biggs, seconded by Annette S. Perkins and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors of Montgomery County has convened a Closed Meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board that such Closed Meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of Montgomery County, Virginia hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion conveying the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Board.

VOTE

AYES

Mary W. Biggs  
Annette S. Perkins  
Gary D. Creed  
M. Todd King  
April N. DeMotts  
Darrell O. Sheppard  
Christopher A. Tuck

NAYS

None

ABSENT DURING VOTE

None

ABSENT DURING MEETING

**INVOCATION**

A moment of silence was led by the Chair.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**PRESENTATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS**

**Parks and Recreation Master Plan**

Jennifer Wilsie of the New River Valley Regional Commission, presented the proposed Parks and Recreation Master Plan for Montgomery County:

Ms. Wilsie stated the purpose of the Montgomery County Parks and Recreation Master Plan is to provide a vision for the Montgomery County Parks and Recreation Department for the next 20 years, as well as insights into how the department can accomplish this vision. The Plan will provide recommendations that focus on future growth in areas where Montgomery County Parks

and Recreation already excels or where services provided by the Blacksburg and Christiansburg Parks and Recreation Departments are not already meeting the need.

### **Stormwater Management**

Doug Burton, Director of Engineering and Regulatory Compliance, updated the Board on the Stormwater Management program as follows:

-The MS4 Permit pertains to County controlled systems discharging to surface waters of the Commonwealth or other MS4 systems-Blacksburg, Christiansburg, Radford, Virginia Tech and/or VDoT.

-The MS4 Permit requires development of a program that utilizes Six Minimum Control Measures:

1. Public education & outreach on impacts
2. Public participation & involvement
3. Illicit discharge detection & elimination
4. Construction site runoff control
5. Post construction runoff control
6. Pollution prevention & good housekeeping for municipal operations

-MS4 Delineation

- Permit requires County to develop an Outfall Map and Database
- Mapping needed to implement Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
- Expect to have 50% of MS4 Outfalls mapped this year

-Collaborative Efforts

- Executed a Memorandum of Agreement with County School Board for Stormwater Management
- School Facilities and Operations Accepted to be within the County MS4 Permit Coverage
- New River Valley Regional MS4 Coordination Group
- Possible Memorandum of Understanding with Blacksburg, Christiansburg, Radford, Virginia Tech, Radford University to jointly participate in local outreach activities

-Educational Event for County School Children Stormwater Day – Fall 2016

- Outdoor Classroom
- Volunteer Presenters
- Several Topics
- Demonstrations and Activities

-County Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance Revision

- State Code Compliance – minor changes to match current regulations
- Other proposed revisions – addition for Steep Slopes and Overall Grading and existing Fee Schedule Change from Monthly to One-time Charge
- Future Issues – Recent legislation to combine Erosion Control and Stormwater

Supervisor DeMotts asked that this be placed on a future agenda to go over water qualities in Montgomery County. The County Attorney explained that a big part of our stormwater management program is an Erosion and Sediment Control ordinance and sometime in the next several weeks this will be coming back to the Board for an amendment to the ordinance, which is

basically updating, but also bringing about a new approach to a possible fee structure and charging more, but doing it in a different way, along with other issues that need to be addressed. This will be on the Board's agenda in July for a work session. Following a work session, the Board will be asked to advertise the ordinance for approval, most likely in August.

## **PUBLIC ADDRESS**

The following letter was received by the Chair to be included in the record:

“June 17, 2016  
Mr. Chris Tuck  
Chair  
Montgomery County Board of Supervisors  
539 Wisteria Drive  
Radford, VA 24141

Re: Inappropriate and Unconstitutional Religious Endorsement

Dear Mr. Tuck and Supervisors:

I am writing on behalf of the Freedom From Religion Foundation (“FFRF”) to urge you not to display the phrase “In God We Trust” in council chambers. We were contacted by a concerned Montgomery County resident. FFRF is a national nonprofit organization with nearly 24,000 non-religious members across the country, including more than 500 in Virginia. FFRF’s purpose is to protect the constitutional principle of separation between state and church.

It is our understanding that the controversial national motto, “In God We Trust”, is being considered for display in Montgomery County council chambers.

It is inappropriate for Montgomery County to display “In God We Trust” on county property. Statements about a god have no place in public buildings. Elected officials should not use their government position and government property to promote their religious views. Supervisors are elected to represent all residents of Montgomery County, including those who do not believe in a monotheistic god or any gods.

As you are aware, citizens interact with and rely on the Board of Supervisors—as elected officials—in order to voice concerns. Citizens should not be made to feel offended, excluded, or like political outsiders because the local government they support with their taxes oversteps its power by prominently placing a religious statement in the place they go to participate in local government. Nor should the Board of Supervisors turn religious citizens into “insiders”. We think you’ll agree that Montgomery County must be even-handed and avoid any appearance of bias toward some citizens and hostility toward others.

Citizens of Montgomery County place trust in their elected officials that they will attend to their elected secular duties. Spending taxpayer time and dime on resolutions about a god is beyond the scope of secular government. Additionally, it does not inspire confidence that county officials apparently feel “In God We Trust” must be displayed in council chambers in order to make the right civic decisions.

The history of the motto “In God We Trust” evidences no secular purpose; on the contrary, the motto was first adopted during the Cold War as a reaction to the purported “godlessness” of communism.

America's original motto was purely secular – “E Pluribus Unum” (“out of many [come] one”) – and was selected by a distinguished committee of Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, and Benjamin Franklin.

Overall, 23% of Americans identify as nonreligious. That an 8-point increase since 2007 and 15-point jump since 1990 makes the “nons” the fastest growing identification in America. Nationally, about 35% of millennials are nonreligious. “In God We Trust” is not even accurate. For it to be accurate, it would have to read, “In God Some of Us Trust”, and that would make a very silly motto.

On behalf of Montgomery County residents and taxpayers, we urge you to abstain from placing “In God We Trust” in council chambers. The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors should respect the rights of conscience of all citizens, including those who in good conscience reject belief in a god. Please inform us in writing of the actions you are taking on this matter. We look forward to a reply at your earliest convenience.

Very Truly,  
(signed) Annie Laurie Gaylor  
Co-President (Freedom from Religion Foundation)”

Susan Miller 3005 Mudpike Road, Christiansburg Ms. Miller is currently the Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission, and addressed the Board about the proposed Parks and Recreation Master Plan that was presented earlier in this meeting. Ms. Miller considers the plan a road map for the future in Montgomery County, and asked that Board members read and act on the plan. She went on to compliment the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department, Mitchell Haugh, saying that he squeezes every penny out of every dollar he is given for use in recreational services; and he has spent untold hours at the frog pond to make it right for all our community members to come and enjoy. Ms. Miller has read the proposed Plan many times and admits to its many facets which will require discussion and some decision making by the Parks and Recreation Commission and by the Board of Supervisors. She found the most shocking point being the fact that per capita in our region, Montgomery County is far behind all of our neighboring areas in financial commitment to parks and recreation, which she finds alarming considering what services are provided to our citizens. Ms. Miller invited Board members to participate in the Montgomery County parks and recreation activities, free of charge, so they could see, feel and experience recreation at its best. She thanked the Board for their time and commitment to Montgomery County.

Jamie Bond, 2263 Pilot Road, Christiansburg spoke in support of putting “In God We Trust” on the wall of the Government Center, located in a country that was founded on Godly belief. One argument is that the Board of Supervisors represents the whole county, with which she agrees. The Board represents her as well, and every other believer in this county that is here, and those who have not yet been here but know this issue was up for a vote tonight. We live in a digital world where most people don't read the newspaper any more. Ms. Bond cannot imagine not having faith and trust in God. She asked that the Board consider tabling their vote so more citizens may have a chance to share their opinions. She asked that the Board find another venue other than the newspaper, to let people know because people who aren't in local government don't hear about things that on the agenda and don't really look because they feel like they elected the Board of Supervisors to represent them.

Brian Farrell, 4006 Eastview Terrace, Blacksburg asked the Board to not support the resolution to add “In God We Trust” to the board chambers. Mr. Farrell stated that he is an atheist, and when he attended the last Board meeting, he thought it was very interesting listening to everybody who spoke in support of the resolution because it sounded to him like a lot of those

talks were forms of preaching and not forms of debate. They sought to make it clear that this is a Christian county, that everyone should believe as they do, they clearly supported the idea of bringing God and prayer back in schools. He remembers that someone read from a quote that he (Mr. Farrell) was a fool for not believing in God. Mr. Farrell believes that a part of the Board's task as being secular supervisors is making sure that personal beliefs about religion don't override their secular duty. He asked the Board to not support the resolution, or to table it indefinitely. Other options are available, such as the county motto or the fantastic display of art from children from across the county.

Bobby Alderman, 3351 North Fork Road in Elliston spoke in support of putting up the sign "In God We Trust". He believes Montgomery County is a Christian county, and as a Christian he asked that they stand up for his God. Referencing the statement made by the previous speaker that someone had called him a fool because he doesn't believe in God. Mr. Alderman explained that the person had not called him a fool. God says in his heart, God says that he is a fool that doesn't believe in his God, and the Bible says that.

Betty Hanes, 160 Rosehill Drive in Christiansburg said she prays every day that the Board would consider putting "In God We Trust" up in the board chambers. We are a Christian nation but there are many people that are against God, but we need to trust in Him. She asked the Board to please consider putting the motto "In God We Trust" in the board chambers.

Wendell Bond, 2263 Pilot Road in Christiansburg spoke in support of the motto "In God We Trust". He reminded everyone that is talking about this being Christian issues, that this country was founded on Christian values. Five times the word God is mentioned in the Declaration of Independence and while it is not specifically mentioned in the Constitution, the founders that created the Constitution based it upon God's law. When everyone stood at the beginning of this meeting to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, the word God was also mentioned there. Mr. Bond explained that when this country was formed with Godly values, and if you look, a lot of people don't understand this but a lot institutions back then didn't have a lot of buildings. They only had one and it had to serve as a church, had to serve as a court, it had multiple purposes. If you look at some of the early church buildings you will see the glass over the top has three triangles, two looking up and one looking down. One represented government, one represented the church, with the triangle in the middle looking both up and down, represented by our God overlooking it all.

Thelma Hutchins, 2605 Warmhearth Drive in Blacksburg stated that not everyone in this area is a Christian. Saying that you aren't a Christian and if you don't participate in this religion, you are a second-class citizen. She deems that religion should not play a part in civil life, and only a percentage of people in this area are Christians. We need to take into account that there are people who are not Christians that also live in this county and to act accordingly.

There being no further speakers, the Public Address Session was closed.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

On a motion by Mary W. Biggs, seconded by Gary D. Creed and carried unanimously, the Consent Agenda dated June 27, 2016 was approved. The vote was as follows:

AYE

Mary W. Biggs  
Gary D. Creed  
Annette S. Perkins  
M. Todd King  
April N. DeMotts  
Darrell O. Sheppard  
Christopher A. Tuck

NAY

None

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mary W. Biggs, seconded by Gary D. Creed and carried unanimously, the Minutes dated January 25, February 1, February 5 and 6, and February 8, 2016 were approved.

Appropriations and Transfers

**A-FY-16-87  
COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECTS  
RINER FIRE STATION AND RECREATIONAL SITE**

On a motion by Mary W. Biggs, seconded by Gary D. Creed and carried unanimously,

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Supervisors of Montgomery County, Virginia that the General Fund was granted an appropriation in addition to the annual appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, for the function and in the amount as follows:

570120	Transfer to County Capital Projects	\$421,585
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The source of funds for the foregoing appropriation is as follows:

451501	Designated Fund Balance – Capital Reserve	\$421,585
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The County Capital Projects fund was granted an appropriation in addition to the annual appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017 for the function and in the amount as follows:

330	Riner Fire Station and Recreation Site	\$421,585
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The source of funds for the foregoing appropriation is as follows:

451020	Transfer from General Fund	\$421,585
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Said resolution appropriates funds from the County Capital Reserve to the County Capital Projects Fund to cover the costs of acquiring a site for the new Riner Fire Station and Recreation Site.

**A-FY-16-88  
TRAINING CENTER  
DONATIONS**

On a motion by Mary W. Biggs, seconded by Gary D. Creed and carried unanimously,

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors that the General Fund was granted an appropriation in addition to the annual appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, for the function and in the amount as follows:

330	Fire and Rescue -Training Center	\$4,700
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The source of the funds for the foregoing appropriation is as follows:

Revenue Account

419108	Recovered Costs	\$4,700
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Said resolution appropriates donation funds from a fund raiser to support fire training center operations.

**A-FY-16-89  
FOUR FOR LIFE ALLOCATION**

On a motion by Mary W. Biggs, seconded by Gary D. Creed and carried unanimously,

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Supervisors of Montgomery County, Virginia that the General Fund was granted an appropriation in addition to the annual appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, for the function and in the amount as follows:

331	Fire and Rescue Grants-Four for Life	\$71,211
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The source of the funds for the foregoing appropriation is as follows

Revenue Account

424401	Four for Life	\$71,211
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Said resolution appropriates funds received from the Four for Life program for use by volunteer Rescue Squads.

**A-FY-16-90  
SOCIAL SERVICES  
ADDITIONAL STATE FUNDING**

On a motion by Mary W. Biggs, seconded by Gary D. Creed and carried unanimously,

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Supervisors of Montgomery County, Virginia that the General Fund was granted an appropriation in addition to the annual appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, for the function and in the amount as follows:

540	Social Services	\$218,500
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The sources of funds for the foregoing appropriation are as follows:

Revenue Account

424104	811	IVE Foster Care	\$ 60,000
424104	812	Adoption Subsidy	\$105,000
424104	817	State Adoption	\$ 7,500
424105	811	Aid-Dependent Children	<u>\$ 46,000</u>
		Total	\$218,500

Said resolution appropriates additional Purchase of Service and Public Assistance funds provided by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Easements

**R-FY-16-147**  
**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONVEYANCE**  
**OF A RIGHT-OF-WAY EASEMENT TO**  
**APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY**  
**FOR ELECTRICAL SERVICE FOR THE**  
**NEW ANIMAL CARE AND ADOPTION CENTER**

On a motion by Mary W. Biggs, seconded by Gary D. Creed and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, Due to the construction of the new Animal Care and Adoption Center facility, Appalachian Power needs a new right-of-way easement to construct the underground power line that will provide electrical service to the new Animal Care and Adoption Center; and

WHEREAS, To accommodate this new underground line Appalachian Power Company has requested a right-of-way easement from the Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia, across Tax Parcel No. 067-A162 as shown on the attached Easement Agreement dated June 14, 2016 (“the Easement Agreement”); and

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery desires to grant Appalachian Power Company the required right-of-way easement as shown on the Easement Agreement to bring electrical underground service for the new Animal Care and Adoption Center and authorizes the Chair, Christopher A. Tuck, to sign the said Easement Agreement on behalf of the Board of Supervisors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia that the Board of Supervisors hereby agrees to convey a right-of-way easement to Appalachian Power as shown on the attached Easement Agreement on Tax Parcel No. 067-A162 in order to bring electrical underground service for the new Animal Care and Adoption Center; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia that the Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes Christopher A. Tuck, Chair, to sign the said Easement Agreement on behalf of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia.

Appointments

**R-FY-16-148  
NEW RIVER COMMUNITY ACTION, INC.  
REAPPOINT THE HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR**

On a motion by Mary W. Biggs, seconded by Gary D. Creed and carried unanimously,

BE IT RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors of Montgomery County, Virginia hereby reappoints the **Human Service Director** to the **New River Community Action, Inc.** effective July 1, 2016 and expiring June 30, 2018.

**R-FY-16-149  
NEW RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD  
APPOINT BRIAN L. KITTS**

On a motion by Mary W. Biggs, seconded by Gary D. Creed and carried unanimously,

BE IT RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors of Montgomery County, Virginia hereby appoints **Brian L. Kitts** to the **New River Community College Board** effective July 1, 2016 and expiring June 30, 2020.

**R-FY-16-150  
NEW RIVER VALLEY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD  
REAPPOINT SHEILA ROOP**

On a motion by Mary W. Biggs, seconded by Gary D. Creed and carried unanimously,

BE IT RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors of Montgomery County, Virginia hereby reappoints **Sheila Roop** to the **New River Valley Community Services Board** effective July 1, 2016 and expiring June 30, 2019.

**R-FY-16-151  
MONTGOMERY REGIONAL  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
APPOINT TOWN OF CHRISTIANBURG REPRESENTATIVE**

On a motion by Mary W. Biggs, seconded by Gary D. Creed and carried unanimously,

BE IT RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors of Montgomery County, Virginia hereby appoints **Brad Stipes** as the Town of Christiansburg Representative to the **Montgomery Regional Economic Development Commission** effective July 1, 2016 and expiring June 30, 2019.

**INTO WORK SESSION**

On a motion by M. Todd King, seconded by Darrell O. Sheppard and carried unanimously,

BE IT RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors hereby enters into Work Session for the purpose of discussing the following:

1. “Watch for Children” Sign Policy Revisions
2. “In God We Trust” Motto
3. E-2 Precinct Polling Place-Change in Location
4. Alliance for Better Childcare Strategies

The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows:

AYES

M. Todd King  
 Darrell O. Sheppard  
 Annette S. Perkins  
 Gary D. Creed  
 Mary W. Biggs  
 April N. DeMotts  
 Christopher A. Tuck

NAYS

None

“Watch for Children” Sign Policy Revisions

At the request of the County Administrator, this matter was deferred to the Board’s July 11, 2016 meeting.

“In God We Trust” Motto

Supervisor Todd King reminded everyone that he brought a petition (which he did not collect) to the Board’s June 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. The citizens in Montgomery County collected the signatures on the petition. The signatures were from all around the County – Blacksburg, Christiansburg, Riner, Shawsville, all areas of the County. Supervisor King expressed his appreciation to all the citizens who had come to this meeting, whether they supported or opposed putting the motto “In God We Trust” in the Board chambers. He appreciates them coming to the meeting and being involved in local government.

E-2 Precinct Polling Place – Change in Location

The Electoral Board and Registrar recently requested that the E-2 precinct polling place be moved from the Long Shop/McCoy Fire Department to Price’s Fork Elementary School. The residents of the McCoy area have asked that it not be moved because they want to keep the polling place at the center of all the community’s activities.

Supervisor Darrell Sheppard reported that he had met with the Long Shop/McCoy Fire Chief and others in the department, and they agreed to use part of the base where the fire trucks are parked for the polling locations, which would give them at least three times more room than they have now. The parking is just not an issue there. Other events are held there which bring a lot more than 14 vehicles. Supervisor Sheppard had spoken to the Registrar prior to speaking with the Fire Chief and the Registrar agreed that if they could get twice the amount of space he felt like that would be sufficient.

Supervisor Todd King said he had spoken to the Registrar earlier on this date, and the Registrar told him that his main concern was parking. However, Supervisor King pointed out that there is plenty of parking in the back. Supervisor King also spoke to Supervisor Sheppard earlier on this date about his concerns with pulling the trucks out in the winter time in freezing weather. Following their discussion it was decided that the boats would be pulled out instead.

Supervisor Sheppard understands there are some issues at other precincts as well. His intention before the next presidential election, or sooner if possible, is to add a precinct to that district. Not only split the one for McCoy, but also the one at the Lutheran Church due to the number of people who go there to vote.

#### Alliance for Better Childcare Strategies

In December 2015 the County Administrator was asked to serve as a board member for the Alliance for Better Childcare Strategies, an initiative that is being spearheaded by Virginia Tech to address the need for childcare services in our community. Their initial meeting was in February. The mission is to build collaborative partnerships that improve the availability, affordability, and quality of early care and education in Blacksburg, Christiansburg, and Montgomery County. This will strengthen our early care and education infrastructure to attract and retain talented people who have young children. The purpose of the Alliance Board is to lead the work of the alliance by securing resources for its operations and programming, developing policies for its operation, and monitoring its finances, programs and overall performance. The Alliance for Better Childcare Strategies will consist of 17 total board members, nine elected positions from the private sector and stakeholder groups, and eight ex-officio board members including: President of Virginia Tech, President of New River Community College, Mayor of Blacksburg, Mayor of Christiansburg, Montgomery County Administrator, President of the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center, Executive Director of the Montgomery Chamber of Commerce, and the Superintendent of Montgomery County Schools.

The Alliance Board is projecting that local governments will provide \$40,000 in funding for the project. The Towns of Blacksburg and Christiansburg and Montgomery County would each provide 1/3 or \$13,333. The County Administrator spoke with the two Town Managers recently regarding this program, and both towns included \$13,333 in their proposed FY 2016-17 budgets for funding for this program. Because the County's budget was already proposed and under review by the BoS, this figure was not included in our proposed FY 17 budget for the Board's consideration. Within the next few weeks it is expected that Montgomery County will be asked if we are "on board" with the program for 2016-2017. The County Administrator asked for direction from the Board as to how this should be addressed.

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to participate in the study on affordable, quality daycare, along with Virginia Tech and the two Towns, and place on the Board's July 11<sup>th</sup> agenda and appropriate the County's share of \$40,000 which is \$13,333 (for one year). The Board will then determine whether to adopt options for child care.

#### **OUT OF WORK SESSION**

On a motion by Mary W. Biggs, seconded by Darrell O. Sheppard and carried unanimously,

BE IT RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors ends their Work Session to return to Regular Session.

The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows:

AYE

Mary W. Biggs  
Darrell O. Sheppard  
Annette S. Perkins  
Gary D. Creed  
April N. DeMotts  
M. Todd King  
Christopher A. Tuck

NAY

None

The Board took a ten minute recess at 8:45 p.m. and resumed the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Support Displaying “In God We Trust” Motto**

Supervisor Todd King made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Darrell Sheppard, to approve the proposed resolution supporting the national motto “In God We Trust” be placed in a prominent location at the Montgomery County Government Center.

Following discussion by the Board, Supervisor Sheppard made a motion to amend the resolution to include displaying the state motto and the county’s motto as well. Supervisor King accepted the amendment to the motion.

**R-FY-16-152  
A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE DISPLAY  
OF THE NATIONAL MOTTO “IN GOD WE TRUST”  
IN A PROMINENT LOCATION AT THE  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER**

On a motion by M. Todd King, seconded by Darrell O. Sheppard and carried,

WHEREAS, “In God We Trust” became the United States national motto on July 30, 1956 shortly after our nation led the world through the trauma of World War II, and

WHEREAS, The words have been used on U.S. currency since 1864 and are engraved above the entrance to the Senate Chamber as well as above the Speaker’s dais in the House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, In both war and peace, these words have been a profound source of strength and guidance to many generations of Americans; and

WHEREAS, The Commonwealth of Virginia Motto “Sic Sempe Tyrannis”, Latin meaning “Thus always to tyrants” was created in 1776, and it references the Declaration of Independence from the Kingdom of Great Britain; and

WHEREAS, The County of Montgomery, Virginia Motto “Freedom Increases Responsibility” was approved by the Board of Supervisors in 1975 as part of the Montgomery

County Bicentennial Celebration with a theme of four freedoms - freedom of want, freedom of opportunity, freedom of conscience and freedom of intellect; and

WHEREAS, The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors desires to display these three mottos in the Board Chambers as a way to solemnize public occasions and express confidence in our society.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia that the Board of Supervisors hereby determines that the historic and patriotic words of our national motto "In God We Trust", the Commonwealth of Virginia motto "Sic Sempe Tyrannis" and the County of Montgomery motto "Freedom Increases Responsibility" shall be permanently and prominently displayed in the Montgomery County Board Chambers.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

AYE

M. Todd King  
Darrell O. Sheppard  
Gary D. Creed  
Christopher A. Tuck

NAY

Annette S. Perkins  
Mary W. Biggs  
April N. DeMotts

Staff was asked to prepare a layout showing where and how the mottos will be displayed and bring it back to the Board.

**Proposed Ordinance to Change the Address for the E-2 Precinct Polling Place from the Longshop/McCoy Fire Department located at 5770 McCoy Road in Montgomery County to the Prices Fork Elementary School Located at 4021 Prices Fork Road in Montgomery County**

With no motion and no second, the proposed ordinance was dropped from the agenda.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution Capping the Compensation Supplement for the Positions of Sheriff, Commonwealth's Attorney, Commissioner of the Revenue and Treasurer of Montgomery County, Virginia**

**R-FY-16-153**

**RESOLUTION CAPPING THE COUNTY'S COMPENSATION SUPPLEMENT AS OF JUNE 1, 2016 FOR THE SHERIFF, COMMISSIONER OF THE REVENUE, TREASURER AND COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY**

On a motion by M. Todd King, seconded by Darrell O. Sheppard and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, Section 15.2-1605.1 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, empowers the Board of Supervisors in its discretion, to elect to supplement the compensation of a Constitutional Officer or any of the Officers' deputies or employees above the salary established by the Compensation Board; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors currently supplements the compensation for the positions of Sheriff, Commonwealth's Attorney, Commissioner of the Revenue and the Treasurer of Montgomery County, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors has the discretion to reduce or eliminate at any time any compensation supplement provided to elected Constitutional Officer positions; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors desires to cap the compensation supplement provided by the Board to the Sheriff, Commonwealth's Attorney, Commissioner of the Revenue and Treasurer of Montgomery County, Virginia at the amount provided as of June 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, When the County population reaches 100,000 as determined by the Weldon Cooper Center, elected Constitutional Officers will receive significant salary increases from the State Compensation Board thereby eliminating the need for the County to continue to supplement the salaries of these elected officials.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia that the Board hereby agrees to cap any compensation supplement as of June 1, 2016 for the Sheriff, Commonwealth's Attorney, Commissioner of the Revenue and Treasurer of Montgomery County, Virginia.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>
M. Todd King	None
Darrell O. Sheppard	
Gary D. Creed	
April N. DeMotts	
Mary W. Biggs	
Annette S. Perkins	
Christopher A. Tuck	

### **School Operating Fund-Request Deferred**

The School Board's request for a supplemental appropriation to the School Operating Budget for fiscal year 2015-2016 of funds received from a variety of revenue sources as reimbursement of expenditures already incurred, in the amount of \$600,000 was deferred to the Board's July 25, 2016 meeting.

### **COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

The County Attorney wanted to make a public statement that the County is close to finalizing a contract for legal assistance to deal with the Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). It is not the same firm that adjoining localities are using, which would be a conflict. Hopefully, everything will be finalized by the Board's next meeting.

## **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

The County Administrator reported on the following:

-June 20<sup>th</sup> was pretty much an all-day meeting for the NRV Regional Water Authority strategic planning. Will provide information to the BoS in the upcoming days about some of the challenges the water authority is facing with an antiquated plant, and needs that are going to have to be addressed.

-Had a meeting on this date with the Director of the Roanoke/Blacksburg Regional Airport, and conversation included air service into the Roanoke Valley and the need to continue letting folks know our concerns regarding air service there and encourage people to continue to fly out of Roanoke. One of the things that has actually hurt some of their ability to recruit air lines is people driving to Charlotte and Greensboro and Raleigh in North Carolina, and they need to show that there is the business base in Roanoke. It was a very good meeting with good attendance.

-Last week the Governor made an announcement about the \$2.5 million grant for the old Price's Fork Elementary School project. It was a great opportunity to work collaboratively with folks in the community and see that project take another giant step forward.

-The County Administrator and Deputy County Administrator had the opportunity to attend a reception for Barry Helms who is retiring as Christiansburg Town Manager. The new Town Manager, Steve Biggs, will begin the first week of July.

## **BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS**

Supervisor April DeMotts referring to recent discussions about upgrades to the Board Chambers, she requested that if there is a firm that is already involved in designing some safety and accessibility upgrades to the room, that a presentation be made to the Board, if this is something that would be supported by the other members of the BoS.

Carryover funds when the Board discussed carryover funds at an earlier meeting Supervisor DeMotts had requested that the Board look into possible funding for a position in our planning department for an environmental or comprehensive planner. She is very invested in finding a revenue stream for adding staff to the planning department to serve in the capacity of long range and comprehensive planning or environmental planning. She believes it would help in navigating some of the FERC issues if there was an environmental planner on staff. She is very interested in finding out about the carryover dollars in that department.

Mount Tabor Ruritan Club will have their next fish fry on July 9<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 7 p.m. She invited everyone to come -the event is great and the food is delicious.

Supervisor DeMotts congratulated Downtown Blacksburg, Inc. on the great success of their Summer Solstice Fest on June 17<sup>th</sup> in downtown Blacksburg. Supervisor DeMotts was an all-day volunteer for the fest. She has volunteered for the festival every year since it was started and it has really grown over time.

Since the Board won't be meeting again until after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, she wished everyone a happy and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July. The Town of Blacksburg will celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> with a parade and a free movie at the Lyric that is sponsored by the Mount Tabor Ruritan Club. The parade begins at 2 p.m. and the movie immediately follows. The music starts at 6 p.m. at the old Blacksburg High School, and is followed by fireworks at 9:30 p.m.

West Virginia flood victims Supervisor DeMotts has been asked by several people if there is anything they can do to help the flood victims in West Virginia. She looked up two ways to help, funding and donation of time. To donate money you can go to United Way of Central West Virginia web site a. And to volunteer as an individual or as a group, you can go to [www.volunteerwv.org](http://www.volunteerwv.org) The County Administrator reported that Deputy Ann McGrath in the Sheriff's Office is helping the flood victims. She has a trailer set up at the Sheriff's Office that is being filled with donations to be delivered to the flood victims in West Virginia.

Supervisor Darrell Sheppard reported that he has made several requests to the Parks and Recreation Department, including maintenance on the walking trail or upgrading the trail.

Supervisor Todd King complemented the Parks and Recreation Director and his staff for the excellent job they did on the frog pond. He suggested that anyone who hasn't been over to the frog pond should go over and take a look at it. The County is fortunate to have such good employees.

Supervisor Annette Perkins had several things to report about the last two School Board meetings she attended. Several policy changes were made, including:

- People who address the School Board cannot be from outside of Montgomery County unless there is leftover time.
- The School Board Chair can make exception for business people who live outside the County if they are doing some work with the school system.
- They want to make sure that employees and people who live inside Montgomery County notify their board clerk 24 hours ahead of time, and get their name on the list to speak because they have a time limit for public speaking.

At the last School Board meeting she attended, there was discussion about the MCPS capital needs. The first school the School Board would deal with would be Falling Branch, the second school would be Belview. They will also be looking at a new school called northwest elementary school somewhere on Route 114, and mentioned a new Blacksburg elementary school. Also discussed was renovations at Christiansburg Primary School (CPS), Christiansburg Elementary School (CES), Gilbert Linkous and Harding Avenue. Christiansburg High School is last on their priority list. Shawsville Middle School is also on their list of priorities and Supervisor Perkins believes it will come up as number two on their list. All of this will be done over a very long period of time; however, they are aware that we may have money earlier than 2022 so they want to get started looking into it.

The School Board has decided that there should be 720 pupils in every elementary school, so they have looked at that and started their planning. When they first started talking about the schools, particularly with a new northwest elementary school, it was something like \$25 million, now they estimate \$30 million for an elementary school. The School Board also

discussed their request for \$600,000 in carryover funds to purchase chrome books for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students.

Parks and Recreation Master Plan Supervisor Perkins expressed her appreciation for what the Parks and Recreation Commission has done with their master plan. She believes this is one area that has really been neglected. She knows that 4-H is still around and they have a good program, but the Board needs to look at the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The Board also needs to have some projected costs for these projects as they go along.

Supervisor Perkins wished everyone a happy and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Supervisor Gary Creed Parks and Recreation is the only thing that Supervisor Creed sees that really needs attention. There is an excellent group of people running this department and they are doing every nickel's worth they can do with the funding they receive.

Supervisor Mary Biggs reminded everyone that she had e-mailed her report to Board members this afternoon, which was a summary of eight different meetings she had attended. Included in these eight meetings were:

-Chamber of Commerce meeting she attended on behalf of the Board Chair. At that meeting, Blacksburg Town Council member John Bush reported that the Town of Blacksburg was studying the areas of North Main Street, South Main Street, and the Price's Fork corridor as they relate to land use planning. At the Price's Fork crossing where they're having trouble and put in a fence that they thought was going to be temporary will have to be there a little while longer because their consultant said that the plan they originally thought they were going to be able to do, really is not sustainable and not safe, so they are going to have to go back and re-look at it. The Police Chief will go and talk to the students when they return in the fall and encourage them to use the stop light.

Supervisor Biggs agreed with Supervisor DeMotts' earlier remarks concerning upgrades needed in the Board Chambers. She mentioned some accessibility and safety issues that need to be looked at. She also would like to see a presentation from the firm that is proposing to do the upgrades.

Supervisor Biggs asked the other Board members how they felt about doing resolutions of commemoration for Louie Heslip, Montgomery County Sheriff's Office; Jeffrey McCoy, LongShop/McCoy Volunteer Fire Department; Donald (Don) Robertson, Elliston Volunteer Fire Department; and Glenn Wood, Riner Volunteer Fire Department. It was the consensus of the Board that resolutions be placed on the Board's next meeting agenda.

Supervisor Biggs wished everyone a happy and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July

Supervisor Chris Tuck reported that he and the County Administrator had a very interesting meeting with the Roanoke County Administrator and the Roanoke County Board Chair, talking about everything from the Mountain Valley Pipeline to the smart road. They wanted to talk to us about several things including going along with us on the completion of the smart road and getting a better connection with Roanoke, and fire and rescue cooperation. Joining together for an industrial park, with revenue sharing, was also discussed. Although they don't have a lot of open land for an industrial park, they would be interested in something along those lines. While the Chair obviously could not commit our Board, he

asked that everyone think about these things and ways that we can work with our neighbor, Roanoke County.

Supervisor Tuck also had the opportunity to attend the Chairs, Mayors, Town Managers and County Administrators meeting in Pulaski. Conversation at that meeting included Pulaski County sharing information about how they utilize their inmate labor by projecting the savings from the cost of the jail to their county by approximately \$120,000 and paid for the County's own drug course. This is something that can be looked into in the future. Giles County also utilizes their inmate labor. To utilize our inmate labor, Montgomery County will start with the animal shelter and mowing; these are things that Giles and Pulaski counties have been doing for years.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned to Monday, July 11, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher A. Tuck  
Chair

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
F. Craig Meadows  
County Administrator