BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
STAFFORD COUNTY, VIRGINIA
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 14, 2021

CALL TO ORDER – A regular meeting of the Stafford County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Crystal Vanuch, Chairman, at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, in the Board Chambers, George L. Gordon, Jr. Government Center, 1300 Courthouse Road, Stafford VA.

ROLL CALL – The following members were present: Crystal Vanuch, Chairman; Cindy C. Lamb, Vice Chairman; Tinesha O. Allen; Meg Bohmke; Thomas C. Coen; Gary F. Snellings; L. Mark Dudenhefer.

Also in attendance were Frederick J. Presley, County Administrator; Rysheda McClendon, County Attorney; Julia Homes, Assistant Deputy Clerk; various staff members; and other interested parties.

Ms. Vanuch thanked those involved with the Christmas tree lighting in front of the courthouse this year, stating that it was a huge success—with more than 1,000 people in attendance. She commented that it was one of the best experiences she has had on the Board, and she thanked staff for taking an idea and turning it into such a great event. She noted that the Board would not meet again until January, so she wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Ms. Vanuch stated that the annual "State of the County" video would be coming out in the third week of December, with some of the highlights including their work to continue to increase pay for first responders, as well as increasing pay and retaining teachers, giving the schools a historic-level amount of funding. She said that the video would also include an update on the steps taken to manage healthy growth and implementing road improvements as part of the bond referendum to improve Stafford County's road safety. She encouraged members of the public to watch the video, as it is incredibly informative in showing the Board's accomplishments.

Ms. Vanuch said they also had the Board, Authorities, Committees, and Commissions Christmas event this year, stating that public service is incredibly important—with significant time and sacrifice put into these groups to support the community and many individuals participating on a volunteer basis. She stated that the previous week, the County held a special event honoring the dozens of people the Board appoints to these Boards, Authorities, Committees, and Commissions. She said they attend meetings, apply their skills and talents, and make decisions on behalf of that body; they inform and provide feedback to the Board of Supervisors to improve their ability to serve the entire community. Ms. Vanuch noted that members of the public who want to apply to one of these groups should visit staffordcountyva.com/applytoserve.

Ms. Vanuch reported that three current Board members would be leaving the Board in 2022: Supervisor Snellings, Supervisor Lamb, and Supervisor Dudenhefer. She said they celebrated each member at the special event the previous week, reading special proclamations honoring them, and she commented that they are three examples of public servants and thanked them for all they have done for the community. Ms. Vanuch said that while Supervisor is technically considered a part-time position, she can say that it's a 24/7 job. She thanked her colleagues for their service and wished them the best in the future.

Ms. Vanuch thanked all of her fellow Board members for having faith in her as Chairman of the Board. She said that she was born and raised here and absolutely loves Stafford County. She stated she loves being able to lead the County and help frame their policies and it has been a remarkable opportunity to give back to the place that helped raise her. She stated that she listened to the residents of all districts and heard them loud and clear: Public safety, education, growth, and transportation are top concerns. She said that this is what the Board took their time on and focused on, and she looks forward to the upcoming year.

PRESENTATIONS

Presentation of a Proclamation Recognizing International Day of Persons with Disabilities, 2021

Ms. Vanuch recognized that December 3, 2021 was the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. She said that because of Supervisor Lamb's work with people with disabilities, she asked her to present the proclamation to the special guests.

Ms. Lamb stated that this recognition has personal meaning to her, as she has a son with special needs, and this day is about treating people with fairness. She said that the Board chose several people from the community to come and accept the proclamation. Ms. Lamb noted that the theme of this year's recognition was COVID and how difficult it was to adapt, particularly with home confinement. She stated that the Rappahannock Area Community Service Board has five group homes in Stafford County and three residents from those homes are present today: Jay Sander, April Parker, Wendy Powell, and Shelly Williams. Ms. Lamb said that her nephew, Michael Pettijohn, is also present. She also recognized Casey Silversmith, who works for the Disability Resource Center, which is important to all residents of Stafford County because it gives them opportunities for jobs, activities, friendship, etc. Ms. Lamb stated that the International Day around the world recognizes the struggles of treating people with fairness.

Mr. Bryan William Davis from Angelic Place (Harrison House) stated that he really likes living there because it gives him a great opportunity to meet mentors and friends.

[Unidentified speaker] said that she has autism and is disabled, and she loves Harrison House.

Ms. Lamb presented gifts from the County to the special guests and thanked them for being in Stafford.

Presentation of a Proclamation Recognizing Stafford Airport Manager Edward Wallis for His 20 Years of Service

Ms. Vanuch reported that Mr. Edward Wallis is retiring after 20 years of service at the Stafford Airport, which entails so much more than sitting behind a desk. She said that Mr. Wallis has been active in every phase of the airport operation, from planning the new terminal to doing any needed tasks around the airport—and he has been a champion of the airport and one of the drivers behind the beautiful facility. Ms. Vanuch read the presentation aloud and presented the recognition to Mr. Wallis.

Mr. Edward Wallis said that it had been great working with the County and the Supervisors.

Ms. Vanuch thanked him for his service.

Overview of FY2021 Financial Report and Audit

Mr. Randy Helwig, Comptroller in Finance, introduced Tony Ronga from Cherry Bekaert to present the audit report.

Mr. Ronga thanked the Board and said he would present the results of the June 30, 2021 financial statements. He said they are in the final reporting phase of the audit and expect to issue the formal report after the holidays. He stated that their audit includes testing the significant balances and transactions included in the financial statement totals; the underlying assumptions of significant estimates an understanding the internal control environment and business properties to reach those reporting conclusions.

Mr. Ronga stated that they also do a compliance audit with certain provisions of laws and regulations and test compliance with all federal awards. He said within the compliance audit, they are also gaining and understanding of the internal control environment. He noted that the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report also includes some unaudited sections: introductory, Required Supplementary Information (RSI), and statistical section.

Mr. Ronga reported that they would be issuing no opinion qualification, or a clean opinion, for the compliance audit under the government auditing standards. He said they did identify two weaknesses and internal controls: material weakness related to the R-Board restatement, the County's equity interest in the R-Board, and a significant deficiency related to utility buildings and the entry in process there. He said that for the compliance audit, they have not to date identified any material noncompliance. For the uniform grant audit, he said they have not identified any deficiencies in internal controls.

Mr. Ronga stated that for the compliance audit, the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA), they identified two testing misstatements: conflict of interest forms and budget adoption of public notice. He said there were some accounting standards that weren't incredibly impactful on the fiscal year of 2021; they were implemented but did not have a significant impact. He noted that those were GASB Statement No. 84, Fiduciary Activities; and GASB Statement No. 98, Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. He said there were no other changes in existing accounting policies.

Mr. Ronga stated that to date, there have been no difficulties in conducting the audit or disagreements with management. He mentioned the two corrected misstatements related to utility buildings and the County's equity interest in the joint venture, and they are not aware of any other consultations with other accountants. He said that other matters that he must mention are that Cherry Bekaert is independent in performing services with the County. He stated that County Finance would sign the management representation letter, reflecting that they've given all information to auditors and that it is truthful, and the financial statements are reported fairly and correct materially.

Mr. Ronga thanked staff and said it all went incredibly well.

Ms. Bohmke said that as the Chairman of the Finance and Budget Committee, she wanted to mention that they had just met and asked about the two material weaknesses, which were not significant. Ms. Bohmke stated that all appointees on Boards and Commissions, as well as the Board of Supervisors, had submitted conflict of interest forms—but some were turned in late. She said they have requested that the Board be informed of those in the future. She extended her appreciation to the Finance Department and others in ensuring that the County received an unqualified audit.

ADDITIONS - DELETIONS AND APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR AGENDA

Mr. Presley stated that regarding Item 5 on the consent agenda, the Leeland Station Community Association letter and the County administration resolution to accept the alternative design for the Leeland Road pedestrian and bicycle project, the letter has been added to the background materials.

Mr. Presley said that Item 28, the public hearing to amend the Lake Carroll Service District boundaries, is a deletion to be brought back at a later time.

Ms. Bohmke motioned, seconded by Ms. Lamb, to approve the regular agenda as presented.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea:	(7)	Allen, Bohmke, Coen, Dudenhefer, Lamb, Snellings, Vanuch
Nay:	(0)	
Absent:	(0)	

PRESENTATIONS BY THE PUBLIC

Ms. Vanuch read the protocol for public speakers.

1. Mr. Albert Whitley stated that he is a resident of Meadows of England Run, and currently they don't get to vote on a Supervisor, so he is not certain who represents him—but it is Zone 5 on the ballot. Mr. Whitley said he would address the deed of the stormwater management trust fund. The Meadows has four stormwater management ponds: One currently has erosion and retention wall issues, and that project would cost approximately \$80-100K, depending on what type of fill material needs to be brought in and what kind of material needs to be disposed of offsite. Mr. Whitley said that they have spent about \$5K to date trying to clear pipes for another pond to be able to flow from the stormwater system on the neighborhood highway going out through the management area into Falls Run. He noted that they would like to get help for both of those, and he knows that Ms. Allen requested a budget increase from \$100K to \$200K for the pilot project, and he hoped that would come to fruition so that more communities could pay for those projects.

2. Santa Claus made an appearance.

3. Ms. Lorraine Serbinski stated that she is a resident of Hunton Drive and thanked the Board to help Leeland Station save their tree-lined path, which is a win for the community, nature, and the kids. Ms. Serbinski said she has shared with her children the entire process residents went through to save this path, and she is proud to show them how to participate in a civil process and stand up to fight for what's right.

4. Mr. Scott Hirons of Neabsco Drive in the Falmouth District stated that he is on the Leeland Station Community Association Board of Directors and serves as Vice-President. He said that he is speaking as an individual but wanted to report that their board has not taken action on the easement yet because they haven't received anything from VDOT on the revised plan. He said that the general consensus of the board is that they are ecstatic with the

changes and updates VDOT has presented—creating sidewalks and widened roads where they are desperately needed and saving the path in the trees at Leeland Station's HOA.

Mr. Hirons said that the HOA wanted to have the opportunity to have their legal counsel look at VDOT's proposal, particularly the easement they are being asked to give to VDOT for that path, but they would like it to not slow down the process, and he asked the Board to move forward with the agenda item today, with the caveat that the HOA could still have input on the easement. Mr. Hirons thanked Kyle Bates with VDOT, Supervisor Bohmke, and Delegate Cole, who all responded to community concerns when they were raised about the original proposal. He also thanked community members who led this effort, particularly Lorraine Serbinksi and Gina McVicar, and VDOT for listening and presenting a plan that is a win/win for everyone.

5. Mr. Bryan Wilkerson of Squirrel Hollow Lane in Brooke addressed the Board and thanked the outgoing Supervisors for their time. Mr. Wilkerson stated that the wayside is going to be a problem and always would be because it is not wide enough, and now would be a good time to leverage "Build Back Better" and widen the wayside. He noted that the maximum width on Route 1 is about 187 feet from the centerline out, and they must push this ahead and get as much funding as possible from federal and state sources. He said that there is potential to get a business district and high-rise building in the area, which would be visible as people come down I-95, as the "big fish" would help support multimodal paths, sidewalks, and smart technology to help alleviate traffic issues.

REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Bohmke – stated that she would like to pull Item 5 from the consent agenda; she thanked Ms. Vanuch for organizing and creating the Christmas Tree lighting idea, stating that it was a lot of fun—with three school choruses, parents, and Santa—and several people have requested that they do a big Stafford parade next year in this part of the County. She said she had also attended the St. Peter's Lutheran Church choral choir ceremony on Sunday afternoon.

Ms. Bohmke reported that she had toured Conway Elementary on December 13 with Chris Fulmer of the school division and school board member Dr. Sarah Chase. Ms. Bohmke said they are using every square inch of the school, and she has never seen a school this crowded, so this is something they will need to consider when they look at the Capital Improvement Plan.

Ms. Bohmke stated that she had a library meeting yesterday, and the library is the first of the libraries to have COVID tests available, with current kits expiring December 29.

Ms. Bohmke expressed her appreciation to the three outgoing Board members, noting Mr. Dudenhefer's efforts on transportation and FAMPO, Ms. Lamb's tenacity for drilling into details, and Mr. Snelling's sense of humor, dedication, and calm demeanor.

Mr. Coen – stated that the holidays are a time to show appreciation, and the holiday gathering for boards and commissions was a terrific way to thank those who dedicate time and energy to help the County. He said that County employees across the spectrum faced another challenging year and always stepped up to work hard for the citizens, with constituents contacting him frequently about how various department members go the extra mile.

Mr. Coen recognized Mr. Dudenhefer and noted his commitment to Stafford County and work to make transportation safer for all residents, particularly children. He also commented that Mr. Dudenhefer is an amazing parent and grandparent. Mr. Coen said that he and Ms. Lamb joined the Board at about the same time, and her commitment to the issues and finding solutions is amazing. He stated that Ms. Lamb brought a skill set and technology in business that were very helpful, said she was also a phenomenal parent and grandparent, and wished her well. Mr. Coen recognized Mr. Snellings and commented on his great record of commitment to the County, stating that he personally appreciated his advice and his role model; he also recognized Mr. Snellings for being a great parent and grandparent.

Mr. Dudenhefer – thanked everyone on staff for their work and asked Mr. Presley to share with them his respect and appreciation for what they do. He commented that they worked hard on transportation but felt that many of their efforts and improvements had been eclipsed, and there was still a lot to be done. Mr. Dudenhefer said that he served 10 years on the Board and worked with four County Administrators, three County Attorneys, and 19 different Board members—all of whom had passion and talent that they brought to the Board. He added that Stafford County is a wonderful place to live and raise a family, and it has more potential than any other county in Virginia. Mr. Dudenhefer recognized those who work behind the scenes to make Stafford a better place, as it adds value to everything they do. He also thanked the IT staff for their help and their work during COVID. Mr. Dudenhefer mentioned that he would be moving back to his native New Orleans. He also mentioned that he is a Republican, but the person he worked with who garnered his greatest respect was Harry Crisp, who is a Democrat, and said that he was a role model of what should be happening in the country today.

Ms. Lamb – thanked her fellow retiring Board members and said she would mention things that she did not get finished but would like to see the Board address. Ms. Lamb said that they have ordinances and laws that are pushed upon them but sometimes make mistakes with them, and one in particular pertains to livestock. She explained that the Kottmeyer family is caught in a horrible dilemma in which their neighbor is raising roosters within about 50 feet of his house; everything is meeting code, with a few exceptions. Ms. Lamb emphasized that the code needs to be changed and she wants to see it addressed, even if it means going to Richmond. She noted that her planning commissioner was being replaced, and she thanked Fillmore McPherson for his service.

Ms. Lamb stated that the second issue of concern for her was plastic bag usage, and she supported the plastic bag tax that other localities had implemented. She said that the money raised from the tax could be used for environmental efforts like stormwater management, so that sounded like a win/win to her.

Ms. Lamb added that she loved working with staff, attending VACO, and becoming certified as a Board member. She commented that the public thinks Supervisors are elected already knowing how to do the job, but they are learning a lot of it on the job. She stated that the public should encourage their officials to take classes and attend meetings relevant to their work, adding that they learn about many different things that have an impact on the Board's work and ultimately the lives of their constituents.

Ms. Lamb said that she looks forward to returning to private life and would be moving to the George Washington District, which is Mr. Coen's.

Mr. Snellings – stated that he has been on the Board for 16 years and has met some really good people and some pretty bad ones—but most of them are good. He said he has served with 21 Board members, five County Administrators, and five County Attorneys. He stated that he did not agree with any of them on everything, and if there is a Board that agrees on everything, that's a bad Board. Mr. Snellings said that their job is to dig into the details and find out the facts, and vote based on that. He stated that he had a great deal of respect for the 21 Board members with whom he served. Mr. Snellings said that he keeps a manual calendar of meetings and events—and the year before COVID, he had 264, which was the case for his fellow Board members also. He stated that the Board doesn't get paid a lot: about $20K and "all the chicken they can eat." He said that they do it because they care about what happens to the County. He thanked staff and said that the citizens of the county were fortunate to have them and thanked his constituents for trusting him for 16 years and his family for standing by him for 16 years.

Ms. Allen – thanked staff for their work, especially over the last two years. Ms. Allen expressed her appreciation for the retiring Board members: Mr. Dudenhefer for his commitment to transportation, Ms. Lamb for her even keel, and Mr. Snellings for his humor and his service. Ms. Allen said she had no expectations of her fellow Supervisors when she came on, but she is grateful to have worked with the three who are retiring.

Ms. Vanuch – stated that as outgoing chairman, the Board does not give staff enough credit, and she thanked Andrew, Shannon, Donna, Mike, and Fred in particular. She also recognized Sheriff Decatur and Fire Chief Cardello, who were always ready, willing, and able to respond to requests for public safety at events. She said that she would give one word for each Board member: "tenacious" for Supervisor Lamb; "passionate" for Supervisor Dudenhefer; and "statesman" for Supervisor Snellings. She also thanked Fire Station 14, 8 and Rescue 8, which would be doing some Santa runs in the Rock Hill District.

Ms. Lamb mentioned that she had forgotten to remove items 9 and 15 from the consent agenda.

Ms. Vanuch stated that items 5, 9, and 15 would be pulled from consent.

REPORT OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY

Ms. McClendon thanked Supervisor Snellings, Supervisor Dudenhefer, and Supervisor Lamb. She said it had been an honor to work with them during their time on the Board, and she wished them all the best.

REPORT OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Presley reported that Governor Northam had just announced the awardees for the 2022 VATI grants, and Stafford County received $3.4 million; in combination with the $1.5 million in matching funds that the Board agreed to earlier in the year and the $864K that Comcast has agreed to contribute totals $5.7 million to go towards extension of wireless, broadband, and cable TV service to over 634 homes in Hartwood and Rock Hill Districts in the western part of the County. He said this would make a huge difference for those hard-to-reach homes and allow them to do further expansions at a later date. He recognized Mike Cannon and Tina Owens for putting the grant request together and pursuing it with Comcast.

Mr. Presley stated that the Virginia Supreme Court released its proposed federal and state election district maps as part of the ongoing redistricting process, and they are currently available for public comment at vacourts.gov, with comment accepted through December 20.

Ms. Vanuch said that she was providing comments and was signed up to speak at the Supreme Court, and she asked if the Board wanted to put together a letter and submit comments on their behalf for the redistricting process. She added that she felt they really needed to, considering some of the lines in the County. She stated Anthony Toigo could reach out to them. Ms. Vanuch asked if they needed to vote to do that.

Ms. McClendon explained that they would need to have a two-thirds vote to add it to the agenda, and then they would need to make it time sensitive to vote on it.

Ms. Allen asked if they had done this before during a redistricting process.

Mr. Snellings explained that in the past, the General Assembly did it—but it was going to the Supreme Court this time because the committee that voters approved was a fiasco.

Ms. Bohmke stated that a lot of people were very concerned about the maps drawn by the Supreme Court, and there is no common interest, so she thinks it would be in their best interest to weigh in as a Board.

Ms. Lamb stated that she is on the Redistricting Committee until December 31, and she would be very interested as a Board collectively to collaborate and make those comments, and if there is something they didn't agree with, they could eliminate it.

Ms. Allen stated that her issue isn't that they shouldn't comment, but as an elected body, weighing in on something that is typically partisan doesn't seem to be something the Board should be doing as a whole—but they could do so individually.

Ms. Lamb said that she has not seen comments from other people but knows that hers are not partisan, although she understands Ms. Allen's concern.

Ms. Bohmke motioned, seconded by Mr. Snellings, to add this item to the agenda under New Business.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea:	(6)	Bohmke, Coen, Dudenhefer, Lamb, Snellings, Vanuch
Nay:	(1)	Allen
Absent:	(0)	

Mr. Presley noted that any residents who wish to learn more about this can go to the County's website, and there was a story on there now entitled, "Understanding the Proposed New Election District Maps for Virginia." He said it has all links needed to provide feedback, and staff plans to provide an update to the Board on redistricting at their January 4, 2022 meeting.

<u>Stafford Cares Meal Project Update</u>

Mr. Presley stated that the Economic Development Department worked to obtain a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) through the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) for the purpose of purchasing meal cards from area restaurants that were hardest hit by the pandemic. He said they were able to secure a grant of $742K for gift cards from various restaurants, and more than 50 restaurants participated; the gift cards were distributed to 3,664 SNAP recipients, totaling about 5,700 residents that were able to take advantage of the restaurant cards and patronize some establishments for the first time. Mr. Presley said that he was on a call with DHCD a few weeks earlier, and they were raving about how well it went off. He noted that there were still a few hundred gift cards they were working to distribute, and some will be folded into the holiday giving through DSS, with the grant closing out in March 2022. He presented quotes from gift card recipients.

Mr. Presley reported that there are road signs now installed in the County that provide a mental health hotline number for the Rappahannock Area Community Services Board, and this effort is part of the Stafford Cares initiative. He said that they would also be distributing 350 window clings with the hotline number, and additional information is available at the county's website and /staffordcares.

Mr. Presley recognized the three outgoing Board members for their dedication and service, and he also thanked Ms. Vanuch for her service and efficiency in chairing the meetings. He said that recent years have brought significant challenges, but they have met those challenges and have taken advantages of opportunities presented.

Mr. Presley stated that the Monthly Expenditure Listing Report was included in the agenda packet and was for information only.

<u>CONSENT AGENDA</u>

Mr. Snellings motioned, seconded by Ms. Lamb, to approve the consent agenda as presented minus items #5, #9, and #15.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea:	(7)	Allen, Bohmke, Coen, Dudenhefer, Lamb, Snellings, Vanuch
Nay:	(0)	
Absent:	(0)	

<u>Item 1. County Administration; Approve Minutes of the November 16, 2021 Board Meeting.</u>

<u>Item 2. County Administration; Receive Central Rappahannock Regional Library's Quarterly Report.</u>

<u>Item 3. County Administration; Endorse the Virginia Association of Counties 2022 Legislative Program</u>

Resolution R21-184 reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES 2022 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that Virginia and its local governments are partners in providing many services to our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) exists to support County Officials, to effectively represent, promote, and protect the interest of counties, and to better serve the people of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, a formal endorsement of the VACo legislative program provides Stafford's legislative delegation and liaisons with a clear statement of Stafford's intent to support VACo's legislative positions and advocacy efforts, thereby maximizing Stafford's lobby efforts through shared resources; and

WHEREAS, the Board is also seeking enabling legislation and amendments to the Virginia Code to accomplish Stafford County's legislative priorities, identified in a separately adopted General Assembly Legislative Program (Resolution R21-183, adopted on November 16, 2021) for the 2022 Virginia General Assembly session; and

WHEREAS, the Board reserves the right to adopt positions contrary to VACo in the event such positions adversely affect Stafford County or contradict those expressed by the Board;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 14th day of December, 2021, that it be and hereby does endorse the Virginia Association of Counties' (VACo) 2022 Legislative Program; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that staff and the County's legislative consultants will keep the Board apprised of legislative changes and other matters that may adversely impact Stafford County, its residents, and businesses; and

BE IT STILL FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator or his designee will provide a copy of this Resolution to each member of the Stafford County General Assembly legislative delegation.

Item 4. County Administration; A Resolution to Establish the Lake Arrowhead Service District Advisory Committee and Its By-Laws.

Resolution R21-434 reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THE LAKE ARROWHEAD SERVICE DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND ITS BY-LAWS

WHEREAS, the Board established the Lake Arrowhead Subdivision Service District (Service District) on February 7, 2017 with Ordinance O17-01; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-2403, the Board is the governing body of the Lake Arrowhead Service District, and may establish and appoint members to an advisory committee to make recommendations on projects that should be undertaken within the Service District; and

WHEREAS, the residents of the Lake Arrowhead subdivision have requested the Rock Hill District Supervisor to establish an advisory committee; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to establish the Lake Arrowhead Service District Advisory Committee and its By-Laws; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to have County staff members and community members appointed as members to the advisory committee to assist with coordination between the residents of the Lake Arrowhead subdivision and the Board;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 14th day of December, 2021, that the Lake Arrowhead Service District Advisory Committee be and hereby is established; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the by-laws for the Lake Arrowhead Service District Advisory Committee, including membership requirements, are as provided in the document attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.

Item 5. County Administration; Accept And Support An Alternative Design For The Leeland Road Pedestrian And Bicycle Project.

Ms. Vanuch noted that Ms. Bohmke had requested that Item 5 be pulled from the consent agenda.

Ms. Bohmke stated that she is pulling this item pursuant to the issue raised by Scott Hirons regarding the easement, and there is a letter in the Board's add-on folder from Leeland Station Community Association President Gail Carlson. She read the letter aloud. Ms. Bohmke thanked Lorraine Serbinski, Gina McVicker, and other HOA members, as well as VDOT for changing course—which is not easy for them.

Ms. Bohmke motioned, seconded by Ms. Lamb, to approve proposed resolution R21-435.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea:	(7) Allen, Bohmke, Coen, Dudenhefer, Lamb, Snellings, Vanuch
Nay:	(0)
Absent:	(0)

Resolution R21-435 reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AND SUPPORT AN ALTERNATIVE DESIGN FOR THE LEELAND ROAD PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Leeland Road Improvement project (Project) was initially designed as a multi-phased project to include shared use improvements and widen the two-lane section of Leeland Road to include a two-way left turn lane; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is administering the shared use improvements north of Walnut Drive as Phase I; and

WHEREAS, due to significant public feedback and escalating costs, VDOT has proposed an alternative design to Phase I that would reduce the scope of the shared use path improvements, maintain bicycle and pedestrian access from Deacon Road to the VRE station, and move the remaining improvements to Phase II of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Board considered VDOT's alternative design proposal to Phase I, and determined that it meets the needs of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 14th day of December, 2021, that the Board be and he hereby does accept and support the alternative design for the Leeland Road Improvement project (Project) proposed by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), to include reducing the scope of the shared use path improvements, while maintaining bicycle and pedestrian access from Deacon Road to the Virginia Railway Express (VRE) station in Phase I, and moving the remaining Project improvements to Phase II; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator or his designee provide a certified copy of this Resolution to the VDOT Fredericksburg Residency.

Item 6. Capital Projects Transportation; Petition the Virginia Department of Transportation to Accept Black Hawk Drive in the Black Hawk Ridge Subdivision into the Secondary State Highway System.

Resolution R21-426 reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION TO PETITION THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO INCLUDE BLACK HAWK DRIVE WITHIN THE BLACK HAWK RIDGE SUBDIVISION INTO THE SECONDARY SYSTEM OF STATE HIGHWAYS, LOCATED WITHIN THE AQUIA ELECTION DISTRICT

WHEREAS, pursuant to Virginia Code § 33.2-705, the Board desires to petition the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to include Black Hawk Drive within Black Hawk Ridge subdivision into the Secondary System of State Highways; and

WHEREAS, VDOT inspected Black Hawk Drive and found it satisfactory for acceptance into the Secondary System of State Highways;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the day of December 14th, 2021, that the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) be and it hereby is petitioned to include the following streets within Black Hawk Ridge subdivision, into the Secondary System of State Highways:

Street Name/ Route Number	Station	Length
Black Hawk Drive (SR-1344)	From: 0.20 mi. Southwest Rte. 630 Courthouse Road To: 0.66 mi. Southwest Rte. 630 Courthouse Road	0.46 mi. ROW 50'

An unrestricted right-of-way, as indicated above, for these streets with necessary easements for cuts, fills, and drainage is guaranteed, as evidenced by Plat of Record entitled, Black Hawk Ridge, recorded among the land records of Stafford County, Virginia in Plat Map Number PM180000107 with Instrument Number LR180015524 on September 13, 2018; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator, or his designee, shall forward a copy of this Resolution to the developer, and to the VDOT Transportation and Land Use Director, Fredericksburg District.

<u>Item 7. Capital Projects Transportation; Authorizing the County Administrator to Advertise A Public Hearing to Consider Amending and Reordaining Stafford County Code Sec.15.4.1(C) Entitled "Maximum Speed Limits in Certain Residence Districts; Penalty" to Add Jett Street (Sr-1019).</u>

<u>Resolution R21-436 reads as follows:</u>

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO ADVERTISE A PUBLIC HEARING TO AMEND AND REORDAIN STAFFORD COUNTY CODE SEC. 15-4.1(C), "MAXIMUM SPEED LIMITS IN CERTAIN RESIDENCE DISTRICTS; PENALTY"

WHEREAS, Virginia Code § 46.2-878.2 authorizes a $200 fine for persons exceeding the maximum speed limit in designated residence districts; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance O97-29(R), the Board established criteria for the establishment of residence districts where an additional fine could be levied; and

WHEREAS, the County received a petition from residents along Jett Street (SR-1019) to calm traffic along the roadway; and

WHEREAS, County staff conducted a traffic study and determined, with concurrence from the Virginia Department of Transportation, that Jett Street, between the intersections with Deacon Road (SR-607) and Hamlin Drive (SR-1350) met the criteria to establish a residence district; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to consider designating Jett Street (SR-1019) between Deacon Road and Hamlin Drive as a residence district;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 14th day of December, 2021, that the County Administrator be and he hereby is authorized to advertise a public hearing to consider amending Stafford County Code Sec. 15-4.1(c), to designate Jett Street (SR-1019) from Deacon Road (SR-607) to its intersection with Hamlin Drive (SR-1350) as a residence district.

Item 8. Capital Projects; Authorize the County Administrator to Execute A Contract with WGK Construction LLC, for the Installation of a Second Centrifuge and Sludge Thickener at the Lake Mooney Water Treatment Facility and Appropriate Funds.

Resolution R21-438 reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH WGK CONSTRUCTION LLC, FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A SECOND CENTRIFUGE AND SLUDGE THICKENER AT THE LAKE MOONEY WATER TREATMENT FACILITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS

WHEREAS, the original construction of the Lake Mooney Water Treatment Facility (Facility) was completed in 2014 with one centrifuge and one sludge thickener due to budgetary constraints; and

WHEREAS, although Facility operations staff has been able to operate the equipment reliably to date, however staff is unable to efficiently maintain the installed equipment due to the lack of redundancy; and

WHEREAS, with aging equipment and increasing water demands, it is more critical to provide the redundancy of a second centrifuge and second sludge thickener into the Facility; and

WHEREAS, the County engaged Jacobs Engineering to design the installation of a second centrifuge and second sludge thickener; and

WHEREAS, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. completed the design and prepared plans and specifications suitable for the County's use in soliciting construction bids; and

WHEREAS, the County solicited competitively sealed bids pursuant to Invitation for Bid #22-006-9408SB to provide the Lake Mooney Water Treatment Facility Sludge Thickening and Dewatering Improvements; and

WHEREAS, WGK Construction LLC was determined to be the lowest responsive and responsible bidder to provide the construction of the Plant improvements; and

WHEREAS, $637,456 is available from a previous appropriation in the Capital Projects, Utilities Division, Enterprise Fund for the project; and

WHEREAS, the appropriation of additional funds is needed for additional engineering construction services, testing services and contingencies for the project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 14th day of December, 2021, that the County Administrator be and he hereby is authorized to execute a contract with WGK Construction LLC to install a second centrifuge and sludge thickener at the Lake Mooney Water Treatment Facility (Project) in an amount not to exceed Two Million Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars ($2,075,000.00), unless modified by a duly-executed change order; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Capital Improvement Program funds in the Utilities Enterprise Fund are appropriated for additional construction services, testing services, and contingencies for the Project, as follows:

Fund	**Purpose**	**Amount**
Utilities Fund	Centrifuge at Lake Mooney Water Treatment Facility (BHC040)	$ 430,268
Utilities Fund	Thickener at Lake Mooney Water Treatment Facility (BHC041)	$1,221,250
	Total Appropriated	**$1,651,518**

<u>Item 9. Capital Projects; Appropriate Funds and Authorize the County Administrator to Execute a Work Order With the Matthews Group Inc. Dba TMG Construction Corporation for the Caustic Tank Replacement at the Smith Lake Water Treatment.</u>

Ms. Lamb stated that a long time ago, they cut their budget very thin, which often impacts maintenance, and their maintenance of large infrastructure facilities like Smith Lake went away for too long. She said that they raise taxes because they need compensation for first responders and staff, as well as infrastructure projects. She commented that she was excited to see one of the projects in before she leaves.

Ms. Lamb motioned, seconded by Mr. Coen, to approve proposed resolution R21-440.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea:	(7)	Allen, Bohmke, Coen, Dudenhefer, Lamb, Snellings, Vanuch
Nay:	(0)	
Absent:	(0)	

Resolution R21-440 reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A WORK ORDER WITH THE MATTHEWS GROUP, INC. DBA TMG CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION FOR THE CAUSTIC TANK REPLACEMENT AT THE SMITH LAKE WATER TREATMENT FACILITY AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS

WHEREAS, a recent operations inspection of the two caustic storage tanks at the Smith Lake Water Treatment Facility revealed that they require replacement due to their age, condition, and criticality of the tanks to ensure constant operation of the facility; and

WHEREAS, the work may be procured through the County's Job Order Contract with TMG Construction Corporation, Contract #SC-GC-TMG-020; and

WHEREAS, TMG Construction Corporation submitted a work order package in the amount of $495,456, which is reasonable for the proposed scope of work; and

WHEREAS, $93,127 has to be appropriated to fund the work order as submitted plus a contingency; and

WHEREAS, funds are available in the Utilities Capital Improvement Program Fund and can be used for this purpose;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 14th day of December, 2021, that the County Administrator be and he hereby is authorized to execute Work Order #SC-GC-TMG-020 with The Matthews Group, Inc., doing business as TMG Construction Corporation, in an amount not to exceed Four Hundred Ninety-Five Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Six Dollars ($495,456) for the replacement of the caustic tanks at Smith Lake Water Treatment Facility, unless modified by a duly-executed change order; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funds are appropriated for the additional construction services associated with the replacement of caustic tanks at the facility, as follows:

Fund	Department	Amount
Utilities Fund	Capital Improvement Program	$93,127

Item 10. Capital Projects; Authorize the County Administrator to Execute A Contract with Ramboll Americas Engineering Solutions, Inc. For On-Call Modeling Services for The County's Water and Sewer Systems.

Resolution R21-444 reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH RAMBOLL AMERICAS ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS, INC. FOR ON-CALL MODELING SERVICES FOR THE COUNTY'S WATER AND SEWER SYSTEMS

WHEREAS, Ramboll Americas Engineering Solutions, Inc. (Ramboll) developed the County's water and sewer hydraulic models for the Department of Utilities (Department) prior to the development of the Water and Sewer Master Plan of 2006; and

WHEREAS, Ramboll exclusively maintained the model and calibrated it as necessary to update changing conditions reflective of growth in the County and as the Water and Sewer Master Plan was updated; and

WHEREAS, the current contract with Ramboll to provide these modeling services, Contract #20-5001-SS066B-OBG, has expired; and

WHEREAS, the County's need for specific hydraulic reviews is increasing as greater levels of development activity and capital project work are being proposed; and

WHEREAS, the Department desires to continue contracting with Ramboll to provide on-call hydraulic modeling services to support staff reviews of proposed property developments and capital improvements; and

WHEREAS, Ramboll is familiar with the County's hydraulic models, and the sole source practicably available to conduct the required analyses of the County's water and sewer system through modeling; and

WHEREAS, the new contract will accommodate one year of modeling services, which will get the County through the next Capital Improvement Program (CIP) planning cycle; and

WHEREAS, funds are available in the Capital Improvement Program Fund for this purpose;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 14th day of December, 2021, that the County Administrator be and he is hereby authorized to execute a contract with Ramboll Americas Engineering Solutions, Inc., for on-call hydraulic modeling services for the County's water and sewer system, in an amount not to exceed Two Hundred Nine Thousand Four Hundred Ninety-Eight Dollars ($209,498), unless modified by a duly-authorized contract amendment.

Item 11. Community Engagement; A Proclamation Recognizing Stafford Middle School Leo Club for Its Work in Establishing an E-Waste Recycling Site.

Resolution P21-32 reads as follows:

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE STAFFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL LEO CLUB FOR ESTABLISHING AN E-WASTE RECYCLING SITE

WHEREAS, in July 2021, the Stafford Middle School Leo Club built and established an e-waste drop-off site at the Regional Landfill for residents.

WHEREAS, the Leo Club partners with the Aquia Evening Lions Club to recycle e-waste, having raised enough last Christmas to provide holiday meals for county residents in financial crisis; and

WHEREAS, the new site is in a central location and will allow students to more efficiently recycle those items that are valuable to local recyclers or purchasers to then pass that money directly on to organizations in the community like S.E.R.V.E. and the Animal Shelter; and

WHEREAS, the Leo Club and the Lions Club are to be commended for their service and dedication to the community, and for reducing waste going into the environment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 14th day of December, 2021, that it be and hereby does honor and recognize the Stafford Middle School Leo Club and the Aquia Evening Lions Club for their service to Stafford County.

Item 12. Community Engagement; A Proclamation Recognizing Stafford Airport Manager Edward G. Wallis For His 20 Years of Service.

Resolution P21-33 reads as follows:

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING STAFFORD AIRPORT MANAGER EDWARD G. WALLIS FOR 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

WHEREAS, Edward Wallis has worked at the Stafford Regional Airport from January 5, 2002, to January 5, 2022, and in that time, served in several positions including Contract Maintenance, Operations Specialist, Operations Technician, Interim Manager/Operations and Airport Manager/Operations; and

WHEREAS, Stafford Regional Airport opened on December 11, 2001, as the eighth new airport in the United States in the preceding 20 years and the newest in Virginia. According to an economic impact study completed in 2018 by the Department of Aviation, Stafford ranks eighth in Virginia for revenue generation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wallis oversaw the transition of the airport terminal from a triple-wide trailer to a 10,000 square foot terminal completed in 2014, a project that came in $300,000 under budget. The terminal has earned the title "Providing the Gateway to the National Capital Region;" and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wallis worked with Computer Science Corporation to host the largest military/first responder/law enforcement equipment show on the east coast at the Stafford Regional Airport in 2007, 2009 and 2011, generating millions of dollars for the local economy; and

WHEREAS, Ed Wallis was an advocate for and was instrumental in the extension of the runway at Stafford Airport;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 14th day of December, 2021, that it be and hereby does honor and recognize Edward Wallis for his service to the Stafford Regional Airport and Stafford County.

Item 13. Community Engagement; A Proclamation Recognizing International Day of Persons with Disabilities, 2021.

Resolution P21-34 reads as follows:

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING INTERNATIONAL
DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, 2021

WHEREAS, December 3 is annually recognized around the world as the International Day of Persons with Disabilities; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme is "Fighting for Rights in the Post-COVID Era," a time to celebrate the challenges, barriers and opportunities for people who live with disabilities in the context of a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Stafford reaffirms the full promise of dignity, equity and respect due to all disabled people and recognize the work that remains to deliver on that promise fully; and

WHEREAS, Stafford commits to helping advance the rights, opportunities, full participation, and economic self-sufficiency of people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Stafford pledges to continue to adhere to the Americans with Disabilities Act and its defense against discrimination and inequality; and

WHEREAS, Stafford reaffirms its partnerships with nonprofits and community organizations that enrich the lives of the disabled within our community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 14th day of December, 2021, that it be and hereby does recognize December 3, 2021, as International Day of Persons with Disabilities in Stafford County.

Item 14. County Attorney; Approve Settlement of Tony Sprouse V. Doug Martinski, Case No. CL 18-4197.

Resolution R21-431 reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR AND COUNTY ATTORNEY OR THEIR DESIGNEES TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO SETTLE THE MATTER OF *TONY SPROUSE V. DOUG MARTINSKI* (CASE NO.: CL 18004197-00)

WHEREAS, Doug Martinski, a former County employee, and Tony Sprouse are parties in the above referenced case involving an alleged injury to Sprouse during the performance of Martinski's duties; and

WHEREAS, the parties have agreed to enter into a settlement agreement to resolve the claims under the terms and conditions discussed in closed session with the County Attorney; and

WHEREAS, the Board motioned and voted on November 16, 2021, to authorize counsel to offer settlement and now desired to approve and ratify the settlement terms and conditions as agreed upon by both parties;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 14th day of December, 2021, that the County Administrator and County Attorney, or their designees, be and they hereby are authorized to execute a settlement agreement to dispose of *Tony Sprouse v. Doug Martinski*, Case No.: CL 18004197-00, under the terms and conditions as discussed in closed session to include settlement in an amount not to exceed Thirteen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars ($13,500); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Attorney, or her designee(s), is authorized to take such further action as deemed necessary to dismiss and resolve the above referenced case; and

BE IT STILL FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board authorizes payment of the same.

Item 15. Development Services; Authorize The County Administrator To Submit A Grant Application To The Virginia Department Of Emergency Management For The Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities Grant To Fund The Brooke Road.

Ms. Lamb stated that she was bringing this item forward because they have worked hard on this for almost five years, and one of the reasons she came on the Board was because of Brooke Road and its stormwater management. She said that the County hadn't had money for this purpose and said, with the trust of the Board, that they would allocate the funds and set them aside but would look for every possible grant.

Mr. Paul Santay stated that this is a federal Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC) grant through FEMA, and the County can submit grant applications through the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, and this year, FEMA has allocated about $1 billion for this grant. Mr. Santay said that based on the grant criteria and everything involved, staff feels that Brooke Road would score very well and would hopefully obtain about $4.8 million out of the $7.5 million for the road project shown in the CIP—including design, right-of-way acquisition, and construction from beginning to end. He said the solicitation was in September, and the grant would be submitted by VDEM in the middle of January, so it is on the agenda now for authorization to pursue the grant.

Ms. Lamb said that this amount translates into two cents off of the tax rate. She recognized Emily Torrey and said that she had done all the work on the grant.

Ms. Lamb motioned, seconded by Mr. Coen, to approve proposed Resolution R21-427.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea: (7) Allen, Bohmke, Coen, Dudenhefer, Lamb, Snellings, Vanuch
Nay: (0)
Absent: (0)

Resolution R21-427 reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FOR THE BUILDING RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE COMMUNITIES GRANT TO FUND THE BROOKE ROAD FLOOD MITIGATION PROJECT, LOCATED IN THE AQUIA ELECTION DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the Department of Development Services, Environmental Division staff prepared a grant application for the Brooke Road Flood Mitigation Project (Project) to be submitted to the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) for inclusion in the State's application for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Building Resilient Infrastructure Communities Grant (BRIC) funding; and

WHEREAS, the Project will be scored on technical and qualitative criteria in a national competition, and grant funding will be awarded by FEMA to VDEM based on overall scoring and available funding; and

WHEREAS, if awarded, the County would be reimbursed $4,875,000 and would be required to provide a $2,625,000 local match, which funds are available in the FY2022 Transportation Capital Improvement Program budget;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 14th day of December, 2021, that the County Administrator be and he hereby is authorized to submit a grant application to the Virginia Department of Emergency Management for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the Building Resilient Infrastructure Communities Grant (BRIC) funding for the Brooke Road Flood Mitigation Project.

<u>Item 16. Economic Development & Tourism; Authorize a Real Estate Property Tax Incentive Grant for the Expansion of Virginia Oncology, an Existing Stafford County Business.</u>

<u>Resolution R21-365 reads as follows:</u>

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A REAL ESTATE PROPERTY TAX INCENTIVES GRANT AGREEMENT WITH VIRGINIA ONCOLOGY CARE, PC, 405 CHATHAM HEIGHTS ROAD LLC, AND THE STAFFORD COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (EDA)

WHEREAS, 405 Chatham Heights Road LLC (Chatham Heights) purchased Stafford County Tax Map Parcel No. 54F-3H-17B (Property) and intends to redevelop the Property as a medical services facility to be provided to and operated by Virginia Oncology Care, PC (Virginia Oncology), thereby making a significant capital investment, and creating and maintaining a significant number of new jobs in the County; and

WHEREAS, Chatham Heights and Virginia Oncology fit the profile of companies that the County is seeking, and their expansion in the County and investment in the Property is in the public's interest and would benefit the County and its citizens by providing additional jobs and increasing the County's tax base; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that providing a real estate property tax incentives grant to Chatham Heights meets a public purpose by promoting a critical medical service in Stafford County while increasing tax revenue and enhancing the quality of life for the residents of Stafford County; and

WHEREAS, in order to support Chatham Heights and Virginia Oncology's creation of new jobs in the County, the Board and Economic Development Authority of Stafford County, Virginia (EDA) wish to offer certain incentives of up to $90,000 to Chatham Heights; and

WHEREAS, the Board created the EDA, pursuant to the Industrial Development and Revenue Bond Act, Chapter 49, Title 15.2 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended (Act); and

WHEREAS, the Board has the authority, pursuant to Virginia Code § 15.2-953, to make gifts, donations and appropriations of money to the EDA for the purposes of promoting economic development; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that it is necessary and desirable to provide certain incentives for economic development to Chatham Heights; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to enter into a Real Estate Property Tax Incentives Grant Agreement with the EDA, Chatham Heights, and Virginia Oncology to specify the terms associated with providing incentives to Chatham Heights and the obligations incurred by both Chatham Heights and Virginia Oncology;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 14th day of December, 2021, that an economic development incentive grant with a value up to $90,000, as outlined in a Real Estate Property Tax Incentives Grant Agreement (Agreement) with 405 Chatham Heights Road LLC, Virginia Oncology Care, PC, and the Economic Development Authority of Stafford County, Virginia, paid over the negotiated period of time set forth in the Agreement, be and it hereby is approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a tax increment account be established for such economic development incentive; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator will include the transfer of such incentive funds to the EDA, as described in the Agreement, in his annual budget proposal to the Board; and

BE IT STILL FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator is authorized to execute the Agreement, which shall be in substantially the same form as the draft Agreement included with this Resolution, and any other documents which he deems necessary and appropriate to effectuate this Resolution.

Item 17. Economic Development & Tourism; Authorize A Technology Zone Incentive Grant for a New Business in Stafford County and Execution of An Agreement with the New Business and The Stafford County Eda.

Resolution R21-433 reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A TECHNOLOGY ZONE BUSINESS PROPERTY TAX INCENTIVES GRANT AGREEMENT WITH UVISION (USA) CORP. AND THE STAFFORD COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, UVision (USA) Corp. (Technology Business) will lease a portion of Tax Map Parcel No 13C-D1 (Property) on or about December 14, 2021, and intends to install business personal property for the purposes of assembly and sale of its unmanned technology systems at the Property, thereby making a significant capital investment, and creating and maintaining a significant number of jobs in the County; and

WHEREAS, Technology Business is a qualified technology business pursuant to Stafford County Code Sec. 23A, "Technology Zones" and may be offered an incentive pursuant to Stafford County Code Sec. 23A-6, "Technology zone incentive package"; and

WHEREAS, Technology Business identified Stafford County as the best site for its new operations on the Property, which is located within the area the County has designated for public water and sewer; and

WHEREAS, Technology Business fits the profile of a company that the County is seeking, and its expansion in the County is in the public's interest and would benefit the County and its citizens by providing additional jobs and increasing the County's tax base; and

WHEREAS, the County finds that entering a technology zone business property tax incentive grant agreement with Technology Business meets a public purpose by increasing tax revenue and enhancing the quality of life for the residents of Stafford County; and

WHEREAS, in order to support Technology Business's creation of new jobs in the County, the Board and the Economic Development Authority of Stafford County, Virginia (EDA) desire to offer certain incentives to Technology Business of up to $36,152; and

WHEREAS, the Board created the EDA, pursuant to the Industrial Development and Revenue Bond Act, Chapter 49, Title 15.2 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended (Act); and

WHEREAS, the Board has the authority, pursuant to Virginia Code § 15.2-953, to make gifts, donations and appropriations of money to the EDA for the purposes of promoting economic development within the County; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to enter into an agreement with the EDA and Technology Business, which provides the terms of the incentives to be provided to Technology Business;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 14th day of December, 2021, that it be and hereby does approve an economic development incentive grant with a value of up to $36,152, as outlined in the Technology Zone Business Property Tax Incentives Grant Agreement (Agreement), with UVision (USA) Corp. and the Economic Development Authority of Stafford County, Virginia (EDA) as referenced below, paid over the negotiated period of time set forth in the Agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a tax increment account be established for such economic development incentive; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that during the term of the Agreement, the County Administrator will include the transfer of such funds to the EDA as described in the Agreement, in his annual budget proposal to the Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator is authorized to execute the Agreement with UVision (USA) Corp. and the EDA, which shall be in substantially the same form as the draft Agreement included with this Resolution, and any other documents which he deems necessary and appropriate to effectuate this Resolution; and

BE IT STILL FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be updated to include the name of the redacted business at such time as a public announcement of the business is made.

<u>Item 18. Planning and Zoning; Approve A Time Extension for Rehabilitation of The Historic Counting House.</u>

<u>Resolution R21-437 reads as follows:</u>

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT TO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN STAFFORD COUNTY AND ROCK-RIVER BUILDERS, LLC, FOR REHABILITATION OF THE COUNTING HOUSE, LOCATED ON TAX MAP PARCEL NO. 53D-1-36 WITHIN THE GEORGE WASHINGTON ELECTION DISTRICT

WHEREAS, Stafford County and Rock-River Builders, LLC (Rock-River Builders) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding, dated March 28, 2017 (MOU), memorializing the conveyance of Stafford County Tax Map Parcel No. 53D-1-36, known as the “Counting House,” in consideration of Rock-River Builders’ agreement to rehabilitate the structure over a five-year period; and

WHEREAS, the MOU expires on March 27, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Rock-River Builders has made a good faith effort towards, but has not yet completed, rehabilitating Counting House; and

WHEREAS, Rock-River Builders has requested an extension of the MOU to continue its rehabilitation efforts, and the Board desires to grant the extension;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this 14th day of December, 2021, that an amendment the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Stafford County and Rock-River Builders, LLC, to extend the term of the MOU by one year, with two optional one-year extension terms, for a total of no more than three years from the expiration date of the MOU, be and it hereby is approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator is authorized to execute an Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding with Rock-River Builders, LLC to effectuate this Resolution, which shall be in substantially the same form as the draft Amendment to Memorandum of Understanding included with this Resolution, and any other documents which he deems necessary and appropriate to effectuate this Resolution.

<u>Item 19. Planning and Zoning; Provide Relief from the Time Limit to Refile Zoning Reclassification and Cup Applications for Berea Market LLC</u>

<u>Resolution R21-428 reads as follows:</u>

APPLICATION OF STAFFORD COUNTY CODE SEC. 28-207, "LIMITATION ON FILING NEW APPLICATION AFTER DENIAL OF REQUEST," AND SEC. 28-185(B)(5), "CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS" AS TO TAX MAP PARCEL NO. 44GG-3, LOCATED WITHIN THE HARTWOOD ELECTION DISTRICT

WHEREAS, on October 19, 2021, the Board denied applications for a reclassification from the B-1, Convenience Commercial Zoning District to the B-2, Urban Commercial Zoning District and a conditional use permit to allow an automobile service facility in the B-2, Urban Commercial and HC, Highway Corridor Overlay Zoning Districts, all on Tax Map Parcel No. 44GG-3, located within the Hartwood Election District (Applications RC21153707 and CUP21153711), submitted by Berea Market, LLC; and

WHEREAS, County Code Sec. 28-207 provides that following the denial of a rezoning request, no application for reclassification of the same land to the same land use district shall be allowed for a period of twelve months; and

WHEREAS, County Code Sec. 28-185(b)(5) provides that following the denial of a request for a conditional use permit, at least one year shall elapse before another application for the same is considered; and

WHEREAS, Berea Market, LLC has requested that the Board of Supervisors waive application of County Code Secs. 28-207 and 28-185(b)(5), to allow it to refile both applications and clarify some confusion which may have resulted in the applications originally being denied; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that the applications should be granted relief from the application of County Code Secs. 28-207 and 28-185(b)(5);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 14th day of December, 2021, that it be and hereby does grant relief from the application of County Code Secs. 28-207 and 28-185(b)(5), such that Berea Market, LLC may apply for a reclassification to the same land use district as in Application RC21153707 and for a conditional use permit for the same use as in Application CUP21153711 on Tax Map Parcel No. 44GG-3 before the expiration of the time-periods listed in such code sections.

Item 20. Planning and Zoning; Grant Time Limit Extensions for Certain Zoning Reclassification and Conditional Use Permit Applications (Projects Known as Southgate Commercial Storage, Mainline, and Orris Estates).

Resolution R21-441 reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION GRANTING TIME EXTENSIONS FOR VARIOUS ZONING RECLASSIFICATION AND CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATIONS PURSUANT TO STAFFORD COUNTY CODE SECS. 28-162, "REVIEW AND REQUIREMENTS" AND 28-185, "CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT"

WHEREAS, on June 2, 2020, the Board adopted Ordinance O20-13 (Ordinance) which established time limits for pending zoning reclassification and conditional use permit (CUP) applications; and

WHEREAS, Stafford County Code Secs. 28-162(h) and 28-185(b)(2) specify that any zoning reclassification or CUP application still pending more than eighteen (18) months from the date such application was filed shall be administratively closed by staff due to inactivity, an applicant may request a time extension in writing prior to such deadline, which request must contain a definitive time for moving forward with or withdrawing the application, and the extension request may be granted by the Board; and

WHEREAS, certain applicants were notified that a request for a time extension must be received by December 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, extension requests were received by December 1, 2021 for the following (collectively, Applications):

	Project Name	Application	Tax Map Parcel No.	Election District
1.	Southgate Commercial Self Storage	RC18152265 CUP20153251	45-165	Falmouth
2.	Mainline	RC20153340	45-67, 45-67A, 45-69, 45-94, 45-95, and 45-96	George Washington
3.	Orris Estates	RC20153402 CUP20153403	43-74A	Hartwood

; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that time limit extensions for the Applications, pursuant to Stafford County Code Secs. 28-162(h) and 28-185(b)(2), are appropriate;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 14th day of December, 2021, that time extensions, pursuant to County Code Sec. 28-162(h) and Sec. 28-185(b)(2), be and they hereby are granted as follows:

	Project Name	Application	Time Limit Extend To
1.	Southgate Commercial Self Storage	RC18152265 CUP20153251	December 2, 2022
2.	Mainline	RC20153340	April 29, 2022
3.	Orris Estates	RC20153402 CUP20153403	April 29, 2022

Item 21. Sheriff; Authorize the County Administrator to Execute Contract Renewals and Approve Additional Expenditures for the Purchase of Sheriff's Office Mobile Data Terminals.

Resolution R21-430 reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE ADDITIONAL CONTRACT RENEWAL TERMS AND APPROVE ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURES FOR THE PURCHASE OF SHERIFF'S OFFICE MOBILE DATA TERMINALS

WHEREAS, the Stafford County Sheriff's Office has a mobile data terminal (MDT) for each Deputy; and

WHEREAS, MDTs are an essential component of the Sheriff's Deputies' equipment and are heavily relied on for their documentary value; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office has cooperatively procured the MDTs through a Fairfax County Contract #4400006324 with CAS Severn, Inc., Rider Agreement #19-3120-CO080 (Contract); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution R20-140, the Board previously approved the purchase of additional MDTs for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 and FY2021, and the Sheriff's Office will need to acquire additional MDTs in FY2022; and

WHEREAS, the current Contract renewal term expires on December 4, 2023, and there are also two remaining optional one-year renewal terms available; and

WHEREAS, funding of an additional $120,000 has been identified in the Sheriff's Office FY2022 Budget, and funding for purchases in the remaining Contract renewal years is subject to annual Board budget and appropriation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 14th day of December, 2021, that the County Administrator be and he hereby is authorized to execute contract amendments for the two remaining contract renewal years with CAS Severn, Inc., Rider Agreement #19-3120-CO080, for the purchase of mobile data terminals (MDTs), with a term ending on December 4, 2025, if all renewals are exercised; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator is authorized to expend an additional Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($500,000) on MDTs through the remainder of the current contract renewal term and two optional renewal terms, spanning Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 through FY2025, for a total contract amount of Nine Hundred Seventy-Seven Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-Two Dollars ($977,682), unless amended by a duly-executed contract amendment.

Item 22. Utilities; Authorize the County Administrator to Execute a Task Order with Sagres Construction Corporation for Mercer Lane and Wakefield Avenue Waterline Improvement Project.

Resolution R21-429 reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A TASK ORDER WITH SAGRES CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION FOR

WATERLINE IMPROVEMENTS ON MERCER LANE AND WAKEFIELD AVENUE, LOCATED WITHIN THE GEORGE WASHINGTON ELECTION DISTRICT

WHEREAS, waterline improvements along Mercer Lane and Wakefield Avenue are needed to address aging and deteriorating infrastructure that conveys water in the Ferry Farms Subdivision; and

WHEREAS, new piping, control valves, and service connections will be more reliable and significantly reduce service disruptions and annual maintenance costs; and

WHEREAS, the work can be procured via a task order through the Utilities On-Call General Construction contract with Sagres Construction Corporation, Contract #21-003-5030SB-R-SC; and

WHEREAS, staff reviewed the cost proposal and believes it is reasonable for the scope of work desired; and

WHEREAS, funds for the improvement services are available in the Utilities Capital Improvement Program Fund;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 14th day of December, 2021, that the County Administrator be and he hereby is authorized to execute a task order with Sagres Construction Corporation for the Mercer Lane and Wakefield Avenue Waterline Improvements project, in an amount not to exceed Three Hundred Twelve Thousand Six Hundred Twenty Dollars ($312,620), unless modified by a duly-executed change order.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Item 23. Budget and Management; Consider Appropriating American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant Funds and Increase the County's Full-Time Employee Authorized Strength.

Director of Budget and Management Andrea Light reported that this is for the Sheriff's Department, Community Engagement, Economic Development, and grants support. Ms. Light said that there is also some unused bonus allocation that can be put back into the grant and used for these purposes. She referenced a sheet that summarized what the Board had funded to date, noting that the County anticipates receiving about $29.7 million over the two tranches, and the

Board has appropriated $7.4 million to date. She noted that the Board also approved a two-tier spending strategy on R21-353, which will help advance the Board's strategic plan.

Ms. Light reported that the first item for consideration is the Sheriff's Department and Commonwealth Attorney body camera program, and in development of the FY22 budget, the Board moved implementation of body cameras to a future period. She said that with ARPA funding, this project can be moved forward, and both the Sheriff's Department and Commonwealth Attorney's office are working together for shared implementation and solution. She said they have found a 10-year contract that would provide body-worn cameras, in-dash video recorders, tasers, training, and additional support equipment that would cost about $766K each yar.

Ms. Light said that staff recommends that year one be funded by revenue replacement, and that the funds be used over the next three fiscal years to ramp up to the full use of General Fund revenues; this information would be brought back to the Board through the Five-Year Financial Plan work sessions and budget work sessions. She noted that this request did not include any positions, and they anticipate that this would come forward with a FY23 position. She said that early indications show that there will be one to two Sheriff's staff and at least two Commonwealth Attorney positions.

Ms. Light stated that the Sheriff's Department is also requesting appropriation for two message boards to assist in informing the public of the two public health advisories, two camera trailers to help provide additional coverage at venues that can be monitored remotely, pay differential for night and midnight shift that would align the pay differential put in place for ECC prior to the COVID pandemic. She said that this created an ongoing cost of approximately $160,000 a year and can be funded for the next six months using revenue replacement. She stated that this would provide $1.00 to those on night shift and $1.50 to those on midnight shift.

Ms. Light said that the fourth item is a fueling station that would provide an above-ground fuel tank for the public safety building, which would assist in times of looming fuel shortages and would hold approximately 10,000 gallons of fuel—which could last one month after pumping locations went dry.

Ms. Light stated that Community Engagement has worked with departments across the County to obtain a streamlined solution to gather citizen requests and appropriately solve those requests. She said that this would provide a solution for coordinating cross-departmental requests and tracking progress. She noted that the citizens request management and machine learning chatbot integration is approximately $115,000.

Mr. Snellings asked what a chatbot is and what it does.

Andrew Spence, Director of Community Engagement and Citizens Assistance, said that a chatbot appears when you visit a website and have a pop-up that asks how you are doing and if you need help, and the County would be pushing the technology. He stated that the new wave following decision-tree technology is machine learning or artificial intelligence, which uses the decision tree but also algorithms that determine the best way to serve the request being given. He said the citizens request management system, which will enable the County to provide a centralized, organized citizen request system that has a single platform. He explained that they put together representatives from eight different departments to evaluate five different platforms, and through that they would have a branded mobile app and integrated chatbot so they can collect all requests, which would be 24/7 through online chat and the mobile app. Mr. Cannon noted that citizens can track their progress and hopefully get it directly to the person who can answer it quickest, and this will also provide actionable data for administrators and the Board—as it's important to have intelligent, data-driven decisions that foster a more efficient experience for residents, so they have a better customer service experience.

Ms. Bohmke asked about the ongoing cost of $20K and asked what that was for.

Mr. Cannon responded that there would be ongoing contract costs that would be paid for out of the general fund once all the ARPA funds are gone.

Ms. Light stated that Mr. Holden would present on economic initiatives, and the Board had put aside 10% for this as part of their strategic plan and evaluate them for consideration.

Economic Development Director John Holden stated that the allocation would result in two primary expenses: a consultant service to help design the programs listed, or others. He said that Stafford is a bit behind other localities in launching some initiatives, as they have not had the staff capacity to work on designing these programs and research the guidance and parameters necessary to launch such programs. Mr. Holden mentioned that workforce training is a significant issue now for people that have lost their jobs, and a lot of companies are also looking for employees. He said that the point of the consulting services is to provide a group to scan the country and look for innovative, creative programs that can be implemented locally. He noted that the programs shown would come back to the Board for appropriation. Mr. Holden stated that the marketing data item would provide a way to better assess data being collected and a variety of sources to support tourism marketing and hospitality industry.

Ms. Lamb asked if "impacted" on his slide referred to COVID-impacted businesses, and she asked if this was limited to the industries listed or could apply to others.

Mr. Holden responded that it did refer to COVID, and the guidance document is very broad regarding impacted businesses but does identify the hospitality industry specifically, which can also be broadly defined. He said that an economic developer on the County's side would help them design the guidelines and also have the greatest impact on Stafford businesses.

Ms. Bohmke asked if a kiosk was referring to those driving electric vehicles.

Mr. Holden responded that they wouldn't just be for electric vehicles and would be similar to modern units in a hotel, restaurant, or visitors center, which people use to look for things in the area to do. He pointed out that they can program that through their other data to target them to impacted businesses or the hospitality industry. He said that this could possibly be a touchable screen or non-touchable using QR codes.

Ms. Bohmke asked if this was not something that could be done on smartphones.

Mr. Holden explained that the difference is that these could be integrated with other marketing campaigns, and machine learning would mean they would be able to respond more to targeted areas at certain times and places—customizing the opportunity of the kiosk to respond to the citizen and provide a fuller experience than something on their phone.

Ms. Bohmke asked what the company's deliverables are and what the contract looks like.

Mr. Holden responded that there is a 30-page proposal that describes the work, and the company will work with his department, the EDA, and Board members to design programs that support ARPA-impacted businesses and industries. He said they would use their expertise and network to help Stafford do what other places are doing around the country, then help design the administration and tracking of those things. He noted that additional contracted staff could help process grant applications and make sure businesses are eligible, then help track and document that for purposes of the closeout and final audit.

Ms. Allen reviewed her understanding of the kiosks as consumer-driven devices that point people to the businesses that their selections apply to, as well as capturing data as to how many visitors they have, how many small businesses are patronized, etc.

Mr. Holden confirmed that the data they are collecting and program designed around this would help them analyze that data, which would help them improve marketing for certain populations based on the characteristics of those using the kiosk or using both the website and kiosk.

Ms. Allen asked if there were other jurisdictions using this.

Mr. Holden confirmed that there were, and the vendor that staff has selected has put these in other places.

Ms. Light stated that the federal government has approved the Investments, Infrastructure, and Jobs Act (IIJA), a $973 billion, five-year infrastructure legislation proposed to provide several direct County applications to support broadband, pedestrian safety, rural service grants, and charging stations for infrastructure. She said that it is also anticipated that there will be funds that will work through state agencies that the County would be able to access. She stated that there are currently no staff assigned to this type of work to gather and respond to these types of grant opportunities, which is currently added to department staff's workloads.

Ms. Light reported that their annual grant activity due to just CARES and ARPA and now the new VATI grants that IT has been so successful in getting, and in anticipation of IIJA, continues to grow. She said that the Finance Department does not have a dedicated grants accountant to do financial reporting and required reporting to granting agencies is done at the departmental level with minimal oversight by Finance staff due to the constraints of their current workload. She stated that reporting grants correctly either within the agency or the annual financial process is imperative to ensure continuation of all grant programs. Ms. Light noted that those were some of the responses that the auditor provided today in their review of financial statements.

Ms. Light said that as part of proposed resolution R21-390, staff requests that the Board adopt two positions mid-year: a Grants Accountant and a Grants Coordinator. She stated that these would enable staff to seek out grant opportunities, work with departments on applications, and financial reporting; it will also bring some relief to departments no managing their own grants. She stated that the next steps in the ARPA process will be to continue to bring forward requests for appropriation based on the ARPA strategy, and she offered to answer questions.

Ms. Lamb asked if the two positions would be reporting to each other.

Ms. Light responded that the Grants Accountant would report to the CFO, and the Grants Coordinator would be in the County Administrator's office—so they would be bookends of the same process.

Ms. Bohmke motioned, seconded by Mr. Snellings, to approve R21-390, removing the last item in Economic Development at $354,5000, so the net would be $1,130,839.

Ms. Bohmke stated that the reason she made the motion in this way is because she reached out to the EDA and spoke with those members, and if you read the October 8, 2021 EDA Board minutes, those members asked questions about this economic development item and whether or not it was actually needed. She said that the EDA is currently trying to figure out what they need and how this is going to work, and they too asked questions about deliverables and metrics—and they weren't convinced that this was something they needed at this point in time. She commented that had this all been fleshed out, she might feel differently about it, but she really feels that she's voting on something that she's not sure what she's getting. Ms. Bohmke emphasized that she can't vote to spend taxpayer dollars when she can't put her arms around the whole transaction.

Ms. Lamb recalled that when they made the budget decision, they all recognized that they needed to set aside dollars for economic development, and they were placeholders until they found out what that list looks like. She said that it seems as though the EDA and Economic Development Department may be out of sync, and she asked Ms. Bohmke when she asked someone from the EDA about this and whether it was within the last few days.

Ms. Bohmke confirmed that it was recent.

Ms. Lamb asked what their response was and whether they had formally asked Economic Development about this.

Ms. Bohmke responded that she did not have all the specifics on this but believed they had met the day before this meeting, and she didn't think it was resolved, unless Mr. Holden has additional information. She said that her other big concern about this was that she had attended another meeting that day with all of the workforce development executive directors in the state, and those boards and the way they are structured has them reporting to four different department secretaries under Governor Northam. Ms. Bohmke stated that this is a structure that is not working, and they are all very frustrated, and she hoped that things would be restructured. She said that VCU had just completed a comprehensive report that includes immediate actions and short- and long-term matters that need to be changed with the workforce boards—and she feels that they are premature here. She said if the workforce boards can get revamped, as they should be under the Department of Labor, perhaps they can come back and do this later.

Ms. Lamb asked if they had to vote on this tonight.

Ms. Vanuch responded that they have to vote on the ARPA funding tonight, but they can always come back and address the economic development aspect that Ms. Bohmke pulled in her motion.

Ms. McClendon confirmed that the Board could take up appropriation of those funds at any point when it's on the agenda.

Mr. Snellings asked Ms. Light if there was a time cutoff for this before they lose all the funding.

Ms. Light responded that the cutoff is December 2024, so they have a bit of time.

Ms. Vanuch stated that she wanted to be very specific with that answer, as there are things that do have time constraints—especially on the Sheriff's Department side that includes the contract for the in-car cameras. She said that she wanted to be clear that they need to move those things forward, and she did not want to risk not voting on this just because they don't have enough information about the economic development aspect of this.

Mr. Snellings asked when the Sheriff's Department item had to be decided.

Ms. Vanuch responded that it was today's meeting.

Ms. Light suggested that someone from the Sheriff's Department could address that, but they definitely have tighter timelines, and all of the ARPA funds must be spent or encumbered by December 2024.

Mr. Presley said that there are other items such as the CRM system, which is based upon negotiated contract amounts, and the grant positions are needed right now. He noted that all of these items except the body cameras have been before them three times now.

Sheriff David Decatur said that his department has identified the recognized best bodycam company, and they would like to move quickly because of the inflation rate. He said that they have seen a shift in the prices but do have some time.

Ms. Lamb stated that she has a friendly amendment to Ms. Bohmke's motion, to include that the dollars for Economic Development will be allocated, but the Board needs their questions answered. She said that it makes sense to move this forward but allow for a more detailed vetting of their concerns. She said that she sees an opportunity to set that aside and asked Ms. Bohmke if she would consider that amendment to ensure that the dollars are there, but not necessarily for these projects.

Ms. Bohmke responded that she would consider that a friendly amendment because the dollars are there, but if the information comes back that isn't substantive enough, the Board will have to take action accordingly. She said they could set the $354K aside, if that's what Ms. Lamb is suggesting.

Ms. Lamb confirmed that it was.

Ms. McClendon said that the Board can have the informal intention of setting that aside, but she wanted to be clear that they're not having a conditional appropriation, which the Board cannot do. She said that this money and the ARPA funds total $7.5 million for the Board to appropriate, so this money can be used for this purpose but cannot be conditionally appropriated.

Ms. Bohmke stated that she would need to remove that friendly amendment.

Ms. Allen presented a substitute motion to bring this part of the resolution back in January as it relates to the what the EDA is asking, and they can provide their information then.

Ms. Vanuch said that they don't even need a motion; they can agree to have it come back at the second meeting in January.

Ms. McClendon confirmed this.

Ms. Allen withdrew her substitute motion.

Ms. Bohmke asked if the Board could have information from the EDA on this item before it comes back to the Board.

Ms. Vanuch suggested that the chairman of the EDA come and address the Board at that meeting.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea:	(6)	Allen, Bohmke, Coen, Lamb, Snellings, Vanuch.
Nay:	(0)	
Abstain:	(1)	Dudenhefer

Mr. Dudenhefer stated that this is committing the County to spend a lot of money based on getting these grants, and that should be done at a meeting with the new Board members.

Ms. Vanuch thanked Captain Stout, Major Dembowski, Sheriff Decatur, and Commonwealth Attorney Eric Olson, as well as the Virginia Beach Commonwealth Attorney and their police department. She said that she had done a ride-along in October when they were funding the in-car cameras and realized that they were getting into a contract on the in-car replacements, and after a conversation with several deputies and Captain Stout, they realized that implementing the body camera first phase of acquisition, they could get into a 10-year contract that would save the County over $1 million and replace a lot of their tasers. She noted that this also provided them three cameras at year 1, year 5, and year 10 by doing it at this time. She said they met with the Commonwealth Attorney of Virginia Beach to fully understand the impacts of moving toward body-worn cameras, and they learned that the implementation must be slow—so setting those expectations out in the public. She said that Stafford is committed to doing this the right way and having the right internal infrastructure, including FOIA officers, clerks, Commonwealth Attorney, and other positions to ensure this goes forward appropriately. She thanked everyone for their hard work in this first step of a long implementation over the next several years.

Resolution R21-390 reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) GRANT FUNDS AND INCREASING THE COUNTY'S FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE AUTHORIZED STRENGTH

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2021, the Federal Government approved the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) and provided ARPA grant funds to support localities recovering from the COVID-19 public health pandemic; and

WHEREAS, in May 2021, the first tranche of two was received by the County in the amount of $14,847,768; and

WHEREAS, the Board has previously appropriated the following ARPA grant funds:

Resolution	Grant Amount	Purpose
R21-194	$80,208	Consulting services needed to administer the grant funding in FY2021
R21-231	$300,000	United Way to provide rent and mortgage assistance to Stafford County residents impacted by COVID-19
R21-262	$1,650,000	Extension of a gravity sewer line in the area of Cedar Lane
R21-265	$450,000	Installation of an access road at Old Duff House
R21-263	$3,000,000	County-wide telecommunications fiber
R21-289	$100,000	Staff salaries for grant administration
R21-288	$142,935	Rehiring furloughed employees
R21-352	$41,616	Sheriff iPads and protective cases/keyboards
O21-47	$1,632,513	Loss Revenue Replacement used for Bonuses

; and

WHEREAS, the allocation for bonuses was not fully realized and $156,733 can be reallocated to other ARPA projects; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office requests funding for a message boards, camera trailers, and an above ground fueling station in pursuit of enhanced public safety services; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office requests funding for pay differential, body cameras, tasers and related equipment which will be used toward the provisions of a public safety service, which is eligible to be funded with ARPA funds up to the level of revenue loss for government services; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Community Engagement requests funding for a Citizen Request Management system that will be supported by machine-learning chatbot and enhance communication with the public and resolving public requests; and

WHEREAS, staff requests funding for a Grants Accountant position and a Grants Coordinator position to support the use of ARPA grant funds and other grants, which will be funded by ARPA grant funds, revenue loss replacement funds through ARPA, and potentially other grants as appropriate in the future;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 14th day of December, 2021, that American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant funds be and they hereby are appropriated as follows:

Fund	Department	Purpose	Amount
ARPA Grant Fund	Bonuses	Re-allocate unused Bonuses for Staff	$-156,733
ARPA Grant Fund	Sheriff's Department	Message board, camera trailers, and fueling project	$203,600
ARPA Grant Fund	Loss Revenue Replacement	Sheriff's Office for pay differential and body cameras and accessories	$846,682
ARPA Grant Fund	Community Engagement	Citizen Request Management system	$115,000
ARPA Grant Fund	Finance Department	Grants Accountant position	$61,145
ARPA Grant Fund	Loss Revenue Replacement	County Administration for Grants Coordinator position	$61,145
		TOTAL ARPA Grant Fund Appropriation	**$1,130,839**

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County's authorized full-time strength is as stated below, and recruitment and maintaining full-time positions up to the authorized strength is permitted:

General Fund	FY2022*	Revised FY2022
Non-Public Safety	~~414~~	416
Public Safety	494	494

Utilities Fund	162	162
Capital Projects Fund	2	2
Transportation Fund	2	2
Total	~~1,074~~	1,076

*Last revised October 29, 2021, Resolution R21-374

Item 24. Human Resources; Consider Updating the County's Drug Free Workplace Policy and Related Sections in Other County Human Resources Policies.

Ms. Andrea Wilson stated that she was before them to talk about the County's drug-free workplace policy, noting that she made the full presentation in November, and this is an abbreviated version of the salient points for review. Ms. Wilson stated that this is coming back for further discussion and final approval, if supported by the Board. She referenced a slide with the new policy to incorporate the changes to the law that legalized recreational use of marijuana in the state of Virginia for individuals over the age of 21. She said that her key points are maintaining a zero-tolerance policy; high-risk, safety-sensitive positions would still have random testing; and they are expanding on the law surrounding the use of cannabis oil, where the law requires they cannot discriminate nor take disciplinary action against someone who has medical certification for the use of cannabis oil.

Ms. Wilson stated that staff is recommending that the County maintain a zero tolerance for employees, incorporating the legal use of cannabis oil as required by the new law; new employees coming to the County would not be aware of the zero-tolerance policy, so they would continue testing for THC, but employment would not be denied except for those in seasonal or temporary positions because they are not employed with the County for any length of time, and the County wouldn't have the opportunity to retest them should a positive test result come back.

Mr. Snellings asked if this also included first responders.

Ms. Wilson responded that it currently does, but there could be an alternative considered.

Mr. Snellings asked if someone applied for a first responder position and failed the test, would the County hire them or not, under the new policy.

Ms. Wilson explained that the way the policy is written, they would be employed but would be retested. She said they have an option to have an exception.

Mr. Snellings said that he has had this concern and has talked to other Board members, and if a first responder were hired, they would be put into a training program, and 10-12 weeks later they would be retested. He asked if they would be fired if they tested positive, and he noted that all of the money funneled into training would be lost.

Ms. Wilson said they could consider exempting public safety or safety-sensitive positions in general.

Mr. Snellings stated that in his previous employment, the rule was simple: Before you went to work, you had a drug test; if you failed it, you didn't go to work. He said that he could see the new policy costing the County a lot of money.

Mr. Presley said that they could have a separate policy for public safety positions, and they are trying to get ahead of the fact that it's now legal in the state of Virginia, which would create some issues. He stated that the Police Department begins a process of vetting candidates and lets them know early in the process that they would be tested, and if they test positive, they are not permitted to go into training. He said that this is several weeks advanced notice, but there isn't that luxury with County employees, particularly at entry level. He stated that if they test right away and a person tests positive for something they did on their own time that was legal, that creates an issue and could possibly become a legal challenge—particularly if the County offered them the position and then sent them for the drug test, which is currently what they do.

Mr. Snellings pointed out that in reality, whiskey is legal, but you can't come to work drunk.

Mr. Presley said the policy still says you can't come to work and do drugs, but marijuana can stay in your system for several weeks. He stated that a person could test positive for something they did prior to considering applying for a job, so they are trying to create a level playing field.

Ms. Allen asked what challenges do states where marijuana is legal experience with first responders, and whether they have a separate policy or an issue with people driving around intoxicated or coming to work intoxicated. She asked if staff had looked into what those states had experienced. She commented that she didn't think they should do anything now, as it was unsure what the new governor would do in 2022.

Ms. Bohmke expressed her agreement with Ms. Allen about the uncertainty in 2022, and she asked why this needed to be addressed right now. She asked how many other counties have already approved a policy like this, and they are being way too premature on this. She said she also agreed with Mr. Snellings that they are wasting their training time—whether it's someone in general government or in public safety. Ms. Bohmke stated that she was against legalization of marijuana because it is a gateway drug, and while it might be legal in other states, they don't really know what's happening with their employees. She said that without data from the states where it is legal, they don't really know that everything is okay there, and she had a lot of questions and concerns; so, she would be voting no.

Mr. Snellings motioned, seconded by Mr. Dudenhefer, to defer R21-321 to the Board's second meeting in January 2022.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea:	(7)	Allen, Bohmke, Coen, Dudenhefer, Lamb, Snellings, Vanuch
Nay:	(0)	
Absent:	(0)	

Item 25. Human Resources; Consider Updating the Stafford County Department of Human Resources Retirement Policy.

Ms. Wilson stated that the Board had requested additional detail as it relates to other jurisdictions and when their policies were last updated, and she said there was a chart related to that. Ms. Wilson said that staff is making a recommendation due to projection of increased costs for the County with the increasing retiree population. She said that they also wanted to review recommendations related to removal of continuous service requirement, grandfather provisions for County employees, and a payment structure for non-grandfathered employees.

Ms. Wilson said that at the last meeting, t hey talked about the Medicare-eligible United Healthcare Plan, and she had referred to it as a Medicare Advantage Plan, but it is not. She said that they had discussed the cost of the retiree Medicare Plan for employees, so they looked into that, and their United Healthcare Plan is designed as a supplement plan that includes a Part D prescription. She noted that they have enhanced prescription benefits that are incorporated as a part of that, and some coverage levels are higher, which results in lower out-of-pocket costs for retirees. She said that because of that, the cost of the plan is higher than the typical Medicare supplement found on the marketplace.

Ms. Wilson presented a market comparison and said they are incorporating both the Medicare and pre-Medicare population, noting that staff reached out to a variety of jurisdictions and heard back from a fairly good sampling. She said that two jurisdictions stop offering coverage once a retiree is Medicare eligible; all offer a varied stipend for eligible populations; the City of Fredericksburg was the only jurisdiction that offered an enhanced benefit for public safety, but their benefit for Medicare-eligible employees is less than what staff is proposing for Stafford.

Ms. Wilson said their recommended stipend is $15, and previously, they had provided examples for 10 and 13, but after reviewing the other jurisdictions, they identified 15 as the recommendation to provide a competitive benefit to new employees. She said that in looking at a 20-year employee, the United Healthcare using current rates is $415; a retiree with 20 years would get a $300 stipend based upon the $15; they also receive a VRS stipend of $30; the cost to them on a monthly basis would be $85. She said that the under-65 example shows what the costs would be there.

Ms. Wilson stated that their original proposal had included a requirement that employees be participating in the County's health plan prior to retirement, but if they move to a stipend-based approach, staff doesn't feel that this makes as much sense and is recommending that the requirement be removed.

Ms. Allen asked if a 50+ pre-Medicare person could enter retirement transition over later to the United option when they turn 65.

Ms. Wilson responded that at age 65, they are actually required to transition over to the Medicare Plan and would have the option to choose this plan or a Marketplace plan. She noted that for current employees, there is no cost for those in the United Healthcare Plan.

Ms. Wilson reported that the staff recommendation is to remove the continuous service requirement but require that the last five years be with Stafford County. She said that last month, the FAB recommendations were to remove the continuous service requirement but require at least three continuous years for public safety and six years for all other County employees. Ms. Wilson said the first option could be considered as a stand-alone option even if no other changes are made. She stated that they actually updated their recommendation to reflect all retirees and current employees as of January 31, 2022 to align with FAB recommendations, and that is in the resolution and policy change but didn't make it on the slide. She said the $15 per year of service stipend starting at 10 years, up to a maximum of 30 years, would be $450—so this would exceed the current Medicare United Healthcare Plan and would provide an additional amount of money for them to use toward healthcare expenses. She noted that there was general support in FAB, but they did not have a recommendation on the amount.

Ms. Allen asked if the retiree stipend adjusts after 30 years to match the rate that United Healthcare adjusts.

Ms. Wilson responded that they would have a provision to be able to bring it back to the Board for consideration for adjustments and the stipend, and they could look at it from an inflationary standpoint for consideration and would come back to the Board at that point.

Ms. Allen asked how often the rate was adjusted with United.

Ms. Wilson explained that the actual stipend rate would be the same for the employee regardless of plan.

Ms. Allen clarified that her question was how often the County negotiated the terms with United to determine what the rate is.

Ms. Wilson stated that United would come back to the County and look at claims experience, then provide a renewal price based on that point—so premiums could change annually. She said that the stipend amount would stay flat but would impact how much money the retiree could potentially have to pay, and staff could come back with a recommendation for it to be adjusted. Ms. Wilson confirmed that in the policy, they had stipulated that they would come back every five years.

Ms. Shannon Wagner explained that the policy requires that they would come back minimally every five years, and this would not preclude them from coming before the Board on an annual basis as part of the budget process, or at another frequency based on factors such as inflation. She said that this change puts control in the Board's hands as to when the stipend is adjusted or not, versus an automatic adjustment based on changes that might happen on the plan side.

Ms. Allen asked what the rationale was for five years.

Ms. Wagner responded that staff felt it was frequent enough, and some jurisdictions haven't adjusted their stipend in a few decades, so staff wanted to ensure they would come to the Board with some level of frequency to keep pace with that but not necessarily every year.

Ms. Allen commented that they would be having a large swath of baby boomers retiring, and she felt certain that rates, claim payments, and premiums would be changing. She said that based on sheer math, United's costs would likely go up every year, and she wondered if there was something in here to trigger it coming back before five years.

Ms. Vanuch pointed out that any Board member can request it to come back at any time.

Ms. Allen stated that some may not be cognizant of this, as she wasn't aware of it until HR came before them this time.

Ms. Vanuch said that in FAB, they provided the recommendation to exempt public safety, and she asked if that was in the resolution.

Staff confirmed that it was.

Ms. Vanuch clarified that this is three continuous years for public safety when they come back.

Ms. Wilson responded that the staff recommendation is to remove the continuous service requirement but require the last five years with Stafford County, but they would have the ability to grandfather the population differently.

Ms. Vanuch pointed out that the recommendation from FAB was to have five years for general government and three years of continuous service for public safety, which would become a recruiting tool for having people come back to the County. She noted that they also recommended exempting public safety from the healthcare stipend.

Ms. Bohmke commented that she did not see that in the resolution.

Ms. McClendon clarified that the resolution in the Board packet is based on staff recommendations, but they have a draft resolution that could be substituted should the Board choose the FAB recommendations in part or in whole.

Ms. Vanuch asked if the Board could see it.

Ms. Bohmke suggested that they move this item to the 7:00 p.m. meeting.

Ms. Vanuch said that she felt two years was too soon, and five years was okay.

Mr. Snellings commented that the reason for this is to save money, but the County would not be saving anything for at least 15 years, and he asked for staff to confirm that.

Ms. Wilson confirmed that this was the case, stating that this looks toward the longer term, knowing that the population of retirees would continue to climb and grow. She said that this was really looking at the growth in population and premium costs over the years, trying to ensure they are evaluating that.

Mr. Snellings pointed out that retirees are dying off, so the County would likely be losing retirees as well as picking them up.

Ms. Wilson expressed her understanding of his point, but she added that they also know that the number of retirees reduced year over year does not equal the number of retirees being added.

Ms. McClendon pointed out that they need a motion to leave this item on the table, and they could bring it back up after the public hearing.

Ms. Bohmke motioned, seconded by Mr. Snellings, to leave this item on the table until their 7:00 p.m. meeting.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea:	(7)	Allen, Bohmke, Coen, Dudenhefer, Lamb, Snellings, Vanuch
Nay:	(0)	
Absent:	(0)	

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Vanuch asked if the Board wanted to make a motion to relegate authority to the chairman to put a letter together for the redistricting comments or discuss it after the public hearings. She noted that the item would be carried over to the public hearings.

CLOSED MEETING

There was no closed meeting.

At 5:14 p.m., Chairman Vanuch recessed the afternoon session of the December 14, 2021 Board meeting.

At 7:00 p.m., Chairman Vanuch called the evening session to order. Ms. Lamb gave the invocation and Mr. Snellings led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

PRESENTATIONS

Presentation of a Proclamation Recognizing Stafford Middle School Leo Club for its Work in Establishing an E-Waste Recycling Site.

Ms. Vanuch stated that the Stafford Middle School Leo Club and Aquia Evening Lions Club were present to accept a proclamation recognizing their work in collecting e-waste. She stated that they would hear from Dr. Leanne Cannon of the Lions Club.

Dr. Leanne Cannon stated that the Aquia Evening Lions Club started the e-waste recycling program about 15 years ago with the Girl Scout troop and did it mostly out of their houses, and it has expanded with the Leo Club. She said they put a shed up at the landfill so there is a dedicated site for people to put in their e-waste recycling. She said that Aquia host Lions Club members built the shed for them, and the Leo Club came out and painted—and anyone can come out and dispose of their recycling, with everything taken except TVs and the old CRT terminals. She said that since

August, they had collected over four tons of e-waste that they've kept out of the County landfill, and it's gone to area recyclers. She said that all the money collected from recycling goes to support the Leo Club and goes right back into the community. She stated that they recently purchased turkeys, hams, and side dishes for SERVE, the food pantry in Stafford County; they bought candy and costumes for a trunk-or-treat Halloween for the children who are residents at the Thurman Brisben Center. Dr. Cannon noted that the Leo Club is sponsored by the Aquia Evening Lions Club, and the kids learn community service and citizenship, and this is really a good group of kids.

Mr. Franklin Nyman introduced himself and said he is in 6th grade and is 11 years old.

Ms. Diane Jones said she works as the recycling manager and deeply appreciates the Lions' work.

Ms. Emily Mears said that she is in 8th grade and is 13 years old.

Ms. Vanuch presented Dr. Cannon with a proclamation recognizing the Stafford Middle School Leo Club and Aquia Evening Lions Club for their service to the County.

Dr. Cannon noted that they are putting another recycling shed at the Belman Road Center.

Purchase of Development Rights Presentation

Ms. Kathy Baker, Assistant Director of Planning and Zoning and Purchase of Development Rights Administrator, said that they would be recognizing six landowners of six new easements within the County. She stated that there are 12 PDR easements now to date, with over 1,000 acres preserved through the program and 273 development rights retired. She said that matching funds for these properties have been provided by the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation, the U.S. Department of Defense, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Ms. Vanuch recognized the Sterne family and had Mr. Snellings join her in presenting.

Ms. Baker stated that the Sterne Farm is owned by seven siblings, with three present tonight: Boyd Sterne, Willa Hubert, and Rebecca Sterne. Ms. Baker said that the Sterne's 212 acres located at the intersection of Poplar Road and Mountainview Road has been in the Sterne family for several decades. She said that it contains active farmland and forest land and has environmental resources including Potomac Creek, and potential habitat for threatened and endangered species; 55 development rights have been retired on the property.

Ms. Vanuch read the Sterne Farm conservation easement, and Mr. Snellings presented the recognition certificate.

Ms. Baker stated that Carlton and Anna Beach had recently passed away but had placed their property under easement, with their sons now owning it. She said that the 32 acres on Heflin Road is located within a Quantico buffer zone and also has farmland, forest land, and environmental resources; nine development rights have been retired. She said that staff would ensure that the family gets the certificate.

Ms. Baker said that Frank Shelton Jr. is the owner of the Shelton Farm property but was unable to attend the meeting, so his son would be accepting the recognition. She stated that the Shelton Farm property is 82 acres on Warrenton Road and has been in the family since the 1950s. She said the property contains active farm and forest land, and the owner raises livestock; there are also significant environmental resources along Richmond Run, with potential habitat for threatened and endangered species. She said that 19 development rights have been retired on this property.

Mr. Snellings presented the recognition to the Shelton Family.

Ms. Baker stated that Spotted Tavern Farm (Huffman Tract) is owned by John and Kathy Harris, with 122 acres on Hartwood Road and active farmland and forest land; there are also significant environmental resources, with a tributary to Potomac Creek. She said that this property is designated as a Natural Heritage site, and there are cultural resources associated with the Spotted Tavern Farm. She said that this property was designated as a Century Farm by the Commonwealth of Virginia, meaning that it's been in the family for over 100 years. She said that 36 development rights have been retired on this property.

Mr. John Harris said that he and his wife, Kathy, would like to thank the members of the Board, who have supported the program and have helped get them to the point of putting this important property into a preservation easement for generations to come. Mr. Harris thanked Ms. Baker for assisting them every step of the way, and Mr. Snellings for his presentation and help getting them to this solution, as well as Jeff Adams with the Agricultural/Purchase of Development Rights Committee.

Ms. Baker asked Dennis Harding, the owner of the property, to come up. She stated that the Harding Farm contains 55 acres on New Hope Church Road and contains active farmland and forest land, as well as environmental resources, including a stream tributary to White Oak Run. She said that 14 development rights have been retired on the property.

Ms. Baker stated that the McClevey Farm is owned by Richard, Kenneth, and Marty McClevey and has been in their family for nearly 100 years. She said that the 83 acres on Denridge Road is adjacent to Patawomeck Park; the environmental resources have been protected along the property along Meadow Branch, and wildlife habitat and cultural resources are present on the property. She noted that the owners have documented over 130 bird species over the years, as well as many wildflowers, and there are stands of American Chestnut on the property. She stated that 25 development rights have been retired.

Mr. Richard McClevey thanked the Board and said that Kathy Baker is one of the County's best resources, and they wouldn't have a PDR program without her hard work and passion. Mr. McClevey encouraged the Board to continue with the PDR and land use programs, as they were the best ways of conserving land in the County.

PRESENTATIONS BY THE PUBLIC

Ms. Vanuch read the protocol for speakers and called the first speaker.

1. Mr. Jeff Adams of Kellogg Mill Road stated that he is speaking for himself and explained that when you spend $50 million on a school, you spend that on the bricks and mortar—but now you also have to spend $50-70 million to educate children in that building. Mr. Adams said that farmers in his program are not paid to not farm, and Ms. Baker had just visited his farm the previous week and took pictures of farm animals, etc. Mr. Adams said that it costs the County minimally to maintain the easement, with a yearly inspection, so even if Ms. Baker made $5K an hour, only $20K is required to inspect that annually, or $200K over 10 years. He said that $50 million is not always equal to $50 million, as there are additional expenses. He emphasized that education is not cheap to fund, but if they don't build as many houses, they don't need as many schools. Mr. Adams noted that Fauquier County has three high schools; Stafford has five and needs a sixth.

2. Mr. William Hoyt of Windemere Drive in Stafford stated that he is confused and disappointed, and he asked the Board to come take a look at the walking trail they have built at the end of Windermere Drive. Mr. Hoyt said that he had sent a video to the Board members in November that shows the trail they have built, which provides access for the many hundreds of people who live in Marlborough Point, every time Brooke Road floods and becomes inaccessible. Mr. Hoyt said that he has a great deal of money—about $35K—invested in bringing that forward, which benefits the community but not himself personally. Mr. Hoyt said that he had asked the Board for reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses to make this a reality, but he did not get a single reply from them. He stated that he did receive a firm email from Ms. Lamb in response to an email from him, and Ms. Lamb said then that the Board does not plan on reimbursing or contributing because this is not a public project but is a private property improvement.

Mr. Hoyt stated that he would disagree and contends that it is public by virtue of the community that it serves. He said that Stafford has done many public-private partnerships in the past, and he doesn't understand why this would be different. He stated that Ms. Lamb had made some comments about pushback from the community, on both the Windermere and Crestwood sides, regarding eminent domain and taking property. He asked what happened if the road didn't get built and whether they would limp along making repairs on Brooke Road until the $20 million gets spent, and he asked if he had to carry the cost of maintaining the trail for the next 8 or 10 years on his own shoulders, as it costs him money every month to maintain it. He said that if the road does get built, they will have to build a separate trail behind it, and it would take a year to get built and there needed to be a way for people to get in and out of Marlborough Point when the main road floods.

Mr. Hoyt said that he hoped the Board would reconsider their position or assign someone to work with him, adding that the best time to leave someone hanging isn't after the project has been done, the money has been spent, and the road has been finished.

3. Mr. Daniel Cortez of Hidden Springs Lane in the Aquia District stated that Mr. Snellings did a remarkable job for the County in pointing out the issues on critical race theory to the school board. Mr. Cortez thanked the Board and the County Administrator, adding that the community would miss Ms. Lamb, and she continues to be a winner. Mr. Cortez said that the new Aquia District Supervisor could not be present but asked him to extend her well wishes. Mr. Cortez presented Ms. Lamb with a bouquet of roses.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Item 26. Parks, Recreation, and Community Facilities; Consider Amending Stafford County Code Sec. 15-51, "Unlawful Parking Generally" and Sec. 15-58, "Removal and Disposition of Unattended or Immobile Vehicles" to Provide Additional Authority to Remove Vehicles from County Owned Property.

Director of Parks and Recreation and Community Facilities Mike Morris stated that this item would allow the County Administrator to the County Code to allow him to have vehicles towed that are illegally parked or abandoned on County property, and currently only the Sheriff's Office has that authority.

The Chair opened the public hearing.

1. Mr. Jeff Adams stated that he agreed with this proposal, as he attends farmers markets weekly, and when cars are parked improperly and police have to be called to tow vehicles, it could be quite disruptive.

Ms. Lamb motioned, seconded by Mr. Coen, to approve proposed ordinance O21-53.

Ms. Lamb commented that this has been a long process that included Aquia Landing and Falmouth, and they recognized that the two areas were completely different and were handled differently. She said that this is a very creative way to solve the parking problem, which is the root issue, and she thanked staff for all their work to finally find a solution that would work for everyone.

Mr. Coen echoed the appreciation for staff in handling this issue, and said that in the Falmouth area, the public has been doing an excellent job—but this provided another tool in the toolbox when people made bad decisions.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea:	(7)	Allen, Bohmke, Coen, Dudenhefer, Lamb, Snellings, Vanuch
Nay:	(0)	
Absent:	(0)	

Ordinance O21-53 reads as follows:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND STAFFORD COUNTY CODE SEC. 15-51, "UNLAWFUL PARKING GENERALLY" AND SEC. 15-58, "REMOVAL AND DISPOSITION OF UNATTENDED OR IMMOBILE VEHICLES" TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY TO REMOVE VEHICLES FROM COUNTY-OWNED PROPERTY

WHEREAS, County Code Sec. 15-51, "Unlawful parking generally," and Sec. 15-58, "Removal and disposition of unattended or immobile vehicles" currently only authorizes the Sheriff to tow or remove vehicles that are parked illegally on County-owned property; and

WHEREAS, the increase of illegal parking and/or leaving unattended vehicles at parks and County buildings has precipitated the need for increasing avenues to address the issue; and

WHEREAS, the amendments to the County Code will authorize the County Administrator or designee to also tow or remove vehicles parked illegally on County-owned property, which will provide additional avenues to address these parking issues without occupying the resources of the Sheriff; and

WHEREAS, the Board has carefully considered the recommendations of staff, and the testimony at the public hearing, if any; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that public necessity, convenience, safety, and general welfare support adoption of this Ordinance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 14th day of December, 2021, that Stafford County Code Sec. 15-51, "Unlawful parking generally" and Sec. 15-58, "Removal and disposition of unattended or immobile vehicles" be and they hereby are amended and reordained as follows, with all other portions remaining unchanged:

Sec. 15-51. - Unlawful parking generally.

(15) On any county-owned or county-leased property where parking is prohibited or violates any county ordinance or regulation, including, but not limited to, Stafford County Code section 15-54. For the purposes of this subsection, the county administrator or his designee is authorized and directed to adopt regulations that prohibit or restrict parking vehicles on county-owned or county-leased property; to classify vehicles with reference to parking, to designate the time, place, and manner in which vehicles may be allowed to park; and to revoke, alter, or amend such regulations at any time when, in his opinion, parking conditions require. The county administrator, sheriff, or ~~his~~ their designees shall enforce the regulations pursuant to the requirements of this subsection, to include~~. As agent for the county, the sheriff or his designee shall, when appropriate, provide for~~ towing and removing vehicles in violation of this subsection;

Sec. 15-58. - Removal and disposition of unattended or immobile vehicles.

(c) Motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, or parts thereof illegally parked on county-owned, leased, or controlled property may be removed under the direction of the county administrator or his designee.

~~(c)~~(d) The person at whose request the motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or parts thereof is removed from private property shall indemnify the county, the sheriff, and their officers, employees, and agents, against any loss or expense incurred by reason of removal, storage, or sale thereof.

~~(d)~~(e) It shall be presumed that such motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or parts thereof is abandoned if it: (i) lacks either a current license plate or a valid state safety inspection certificate or sticker; and (ii) it has been in a specific location on public or private property for four (4) days or more without being moved~~.~~

~~(e)~~(f) As promptly as possible, the tower shall report each removal to the sheriff's office. In no case, shall the tower notify the sheriff's office later than twenty (20) minutes after towing the motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or parts thereof.

~~(f)~~(g) As promptly as possible, the tower shall report each removal to the owner of the motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or parts thereof. In no case, shall the tower notify the owner later than twenty-four (24) hours after towing the motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or parts thereof.

~~(g)~~(f) Before obtaining possession of the motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or parts thereof, the owner shall pay to the parties entitled thereto all costs incidental to its removal and storage, and locating the owner. If the owner fails or refuses to pay the cost or if his identity or whereabouts is unknown and unascertainable after a diligent search has been made, and after notice to him at his last known address and to the holder of any lien of record with the office of the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles against the motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or part of a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer, the vehicle shall be treated as an abandoned motor vehicle under the provisions of Code of Virginia, Title 46.2, Chapter 12, Article 1 (Code of Virginia, § 46.2-1200 et seq.).

Item 27. Development Services; Consider Establishing A Stormwater Management Fund and Neighborhood Stormwater Infrastructure Grant Program.

Director of Development Services Paul Santay stated that at their November 16 meeting, the Board authorized this public hearing regarding the creation of the County's stormwater fund and the subsequent neighborhood stormwater grant program, which was part of the 2009 legislation from the state that provides the legal authority for Virginia localities to establish such a fund and grant program. He said they have had considerable discussion leading up to this meeting, and the proposed grant program is the result of the stormwater committee created to address some of these challenges, as reflected in the Board's strategic priority 1.2.

Mr. Santay stated that the grant program is specific to residential properties only and addresses many factors associated with stormwater, including inspections, maintenance, and repair of stormwater facilities and conveyance systems. He said that staff had also presented different funding amounts for applicants to consider, but this program is a County/applicant cost share that would require up-front expenditures from applicants to be considered for reimbursement. He presented the slide that the Board had seen previously regarding the different types of funding mechanisms for applicants, whether it's through inventory and inspections or maintenance repairs of drainage ditches and swales, or repairs of actual stormwater facilities in their locations.

Mr. Santay explained that there would be an application process and an annual solicitation period, and should the Board proceed tonight with a vote on the ordinance and create the grant program, the solicitation will most likely begin in March or April of 2022. He said they have an application process, which they are also working to bring to an electronic format and online platform. He noted that they went through the scoring criteria of the application process, and staff would be available for applicants to triage or provide assistance as needed.

Mr. Santay stated that staff recommends approval of O21-54, which establishes the fund and the grant program, and the Board set aside $100K in the FY22 budget for the program, and there have been discussions as to whether that amount is considered adequate.

Ms. Lamb stated that she had seen another county having staff providing in-process inspections once the grant was awarded, which was not discussed at the stormwater subcommittee, and she would like staff to consider offering that assistance so people know that the work is being done the way it should be done.

Mr. Santay responded that if they are grant projects, staff will be onsite to look at them; when they are submitted for reimbursement, the County will want to confirm the work that people are claiming is completed, so they will do an inspection out in the field. He added that staff could also provide technical assistance.

Mr. Coen asked how soon they would know if what's been instituted is working, because they won't know by the next budget cycle as there won't be a lot of data available yet.

Mr. Santay responded that the timing is a little off, and they had planned to have a solicitation period in the fall abut had some delays there. He said they have always talked in the subcommittee about the first year and the $100K being the pilot program to see what kind of demand is out there, and based on the phone calls they receive, there is a pretty solid demand out there—but from a money standpoint, they don't know until grants come in. Mr. Santay commented that this will allow them some time to see that the first-year pilot program goes off without a hitch, but there would be a few things to work out; there may be points mid-year that if there is available funding, the Board could consider reallocating those funds.

Ms. Allen said that in their 3:00 p.m. session, someone spoke about equity. She said that she is all for the pilot program but feels they can put $200K into it instead of just $100K, and any remaining balance could be rolled over into the following year. She emphasized that it could be used in the next cycle, and having to wait another year and a half for another round of funding is a long wait.

Deputy County Administrator Mike Smith reminded them that the Board has budgeted $100K, and this is the last meeting of the year after an election cycle, so they cannot budget any additional funding unless they waive their bylaws. He stated that they would be getting their applications in during spring, and if there are enough applications that they decided to grow the fund, the Board could take one-time money and increase the budget at that time, as well as for the next fiscal year. He noted that while the projects would not be underway with known costs, the applications would be in and the County would know the volume of requests. He stated that they could increase the amount to $200K or more, depending on the volume of applications. He added that tonight's action is to establish the fund and the grant program—not to budget the money, which has already been done.

Mr. Coen asked if this would be something that the new grant position could work to supplement.

Mr. Smith responded that this was something they would definitely be tasked with, and they would be asked to look at all applicable grant opportunities.

Ms. Vanuch opened the public hearing.

1. Mr. Jeff Adams said that depending on the nature of the project, it could qualify with the local Soil and Water Conservation District under VCAP, and the property owners could get money from that also. He noted that VCAP was an application, ranked process also, but it could be leveraged to get other funds.

Ms. Lamb motioned, seconded by Ms. Bohmke, to approve proposed ordinance O21-54.

Mr. Dudenhefer said that the County has been contemplating how to manage stormwater since long before he came on the Board, and he looks at this as Stafford's first baby step towards addressing this issue and a good starting point.

Ms. Bohmke stated that they are going to find out that they have a tremendous number of stormwater issues, and it will be their responsibility to let Richmond know what the issues are—some of which relate to changes in stormwater requirements over the years. She said that they wish they knew then what they know now, and once they get to the spring, they can gather that information and share it with the VACO team and the governor's office.

Ms. Allen thanked Supervisors Lamb and Bohmke and stated that stormwater is critical to their infrastructure and environment, and she looked forward to this program moving forward—before it becomes an even bigger problem in the future.

Mr. Snellings agreed and said that it was a good first step.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea:	(7)	Allen, Bohmke, Coen, Dudenhefer, Lamb, Snellings, Vanuch.
Nay:	(0)	
Absent:	(0)	

<u>Ordinance O21-54 reads as follows:</u>

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A STORMWATER MANAGEMENT FUND AND A NEIGHBORHOOD STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Board formed the Stormwater Infrastructure Funding and Implementation (SIFI) Committee to consider creating a Neighborhood Stormwater Infrastructure Grant Program (Program); and

WHEREAS, the Board has the legal authority to establish a Stormwater Management Grant Fund and Program in accordance with Virginia Code § 15.2-2114.01; and

WHEREAS, the SIFI Committee, in conjunction with staff, worked to develop the proposed Program by considering both legacy and emerging stormwater infrastructure needs within the County's residential communities; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the Program is to promote inspection, repair, and maintenance of existing neighborhood drainage systems and stormwater management facilities in a manner that best supports the safety and general welfare of the County and its residents; and

WHEREAS, this Program would allow residents to apply for grants through an application process that will be managed by the Department of Development Services, Environmental Division; and

WHEREAS, Development Services, Environmental Division staff will evaluate all applications according to the purposes of the Program, eligibility requirements, and scoring matrix and will bring forward eligible projects to the Board for funding award consideration; and

WHEREAS, during the FY2022 budget process the Board designated $100,000 to implement the Program; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Virginia Code § 15.2-2114.01, the Board carefully considered the recommendations of staff and public testimony, if any, received at the public hearing;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 14th day of December, 2021, that it be and hereby does authorize the establishment of a Stormwater Management Fund to fund and a Neighborhood Stormwater Infrastructure Grant Program (Program) in Stafford County; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED the applications, evaluation criteria, Program policies, and applicable consideration under the Program shall be in accordance with and in substantially the same form the document entitled, "Neighborhood Stormwater Infrastructure Grant Application Round 1," as last revised December 14, 2021.

c. ~~A minimum of one footcandle shall be maintained on the site during non-daylight hours except as required along common property lines of the development and Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) right-of-way.~~ Industrial uses that are not open to the general public shall provide one and one-half (1.5) footcandles average maintained lighting levels for parking lots, along fronts of buildings and main drive aisles, and the maximum lighting level to average lighting level ratio shall not exceed 3.5 to 1.

d. The minimum maintained lighting levels for nonresidential uses shall meet the following standards:

1. A minimum of one (1) footcandle shall be maintained during non-daylight hours, except as required along common property lines of the development and Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) right-of-way.

2. Industrial uses that are not open to the general public shall maintain a minimum of five-tenths (0.5) footcandle during non-daylight hours, except as required along common property lines of the development and Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) right-of-way.

(4) Lighting levels shall be reduced to security lighting levels within thirty (30) minutes after the close of business or the end of the business activities involving the public. Security lighting levels shall be achieved by extinguishing at least fifty (50) percent of the total number of lights, by dimming lighting levels to no more than fifty (50) percent of the levels used during business or activity hours or no less than ~~one footcandle~~ required minimum lighting levels, or some combination thereof. Business or activity hours are defined by any time when the business is open to the public. Such reduced security lighting levels shall not apply to industrial uses that are not open to the general public, except where average maintained lighting levels are five (5) footcandles or greater.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS CONTINUED

Item 25. Human Resources; Consider Updating the Stafford County Department of Human Resources Retirement Policy. (Tabled)

Ms. Vanuch said that the Board had received the new resolution at their desks, and she read through it prior to the meeting starting and realized there was not an exemption for public safety from the stipend, which FAB had recommended that the Board adopt as part of the policy. She said that they did remove the consecutive requirement for employment and put in the last six for general government and three for uniformed public safety and emergency communications staff.

Mr. Snellings said that he would abstain from voting, as the policy if it's changed would affect him positively, and he didn't feel that it was proper for him to vote on it.

Ms. Bohmke motioned to adopt R21-406 and approve the policy as presented.

Ms. Vanuch asked if she were approving the policy with the exemption of public safety, because if not, they need to bring the sheriff and fire chief in, as this is a big recruitment tool. She said that she received a call from the fire chief at dinner, and he asked if they were proceeding with what the Board had discussed in the afternoon, and if not, it could be a problem.

Ms. Bohmke said that at this point in time, she was not going to include that in her motion; she would like to have a second so they can discuss it.

Mr. Dudenhefer seconded the motion.

Ms. Vanuch said that the challenge is that they have a very competitive retirement policy, and FAB had recommended that public safety be exempt and a $15 stipend for government employees—which is well above the comparative jurisdiction amounts. She emphasized that because they are having a difficult time recruiting and this is a major recruiting tool for police and fire, they asked that no changes be made to the retirement policy on the public safety side. Ms. Vanuch said that regarding the $15 stipend for general government, she thinks it's a good idea because it makes the program more solvent—and moving forward into the future, they cannot likely afford to continue to provide this. She emphasized that this only impacts future employees, and no current employee will be impacted by these changes, so anyone who works for Stafford County government up to January 31, 2022 will not be impacted by this change. She said that it is not necessarily needed for a recruitment tool for general government, but it absolutely is for public safety, which is why they go out and talk about the competitive policy. Ms. Vanuch said that if they change that and not exempt them, she would not be supportive of doing that without the fire chief and sheriff present.

Ms. Allen said that they did not ask the fire chief and sheriff how critical this is to them.

Ms. Vanuch stated that she had met with them and learned that it's a huge recruitment tool—so much so that the fire chief called her to make sure they were still good with the exemption.

Ms. Allen asked if they could come before the Board on this.

Ms. Vanuch said that they left because the Board deferred it to the evening.

Ms. Bohmke suggested that they defer until their next meeting, as she would feel better with the fire chief and sheriff here and making a presentation to the entire Board. She stated that she really appreciated Ms. Vanuch's contact with them but was concerned about the disparity between general government and fire and rescue. Ms. Bohmke said that she had seen a sign for fire and rescue hiring, which she could not recall ever having seen before.

Ms. Bohmke retracted her motion.

Ms. Vanuch emphasized that retirement and health care policies are very complicated and complex, and they have been working on this for several months now, with several meetings with HR staff and reading through the policies. She said that to punt this to the new Board could take months.

Ms. Lamb motioned, seconded by Ms. Vanuch, to approve R21-406 with the exemption added for public safety.

Mr. Coen said that he wanted to check with Ms. McClendon as to the legality of the language.

Ms. McClendon confirmed that she sees no issue with the motion made.

Ms. Vanuch clarified that they are exempting public safety from the stipend amount so they would continue to get the full payment for their retirement that they currently earn.

Ms. Bohmke presented a substitute motion that they defer R21-406 to the next year. Mr. Coen seconded the motion.

Ms. Bohmke stated that she wants more information on what peer localities are doing as it relates to this issue specifically.

Ms. Wilson said that only one jurisdiction in their market comparison, the City of Fredericksburg, specifically cited an enhanced benefit for public safety; however, their enhanced benefit is actually less than what Stafford would be proposing at $15 per year of service. She noted that the other jurisdictions did not indicate a special provision for public safety.

Ms. Bohmke reviewed that none of the localities—Spotsylvania, Prince William, Henrico, Hanover, Fauquier, Chesterfield, and Arlington—have a special exemption for public safety.

Ms. Wilson responded that in their written policies and what they provided to Stafford, they did not call out a special exemption for fire and rescue and sheriff.

Ms. Vanuch said that reiterates her point that this is a huge recruiting tool, and the sheriff and fire chief explain this to recruits from peer localities, it is a "solid dealmaker," especially since Stafford is removing the consecutive years of service requirement, as they can now recruit people who moved away and came back.

Ms. Lamb stated that after her own conversations with Chief Cardello and understanding these issues, and even though they've done compensation changes to make themselves more affordable, so have the other places. She said that she strongly supports public safety and any ways they can keep and retain employees.

Ms. Bohmke asked when Ms. Lamb had that conversation with Chief Cardello.

Ms. Lamb responded that it was in November.

Ms. Bohmke asked Mr. Presley if this was a conversation he has had with the fire chief.

Mr. Presley responded that he has not, stating that he explained to Chief Cardello that it is HR and administrative staff opinion that it is never a good idea to have separate rules for policies for groups of employees. He emphasized that it causes morale issues, and that's likely why the majority of other localities do not do that. Mr. Presley said that based upon staff's research, Stafford would already be competitive with other localities. He noted that he did not ask the chief specifically about whether he feels that it is a recruiting tool.

Ms. Bohmke said that she does not want to have a split vote on something this important, and she doesn't want to make a bad decision because she only has bits and pieces of information. She stated that she trusts HR's report presented, but she wasn't sure if the other jurisdictions have had these conversations. She said that they all wanted to do what is right for employees, but she didn't know exactly what to do at this point with the vote.

Ms. Vanuch stated that the policy contains aspects that are universally good for everything, such as removal of consecutive years of service, with the provision of six years for general government and six years for emergency communications and public safety. She said that this also grandfathers all current employees. She suggested that they remove the paragraph where it talks about the stipend amount and motioned to approve the policy so that the amount they're paying for healthcare stays the same, and they could technically bring this back and readdress the stipend amount. She stated that some of these things are time sensitive because of the recruitment aspect, and they will align with a 6-0 vote, so they could press staff to come up with how much money is being saved and whether the stipend needed to be changed at all. Ms. Vanuch asked Ms. Bohmke if she would accept that as a friendly amendment.

Ms. Wagner stated that if the intent is to delay a decision on whether to exempt public safety and do something different in that group, they would need to exclude the statement about grandfathering all public safety.

Ms. Bohmke asked if this were time sensitive and whether they could push back the January 31 date.

Ms. Wagner responded that the grandfather date and whether to move forward with a stipend could be deferred, and it would likely need to be New Business with the new Board. She noted that the only potential time-sensitive aspects are the first two whereases that eliminate the consecutive service requirement.

Ms. Vanuch noted that if they have a deputy that came to work here and only needs three years of consecutive service to get healthcare benefits, if they exempt them, they will not technically get the three years of service, if they left the paragraph in without that impacting the payment.

Ms. Wagner clarified that the "Whereas" related to consecutive service comes first and is not dependent on being grandfathered or not; it is a universal application that would apply to all employees. She noted that the "Whereas" Ms. Vanuch had referenced was talking about a different health insurance benefit—stipend versus no stipend—which is the more recent part of the conversation that was the reason for deferral.

Ms. Bohmke asked if they would remove that paragraph.

Ms. Wagner clarified that they would remove that and the one below it, if the Board wanted to pursue only the continuous service removal.

Ms. Bohmke motioned, seconded by Mr. Dudenhefer, to adopt R21-406, removing the fourth and fifth "Whereas" clauses.

Mr. Coen asked if staff could bring back information as to how the incentives to recruit and retain general government were working, as that was an issue over the last several years. He said that they were losing people to Northern Virginia and were trying to do something with the pay scale under the previous County Administrator. He said that logic would indicate that they're having the same problem with public safety and general government, and he wondered why it wouldn't be an enticement to both groups.

Mr. Coen said that his second question was whether they anticipated significant activity between now and the second meeting in January in terms of hiring individuals or starting new public safety classes—because if nothing were going to happen in the next month, he did not see the urgency in doing this now and doing it piecemeal. He said that as an employee, he would feel better about having a comprehensive offer.

Mr. Presley stated that he would consider Stafford's policy to be "very rich" compared to their competitive localities, and the stipend proposal would be more cost-effective moving forward but would still keep them competitive with market localities—and that's across the board. He said that fire was currently recruiting for a class now and general government had several hires pending.

Ms. Wagner said that there are several candidates and recruitments in process, and fire/rescue just brought in a group of recruits and would not bring in a new group until mid-summer, which they are preparing for now. She said that the Sheriff's Department does have January recruits, and typically Rappahannock has a January and a July academy, but she did not know how many.

Ms. Allen stated that she agreed with Mr. Coen that they could consider this in its entirety once staff provided the requisite information, and she did not see the harm in bringing this back in January.

Ms. Vanuch said that they are splitting hairs here, and if they don't want to split the stipend amount they are getting, staff can determine if they want to bring forward a change in the stipend amount, and the Board can decide then if the stipend should be across the board for public safety or all government employees. She said that they are doing the same thing that they did with the drug policy earlier. She added that she feels it is wrong to not take action on this item and defer it to three brand new Board members who know nothing about their retirement and healthcare policy, so she cannot support deferring it.

Ms. Lamb said that she verified with the chief and does not want to defer this.

Ms. Vanuch clarified that the motion is to change the consecutive years of service and remove the consecutive years of service requirement for elected officials, and remove paragraphs 4 and 5, which essentially removes stipend changes.

Ms. Bohmke stated that she does not feel there is any harm in them approving the resolution with those changes, and these things need to be done anyway. She said they can come back and fine tune if they need to.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea:	(6)	Allen, Bohmke, Coen, Dudenhefer, Lamb, Vanuch.
Nay:	(0)	
Abstain:	(1) Snellings	

Resolution R21-406 reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION TO AMEND AND ADOPT THE STAFFORD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES RETIREMENT POLICY

WHEREAS, the Stafford County Department of Human Resources Retirement Policy (Policy) provides benefits to qualifying employees who retire; and

WHEREAS, the Policy would remove the consecutive years of service requirement for all employees with a stipulation that the final six years of employment (three years for uniformed public safety and emergency communications staff) prior to retirement must be with the County; and

WHEREAS, the Policy would remove the consecutive years of service requirement for all elected and appointed officials since they are not always in control of their tenure with the County; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this day of , 2021, that the amended Stafford County Department of Human Resources Retirement Policy, dated September 16, 2008, as last revised December 14, 2021, be and it hereby is approved and adopted.

NEW BUSINESS

26. Authorize Chairman to Provide Redistricting Comments on Behalf of the Stafford County Board of Supervisors to the Redistricting Public Stakeholder Comment Section.

Ms. Vanuch asked if there were a motion.

Ms. McClendon said if the Board were going to make a motion, it would first need to be declared time sensitive.

Ms. Bohmke motioned, seconded by Mr. Snellings, to make the item time sensitive.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea:	(6)	Bohmke, Coen, Dudenhefer, Lamb, Snellings, Vanuch.
Nay:	(1)	Allen
Absent:	(0)	

Ms. Bohmke motioned, seconded by Mr. Snellings, for the Board to allow Chairman Vanuch to prepare a letter to be sent to the Supreme Court of Virginia indicating their concerns with the redistricting lines, and that the letter to be prepared shall be shared with all Board members, who will weigh in with their comments.

Mr. Coen offered a friendly amendment to change the word "concerns" to "views" or "viewpoints," as they don't yet know how the Board members feel.

Ms. Bohmke accepted the amendment to her motion.

Mr. Coen said that he is concerned about the timing of it and asked if it would be a process whereby the Board sends comments to Mr. Spence, who drafts the letter and sends it to the Chair, and then comes back to the Board to be sent to the Supreme Court by December 20.

Ms. Vanuch stated that in the past, the Board has had staff draft the letter—with Anthony Toigo being the appropriate person in this instance—and then it would go to the entire Board, with comments incorporated to the consensus of the Board, then they would send it off.

Mr. Coen said that they should relay questions to Mr. Toigo as soon as possible.

Ms. Bohmke stated that they are individually responding to Mr. Toigo, so no "reply all" emails.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea:	(6)	Bohmke, Coen, Dudenhefer, Lamb, Snellings, Vanuch.
Nay:	(1)	Allen
Absent:	(0)	

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:12 p.m., Chairman Vanuch adjourned the December 14, 2021 Stafford County Board of Supervisors meeting.

Frederick J. Presley
County Administrator

Crystal L. Vanuch
Chairman