



Mathews County Board of Supervisors

Regular Meeting held electronically
via the Zoom meeting platform.

Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at 1:00 PM

MINUTES

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

A. Public Participation Guidelines

2. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rowe called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

3. INVOCATION

A. Rector Gary Barker provided the invocation.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

5. ROLL CALL

Board of Supervisors Present
Electronically:

Michael C. Rowe, Chairman
Melissa Mason, Vice Chair
Paul Hudgins, Supervisor
Jackie Ingram, Supervisor
Amy Dubois, Supervisor

Board Members Absent:

None

Staff Present Electronically:

Mrs. Melinda Conner, County Administrator
Mrs. Julie A. Kaylor, Deputy County Administrator/Clerk
Mr. Charles S. Huntley, Technology Director
Mr. Thomas D. Jenkins, Planning, Zoning and Wetlands
Director
Mr. Kevin Zoll, Building Official
Ms. Andrea G. Erard, Esq., County Attorney
Mrs. Caroline Oxley, Deputy Clerk

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: On Motion of Amy Dubois, seconded by Melissa Mason, the Mathews County Board of Supervisors voted 5-0-0 as follows: Michael Rowe, Melissa Mason, Paul Hudgins, Jackie Ingram, Amy Dubois - aye; None - nay; to approve the agenda, as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Michael C. Rowe, Chairman - Aye
Melissa Mason, Vice Chair - Aye
Paul Hudgins, Supervisor - Aye
Jackie Ingram, Supervisor - Aye
Amy Dubois, Supervisor - Aye

7. OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZEN COMMENTS *(One opportunity of 3 minutes per speaker, alternating between in-person and written comments)*

A. Submitted Written Comments

County Attorney Erard read comments received by the 9:00 a.m. deadline into the record:

Mr. Charles Burford - Support of expansion of broadband internet at Peach Point

Mr. Robert Farmer - Parking at the Hole in the Wall

Mr. Chris Hudgins - Parking at the Hole in the Wall

Ms. Laura Jaeger - Support of the IT Department

Mrs. Reed Lawson - Support of Tompkins Cottage Lease renewal

Mr. William Moughon - Parking at the Hole in the Wall

Vice Chair Mason asked for Mr. Burford's information. Mrs. Conner stated that Mrs. Judy Rowe has already been in contact with Mr. Burford. Mrs. Conner stated that Mrs. Lawson's comment should be reserved for the scheduled public hearing.

B. Call-in Comments

There were no call-in commenters.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Proposed Tompkins Cottage Lease Agreement

Chairman Rowe opened the public hearing at 1:11 p.m.

Mrs. Conner stated that this is a long-term lease between the County and the Mathews County Historical Society and then deferred to Mrs. Lawson for additional comment. Mrs. Lawson stated that she had no additional comments.

County Attorney Erard stated that terms and conditions are the same in the proposed lease as in the previous lease.

There being no further comments, Chairman Rowe closed the public hearing at 1:15 pm.

MOTION: On Motion of Paul Hudgins, seconded by Amy Dubois, the Mathews County Board of Supervisors voted 5-0-0 as follows: Michael Rowe, Melissa Mason, Paul Hudgins, Jackie Ingram, Amy Dubois - aye; None - nay; to approve the lease, as presented, to the Mathews County Historical Society. Such lease attached to and made part of these minutes.

Roll Call Vote:

Michael C. Rowe, Chairman - Aye

Melissa Mason, Vice Chair - Aye
Paul Hudgins, Supervisor - Aye
Jackie Ingram, Supervisor - Aye Amy
Dubois, Supervisor – Aye

1. Submitted Written Comments

Mrs. Reed Lawson submitted the only written comment which was read into the record earlier.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

Supervisor Ingram asked that a comment from a Gloucester citizen be removed from the record. County Attorney Erard stated that she had never heard of any rule not allowing comments from citizens not residing within the locality. Supervisor Ingram stated that she was told that comments were reserved only for property owners and citizens of the county, and asked County Attorney Erard to get back to her on this matter.

Mrs. Conner stated that under normal circumstances when meeting in person, the Board asks commenters to state their name and address for the record, so the Board is aware of residency, but noted that anyone is permitted to speak during public comment regardless where they are from.

MOTION: On Motion of Amy Dubois, seconded by Melissa Mason, the Mathews County Board of Supervisors voted 5-0-0 as follows: Michael Rowe, Melissa Mason, Paul Hudgins, Jackie Ingram, Amy Dubois - aye; None - nay; to approve the consent agenda, as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Michael C. Rowe, Chairman - Aye
Melissa Mason, Vice Chair - Aye
Paul Hudgins, Supervisor - Aye
Jackie Ingram, Supervisor - Aye Amy
Dubois, Supervisor – Aye

10. REPORTS AND REQUESTS OF BOARDS, DEPARTMENTS, COMMISSIONS AND AGENCIES

A. Mathews County School System

Superintendent Welch provided a written report this month.

B. Virginia Department of Transportation

Residency Administrator Gowan provided a written report this month.

C. Mathews County Department of Planning and Zoning

Mr. Thomas Jenkins, Planning Director, stated that he had no action items today. He reported that his office has moved downstairs in the Administration building, next to the Building Official's office.

Chairman Rowe asked for an update on the New Point Comfort Lighthouse project. Mr. Jenkins reported that it was going well, and the project is on time for completion in the spring.

Supervisor Dubois congratulated Mr. James Knighton on his promotion, noting that it was well deserved.

D. Mathews County Building Department

Mr. Kevin Zoll, Building Official, requested approval to discontinue the cleaning service contract and authorization to create two new positions, one being placed at grade 16 for maintenance and the other being placed at grade 7 for janitorial. Mr. Zoll stated that the money currently being spent on the cleaning contract will pay for most of the cost for the two new positions.

Supervisor Ingram addressed the pump and haul matter at the Hole in the Wall restaurant. She questioned whether or not Mr. Zoll had installed a meter at the site. Mr. Zoll stated that he had not installed anything yet but offered to get this done by Wednesday if that was the Board's wish. Mrs. Conner stated that she would follow up with Mr. Zoll on this and stated that she believed a meter was already installed. Supervisor Ingram stated that the Board needed to make sure that they understand if there is seepage and whether they are pumping water or waste. Mrs. Conner stated that she was not sure the water meter would measure what Supervisor Ingram is looking for. Mr. Zoll stated that it is standard practice to meter the water entering the building, subtract irrigation, and others, to get the final waste number, and that the same should apply here.

MOTION: On Motion of Paul Hudgins, seconded by Amy Dubois, the Mathews County Board of Supervisors voted 5-0-0 as follows: Michael Rowe, Melissa Mason, Paul Hudgins, Jackie Ingram, Amy Dubois - aye; None - nay; to approve the termination of the cleaning services contract and to authorize the creation and hiring for two new staff positions, as stated.

Roll Call Vote:

Michael C. Rowe, Chairman - Aye
Melissa Mason, Vice Chair - Aye
Paul Hudgins, Supervisor - Aye
Jackie Ingram, Supervisor - Aye
Amy Dubois, Supervisor - Aye

E. Mathews County Broadband Advisory Board

1. Broadband Advisory Board Stakeholder Appointments and Broadband Advisory Board Bylaws Revised January 5, 2021

MOTION: On Motion of Amy Dubois, seconded by Paul Hudgins, the Mathews County Board of Supervisors voted 5-0-0 as follows: Michael Rowe, Melissa Mason, Paul Hudgins, Jackie Ingram, Amy Dubois - aye; None - nay; to approve the appointment of Broadband Advisory Board officers, and to approve the revised bylaws, as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Michael C. Rowe, Chairman - Aye
Melissa Mason, Vice Chair - Aye
Paul Hudgins, Supervisor - Aye
Jackie Ingram, Supervisor - Aye
Amy Dubois, Supervisor - Aye

2. Broadband Strategic Plan

Mr. Jeff Beekhoo, of Broadband Telecom, presented the draft strategic plan. He stated that in order for Mathews County to achieve its goal of broadband access for every citizen, a regional approach is going to be required from a funding standpoint. He stated that two towers are slated to be built in the near term which will provide fixed wireless access for many but noted that is a short-term solution and that as greater access is required in the future, the regional approach will afford the funding opportunity for expansion.

Mr. Beekhoo stated that the lack of population density rules out several technologies that funding would not be available for. He stated that the cost of fiber to every home is currently \$8,000 per customer and would require a fiber backhaul. Mr. Beekhoo stated that there are several providers interested in expanding into Mathews but are not willing to put up the funds required, and he noted that in order for this effort to be financially viable, it will require a regional approach.

Mr. Beekhoo stated that fixed wireless is the way to get the most cost-effective coverage now, but also noted the need to look at future expansion, noting that 25Mbps will be obsolete in ten years. He stated that the smart data poles currently being installed will be repurposed as repeaters in any future buildout.

Mr. Beekhoo stated that a radio frequency analysis is needed now in order to figure out what exactly is needed to get coverage for everyone which will then outline the cost involved.

Mr. Beekhoo stated that the key takeaways are five years to full high speed broadband access, although he believes it will be sooner. Going forward, he stated that Mathews County requires regional collaboration and adamantly monitoring funding opportunities as they arise. He again noted that two towers and repeater sites will provide full coverage for now but will require upgrades later.

Chairman Rowe asked how tall the towers will be. Mr. Beekhoo stated 250'. He also stated that this height has been accepted for both Bohannon and Rescue Squad locations. Vice Chair Mason questioned whether there were plans for additional towers. Mr. Beekhoo stated that the RF analysis will show if more will be needed. Supervisor Dubois commended him on the work done, as well as the Advisory Board, and sought clarification on whether acceptance of this plan would also be approval for allocation of funds. Mrs. Conner stated that this would be adopted as the strategic plan but would not be a commitment to fund or appropriate. She stated that the Board cannot bind future boards without bond issuance. She stated that this is helpful in going after grants because it shows a strategy and vision.

Mrs. Rowe stated that she has already talked with Mr. Burford.

MOTION: On Motion of Amy Dubois, seconded by Melissa Mason, the Mathews County Board of Supervisors voted 5-0-0 as follows: Michael Rowe, Melissa Mason, Paul Hudgins, Jackie Ingram, Amy Dubois - aye; None - nay; to adopt the Mathews County Broadband Strategic Plan, as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Michael C. Rowe, Chairman – Aye
Melissa Mason, Vice Chair – Aye
Paul Hudgins, Supervisor – Aye
Jackie Ingram, Supervisor – Aye
Amy Dubois, Supervisor – Aye

F. Middle Peninsula Northern Neck Community Services Board

Mrs. Linda Gerhold Hodges, Director, Middle Peninsula Northern Neck Community Services Board, introduced herself in her new role with the CSB and provided an update on services her

agency provides. She noted that the CSB has provided services to Mathews County citizens since 1974 and their agency services 10 localities. She stated that she began in her current role on November 1st, 2020, following the retirement of Mr. Chuck Walsh.

Mrs. Hodges stated that the CSB operates nine group homes, one located in Mathews on Rt. 14. She stated the challenges her agency confronts as far as dealing with mental illness and the process by which clients are identified and assigned to services. She stated that one of the challenges is the lack of facilities to properly handle the most severe cases, also noting that a side effect is the challenge to local law enforcement as well.

Vice Chair Mason congratulated Mrs. Hodges on her appointment. She thanked Mrs. Hodges for highlighting some of the mental health challenges and for pointing out a broken situation in terms of proper identification and lack of funding sources for necessary treatment. Referring to the lack of funding from the Commonwealth, Supervisor Mason stated that everyone should write their representatives at the state level to bring greater awareness. Vice Chair Mason then provided an example of a local citizen who was improperly treated within the system and the outcome was taking his own life.

Chairman Rowe stated that Senators in Richmond need to be addressing these issues.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Hole in the Wall Pump and Haul Bid

Mrs. Conner stated that at the Board's direction, an RFB was issued to solicit bids for pump and haul services at the Hole in the Wall restaurant. She stated one bid was received and noted that this company is not a Mathews based business. She stated that the bid came in at \$20 less per 1,000 gallons pumped than the current agreement.

Mrs. Conner stated that there are a couple of factors to consider. She stated that while waiting for the Health Department to work through its issues with repairs, if any issue were to arise at the site, the contractor would be required to respond immediately, noting that the current contractor has been very responsive. She stated that if the Board were to switch; the new contractor would be required to provide the same service level. Mrs. Conner stated the need to continue the good relationship with the Health Department as they work to resolve this situation. Mrs. Conner stated that the other factor to consider is the hope that this issue could be resolved in less than a year, noting that the bidder requires a one-year commitment.

Vice Chair Mason questioned the time frame for continuation of pump and haul service. Mrs. Conner stated that she could not provide a specific timeline, noting that any advancement lies with the Health Department and that at the moment they are inundated with all things COVID. Vice Chair Mason questioned how long Miller has been providing this service. Mrs. Conner stated that there are only three companies in the state that are licensed to work on this type of system and noted that Miller has been involved for quite a while. She noted that attention did not focus on this system when the restaurant was the Seabreeze, and also noted that Millers has been involved for several years.

Supervisor Hudgins asked whether the RFB included a provision for on-call services. Mrs. Conner confirmed it did. Supervisor Ingram asked if a contract was in place for issuing the bid. Mrs. Conner stated that it was a matter of accepting the bid. Chairman Rowe asked if the response stipulated a one-year contract. Mrs. Conner confirmed it had. Supervisor Ingram stated that she wanted to see a contract in place to award to the winning bidder. Chairman Rowe asked about the

price again. Mrs. Conner stated that the bid came in at \$20 per 1,000 gallons less than the current provider and that she believed the capacity is approximately 3,000 gallons.

Supervisor Ingram asked when the bidder would be told they won the bid. Supervisor Dubos questioned whether the respondent was responsive. Mrs. Conner confirmed they were. Supervisor Ingram stated that Miller's had been doing this work the entire time without competition and that the respondent won the bid and that something needed to be done today to move this forward. Vice Chair Mason asked whether this was the only response. Supervisor Ingram stated it was and noted that Miller's did not respond. County Attorney Erard stated that she had mailed the RFB to a list of businesses provided to her by Supervisor Ingram.

MOTION: On Motion of Jackie Ingram, seconded by Paul Hudgins, the Mathews County Board of Supervisors voted 5-0-0 as follows: Michael Rowe, Melissa Mason, Paul Hudgins, Jackie Ingram, Amy Dubois - aye; None - nay; to award a contract to the sole respondent, for pump and haul services at the Hole in the Wall restaurant, as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Michael C. Rowe, Chairman - Aye
Melissa Mason, Vice Chair - Aye
Paul Hudgins, Supervisor - Aye
Jackie Ingram, Supervisor - Aye
Amy Dubois, Supervisor - Aye

B. Hole in the Wall Parking Committee

Vice Chair Mason provided a presentation on the parking situation at the Hole in the Wall restaurant and public access boat launch property. She noted that several topics around this business have come up in the past and stated that restaurants bring economic development to the area and provide local jobs. She stated that by partnering, working together and collaborating, a compromise solution should be found that suits both the public access interests as well as the business owner.

Vice Chair Mason stated that there is limited parking for both, the boat ramp and restaurant, and noted that there are parking issues at many other public landings as well. She stated that she has heard from people on both sides of the matter. Vice Chair Mason stated that historically, parking has been the same throughout the years, even when the prior restaurant was there. She pointed out that parking was lost when the Virginia Department of Transportation eliminated parking along the roadway. She stated that the lease designates nine spaces for use by restaurant patrons and employees, and that the remaining spaces are designated as public use on a first come, first serve basis. Vice Chair Mason stated that designating spaces, adding signs to enforce those designations, could be done but the problem is that law enforcement would not have the manpower to manage this. She thanked Mr. Farmer who provided pictures of the site, gave him photo credit in her presentation and deferred to Supervisor Hudgins for further comment.

Supervisor Hudgins stated that he discussed the matter with Mr. Jenkins last week and that Mr. Jenkins confirmed that there are either 30 or 31 spaces. He suggested that painting new lines, showing some organization of how the cars can park, may alleviate the confusion. He stated that the page 2 of the lease states nine spaces are designated for patrons and employees of the restaurant. He noted that the lease does not state anything about the remaining spaces being up for grabs. Chairman Rowe stated that nine are designated and rest are public which is first come, first serve.

County Attorney Erard agreed with Chairman Rowe's statement, and said that the rest of the spaces are intended for the public and people who come to the restaurant are also considered public. She noted that the lease is not framed the way Supervisor Hudgins states. Mrs. Conner stated that parking is mentioned in two areas in the lease and that the intent was never for the restaurant to only be limited to those nine spaces. Chairman Rowe stated that like all other public parking lots the County owns, it is intended for public use. County Attorney Erard stated that on page 10, the lease talks about common areas and parking and questioned if that was what Supervisor Hudgins was referring to.

Vice Chair Mason asked Supervisor Hudgins if he wished to address the pictures in her presentation. Supervisor Hudgins declined. He stated that this matter needs to be addressed in a way that it is not an infringement on anyone's part. He stated the lines currently are not clearly marked. He suggested that the spaces could be organized by moving signage, communicating with the tenant, and painting lines. Chairman Rowe stated that the site is maximized as it stands, noting that there just is not much property there and that if the Board wanted to solve the problem, they could explore the idea of purchasing additional adjacent property.

Vice Chair Mason stated that the Board was not going to come up with a solution today, and suggest that discussions be continued with Mr. Jenkins, the restaurant owner, and any other representatives from the Board, to look at how the space can be reorganized to better accommodate everyone.

Supervisor Hudgins stated that another problem is that the boat ramp keeps getting blocked. He suggested that a sign be erected at the site of the ramp that states do not block the ramp. Mrs. Conner stated that there definitely could be better signage, not only referring to blocking the ramp but also signs that indicate the operating hours of the restaurant as well. She noted that the restaurant is not open on Wednesdays, leaving all parking available to the public. Mrs. Conner stated that she was certainly open to looking at the highest and best use of that space.

Supervisor Ingram stated that the Board might want to think about getting an up-to-date plat and then review that plat along with the lease to determine what is best for the space. Mrs. Conner agreed that an updated survey makes sense, but also reminded the Board that a lease is in effect and it cannot be altered. Supervisor Ingram agreed and stated that the Board needs to understand the contents of the lease.

County Attorney Erard asked for a motion to obtain a survey on the property.

MOTION: On Motion of Paul Hudgins, seconded by Melissa Mason, the Mathews County Board of Supervisors voted 5-0-0 as follows: Michael Rowe, Melissa Mason, Paul Hudgins, Jackie Ingram, Amy Dubois - aye; None - nay; to authorize staff to obtain a new survey of the property at the Hole in the Wall restaurant.

Roll Call Vote:

Michael C. Rowe, Chairman - Aye
Melissa Mason, Vice Chair - Aye
Paul Hudgins, Supervisor - Aye
Jackie Ingram, Supervisor - Aye
Amy Dubois, Supervisor - Aye

C. CARES Fund Review

Mrs. Conner stated that two attachments were in the packet with the same information on both, but one is easier to read. She noted that these reports show all expenditures to date with details.

Mrs. Conner stated that there were two separate allocations from the federal government down through the state. She stated that the regulations required that all funds had to be spent on pandemic related activities by Dec 30, 2020. Mrs. Conner stated that at the very last-minute last month an extension to December 2021 was granted.

Mrs. Conner stated that in compliance with guidelines, expenditures have been focused on providing social distancing for staff and public, remote work, disinfection, allowable capital expenditures such as buses and Sheriff's department vehicles. Mrs. Conner reported that funds were spent on professional services, including the monthly broadband contract expenditure as well as business assistance. Mrs. Conner stated that there are still some outstanding invoices, but that approximately \$100,000 remains unspent, and that there are many competing demands. She stated that a request was received from the Mathews Volunteer Fire Department that she would like to address, and she is trying to figure out the best way to handle the extension of the broadband contract. Mrs. Conner stated that also covered with this funding was hazard pay for deputies, funding for daycare services, a shortfall at the regional jail, and the audio communications systems at the Mathews High School auditorium as well as the historic courthouse to better accommodate meetings.

Supervisor Hudgins asked if it were possible to get a breakdown and what the money was spent on, noting that he did not see everything for last year. Mrs. Conner stated that the attachments show everything that was processed through the County's accounts payable system. She noted that transfers were handled outside of the accounts payable system and that a transfer existed to the cafeteria fund to cover a shortage there. Mrs. Conner stated that the Board allocated \$100,000 for the Back2Business program managed by the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission and noted that just under \$50,000 was utilized. Mrs. Conner note that this program was highly publicized, but interest was low. She noted that money not expended in those grants will be returned to the County. Supervisor Hudgins asked how many businesses participated. Mrs. Conner stated that six businesses in Mathews County applied and were granted assistance, and that information was attached to the meeting materials.

Vice Chair Mason and Supervisor Hudgins provided support for continuing assistance to local businesses. Chairman Rowe and Mrs. Conner noted that the time has expired and that this program was managed by the MPPDC and that County staff is not able to manage this going forward.

Supervisor Dubois questioned what the request from the Fire Department was. Mrs. Conner stated that they have a need for faceplates for additional protection from COVID. She also stated that there may an alternative grant that could cover that need. Mrs. Conner explained that staff was able to support requests from them and the Rescue Squad to provide decontamination equipment for both agencies totaling over \$100,000. Mrs. Conner explained that staff worked hard to support local needs and noted that this funding took a little pressure off of the Capital Improvement Plan where buses and Sheriff's vehicles were concerned and that with the Meals Tax fund decline, this was used as a tradeoff.

Supervisor Hudgins noted that businesses continue to deal with the impacts of COVID and that he understood there was not a big turnout for funding assistance but stated that he would still like to see the assistance program extended. Mrs. Conner explained that the deadline for administrative

support has been closed out. She stated that we do not know what is going to come through federal or state means with any additional allocations but noted that it is possible that the Board could look at something else that could be delivered directly.

12. SUPERVISORS' REPORT

A. Chairman Rowe

1. January and February 2021 Board of Supervisors Meetings

Chairman Rowe stated that due to recent developments with the pandemic, he suggested that all Board meetings through February be held electronically. He stated that the Board could assess the possibility of holding in-person meetings in March, and that those will be held in the auditorium.

MOTION: On Motion of Jackie Ingram, seconded by Amy Dubois, the Mathews County Board of Supervisors voted 5-0-0 as follows: Michael Rowe, Melissa Mason, Paul Hudgins, Jackie Ingram, Amy Dubois - aye; None - nay; to approve all Board of Supervisors meetings be held electronically through February 2021.

Roll Call Vote:

Michael C. Rowe, Chairman - Aye
Melissa Mason, Vice Chair - Aye
Paul Hudgins, Supervisor - Aye
Jackie Ingram, Supervisor - Aye
Amy Dubois, Supervisor – Aye

B. Supervisor Hudgins

1. First Amendment Sanctuary Resolution

Supervisor Hudgins provided a statement and then asked County Attorney Erard to read the resolution he presented. County Attorney read the resolution.

Chairman Rowe asked Supervisor Hudgins if he had any additional comments in support of his resolution. Supervisor Hudgins thanked County Attorney Erard and stated that he thinks it is plain language, a good statement for the Board which would establish trust for the citizens, remove doubt from their minds, and that this would be the sister resolution to the 2A resolution adopted earlier in the year. Supervisor Hudgins motioned to approve the resolution; Supervisor Ingram seconded the motion.

Vice Chair Mason asked Supervisor Hudgins to explain in his own terms what the request is that would be addressed by adopting this resolution. She questioned his statement referring to trust in what and for what. Supervisor Hudgins stated that the resolution would not go against the constitutional rights of the citizens and by adopting it is stating in writing this is what the Board is standing for freedom of speech, ability to assemble, and the use of funds.

Supervisor Mason stated that what was handed down by the Governor was put in place in response to the pandemic and noted that we are in a state of emergency. It is the things that have been put in place that is for protection of the citizens. She noted that people are still making their own choices, in terms of assembling and when the Governor's office limited the number of people gathering, further noting that it was for the protection of all citizens, but people have lost their lives. If the rules are in place it is for protection.

Supervisor Hudgins stated that this resolution has nothing to do with COVID. County Attorney Erard offered to draft a revised resolution that would meet the intent of Supervisor Hudgins

while also protecting any directives from the Governor's office. Chairman Rowe stated that each member of the Board took an oath of office to uphold the laws of the constitution and laws of the United States, and that this resolution goes against what we swore to do. Chairman Rowe stated that this resolution states that employees cannot enforce the Governor's Executive Orders. Chairman Rowe stated that the Governor has the right just like the Board does here locally to do what is necessary for the safety of our citizens.

Supervisor Hudgins questioned a revised resolution. County Attorney Erard stated that she would prepare something for consideration next month. Chairman Rowe stated that Supervisor Hudgins would need to withdraw his motion and Supervisor Ingram would need to withdraw her second in order to move forward with a revised motion. Supervisor Ingram asked Supervisor Hudgins how he felt about this.

Supervisor Hudgins questioned exactly what areas of the resolution the Board had issues with. Vice Chair Mason stated that she could not see the purpose, or the under-arching purpose of this, and that for her, she does not see that anyone's freedom of speech has been taken away, ability to assembly has not been taken away. She stated that she has not heard from citizens complaining about the need for this and that she was not in support.

Supervisor Hudgins stated that his motion stands as originally stated.

Supervisor Dubois stated that the resolution as it stands, at the base, objecting to the orders that were placed from a leadership position, is irresponsible and dangerous. She noted the need to take a leadership position in a time like this, noting that COVID precautions are not stopping freedom of speech. She stated that these precautions are necessary in order to save lives, and that now is not the time to let our guard down. Supervisor Dubois stated that as of yesterday there were 411 cases and 6 deaths reported in Mathews, noting how it has accelerated since Thanksgiving and has not slowed down. Supervisor Dubois stated that 25 new cases were diagnosed this past week. Supervisor Dubois stated that the Board must show responsibility and leadership for the community. Showing a graph from the Health Department of the spike in cases locally, she stated that this is not the time to be telling our Governor that we are not going to respect the safeguard measures he is taking to protect us. She stated that saying yes to this resolution, the Board is telling the citizens we do not care.

Vice Chair Mason suggested that Supervisor Hudgins be careful with his stance on this because he is part of the emergency response team locally, and that resolution being read could impact him and how he will be able to operate and how he is going to be able to react in an emergency. She noted that it can impact him in his role to protect the community.

Supervisor Hudgins stated that schools are getting ready to reopen and that if it is safe for the children, it is safe for others. Vice Chair Mason stated that based on her experience, it is easier for schools to control the situation than it is for the Board to control adults.

MOTION: On Motion of Paul Hudgins, seconded by Jackie Ingram, the Mathews County Board of Supervisors voted 2-3-0 as follows: Paul Hudgins, Jackie Ingram - aye; Michael Rowe, Melissa Mason, Amy Dubois - nay; to approve the resolution presented by Supervisor Hudgins.

Roll Call Vote:

Michael C. Rowe, Chairman - Nay
Melissa Mason, Vice Chair - Nay

Paul Hudgins, Supervisor - Aye
Jackie Ingram, Supervisor - Aye
Amy Dubois, Supervisor – Nay

2. Mr. Atherton Complaint

Supervisor Hudgins stated that he had a conversation Mr. Thomas Jenkins last week and that a letter has been mailed. He felt that this was good enough. Chairman Rowe stated that this business in question has been there for a number of years.

C. Supervisor Dubois

Supervisor Dubois provided a brief report on the following matters:

1. Mathews County Resources Council

2. Tourism Plan

Supervisor Dubois stated that tourism is a major element of economic development and that the Mathews County Visitor and Information Center would like to move forward with a tool from the Comprehensive Plan that would provide a tourism strategy.

She reported that she had asked staff to setup a Zoom meeting with the EDA, MCVIC, et al and asked Mrs. Conner to confirm the date of that meeting. Mrs. Conner stated that she is working on that now with Miss Allen and that it is tentatively set for February 9 or 10, 2021. She stated that this needs to be a priority and that there is a need to have something in place to manage the additional tax earmarked for tourism.

3. Vaccine Resource Center

Supervisor Dubois reported on the support center recently opened in Gloucester. She noted that this is a regional support center. Supervisor Hudgins stated that he was told vaccinations would happen on Wednesday at the schools for teachers. Chairman Rowe stated that Dr. Wathen's office vaccinated 25 citizen who are considered high risk today.

12. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- A.** Financial Reports
- B.** Other Departmental and Agency Reports

13. OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no comments from citizens.

14. APPOINTMENTS

A. Citizen Appointments to Boards and Commissions for Calendar Year 2021

Chairman Rowe entertained a motion to approve the appointments for all who desired to be reappointed in their positions and to remove those who were still undecided.

MOTION: On Motion of Amy Dubois, seconded by Melissa Mason, the Mathews County Board of Supervisors voted 5-0-0 as follows: Michael Rowe, Melissa Mason, Paul Hudgins, Jackie Ingram, Amy Dubois - aye; None - nay; to approve the reappointments, as presented, excluding those indicated as to be determined. Such list is attached to and made part of these minutes.

Roll Call Vote:

Michael C. Rowe, Chairman - Aye
Melissa Mason, Vice Chair - Aye
Paul Hudgins, Supervisor - Aye
Jackie Ingram, Supervisor - Aye
Amy Dubois, Supervisor - Nay

Dubois, Supervisor – Aye

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: On Motion of Melissa Mason, seconded by Amy Dubois, the Mathews County Board of Supervisors voted 5-0-0 as follows: Michael Rowe, Melissa Mason, Paul Hudgins, Jackie Ingram, Amy Dubois - aye; None - nay; to adjourn the meeting at approximately 3:45 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Michael C. Rowe, Chairman - Aye

Melissa Mason, Vice Chair - Aye

Paul Hudgins, Supervisor - Aye

Jackie Ingram, Supervisor - Aye Amy

Dubois, Supervisor - Aye

Michel C. Rowe, Chairman
Mathews County Board of Supervisors

Melinda Conner, County Administrator

Julie A. Kaylor, Deputy County Administrator/Clerk

From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Board of Supervisors Public Comment
Date: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 8:48:02 AM

Board of Supervisors Public Comment

Mathews County Board of Supervisors Public Comment Submission
Please enter the required information below before submission.

Date and Time	1/26/2021 8:30 AM
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Name	Lara Jaeger
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Address	6148 new point comfort hwy
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City	Susan
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State	VA
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Zip Code	23163
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(Section Break)

Public Questions, Comments, and/ or Concerns

Here, members of the public may submit questions, comments, or concerns to the Mathews County Board of Supervisors for their consideration during regularly scheduled meetings. Please note that citizens may submit one (1) comment per meeting, multiple comments for one (1) comment period will not be considered. Public comments must be submitted no later than 9:00 AM on the day of the Board of Supervisors' regular-scheduled meetings, unless otherwise advertised (The Board of Supervisors January Regular Meeting deadline is 9:00 AM on January 26th, 2021), in order to be considered. Late submissions will be included in the following Board of Supervisors' regular-scheduled meeting. Please be aware that incomplete forms will not be included into the record.

Answer Below

I would like to thank the IT department for working hard to keep everyone safe in the pandemic - figuring out the virtual meetings and helping to keep things running. Thank you for everything you do!!

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Board of Supervisors Public Hearing Comment on Proposed Tompkins Cottage Lease Agreement
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 1:52:43 PM

Board of Supervisors Public Hearing Comment on Proposed Tompkins Cottage Lease Agreement

Mathews County Board of Supervisors Public Hearing Comment Submission
This comment refers only to Public Hearing Topic: Proposed Tompkins Cottage Lease Agreement

Date and Time	1/25/2021 1:45 PM
Name	Reed B. Lawson
Address	P.O. Box 888
City	Mathews
State	VA
Zip Code	23109

(Section Break)

Public Hearing Questions, Comments, and/ or Concerns

Here, members of the public may submit questions, comments, or concerns to the Mathews County Board of Supervisors regarding current Public Hearing topics for their consideration. Please note that citizens may submit one (1) comment per Public Hearing topic, multiple comments for one (1) public hearing comment period will not be considered. Public Hearing comments must be submitted no later than 9:00 AM on January 26th, 2021 for the Board of Supervisors December Regular Meeting on January 26th, 2021, in order to be considered. Please be aware that incomplete forms and late submissions will not be included into the record

Answer Below

Mr. Chairman, Madam Vice-chairman, members of the Board of Supervisors, Mrs. Conner and Staff:

I am Reed Lawson of 143 Tall Pines Lane, Mathews, president of Mathews County Historical Society, Inc.

I am writing in support of the renewal of the lease the historical society holds for Tompkins Cottage for another 5-year term. MCHS has had a successful relationship with our landlord, Mathews County, in highlighting this 200-year-old historic site. Tompkins Cottage is part of the Mathews Downtown Historic District and is on the national and state registers of historic places.

The society has carried out the stipulations of the lease. It has been open to the public as a small house museum since the initiation of the first lease Feb. 10, 1969. It has maintained ongoing programs and activities, displayed informative exhibits, led special tours for area-wide interest groups and for school field trips, served as a connection to Mathews' past and fulfilled the society's mission to educate and inform local citizens and visitors alike.

I will attend the meeting and am available to answer any questions you may have. Thank you!

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

BOS JANUARY PUBLIC COMMENT: ROBERT FARMER

Members of the Board,

In September I attended the Board of Supervisors meeting to address the parking and signage at the Hole in the Wall restaurant. I asked the Board to review the lease and plat, I explained to the Board that the signage in place does not reflect what the plat shows as designated parking for the restaurant.

I have provided Mr. Hudgins and Mrs. Mason with an email dated May 25, 2018 from Mindy Conner to the Board stating "the Hole in the Wall lease provides 9 designated parking spaces. Signs were recently installed for spaces near the front of the restaurant and to the right of the launch to reflect how the public had been accustomed to parking.

Pepper has pointed out that the deed reflects a different alignment that makes better use of the available parking area to accommodate the restaurant and boaters. Therefore, we are planning to relocate the car parking and signage that is adjacent to the launch and move it to the left of the spaces near the restaurant. The four boat spaces currently in this area will be moved adjacent to the launch. Let me know if you have any questions or concerns. I'm hoping to resolve this quickly, so the parking is in place before the restaurant opens."

As of 1/7/21 this has not been done.

I think this should be done ASAP as well as marking the remaining spaces boat trailer parking only from May 1st until December 31st and adopting some type of parking ordinance that can be enforced by our local Sheriff's office.

Mathews County has very limited public access where residents can launch their boats and should not be denied access due to parking being taken up by cars of restaurant employees and patrons.

On November 8th, 2020 I attempted to launch my boat and could not due to no available parking, there were only 6 vehicles parked with boat trailers and the remaining spaces were filled with cars of restaurant employees and restaurant patrons, had there been any available parking I still would not have been able to launch due to a boat and a jet ski moored in the ramp while the owners were inside the restaurant.(pictures provided)

I don't think if each vehicle had only 1 person and they were patrons of the restaurant they could have been in compliance of the CDC guidelines in place at the time.

I am asking again for the Board to address this issue.

Thanks,

Robert C Farmer

Board of Supervisors Public Comment

Mathews County Board of Supervisors Public Comment Submission

Please enter the required information below before submission.

Date and Time	1/24/2021
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Name	William Moughon
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Address	PO Box 68
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City	Hudgins
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State	Va
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Zip Code	23076
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(Section Break)

Public Questions, Comments, and/ or Concerns

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Answer Below

Mathews County BOS,
It has come to numerous citizens concern that the owner of the Hole in the Wall restaurant in threatening the County with legal action if they do not remedy the parking situation. I understand that there are 9 parking spaces at the restaurant for customers; the remaining spaces are for those using the public boat ramp.
The operator certainly knew this when he signed the lease. DO

NOT under any circumstances even consider this idiots threat.
Tell him if he wants additional parking he needs to attempt to
purchase additional property out of his own pocket .
If he continues to threaten legal action the county should shut
him down for septic violations . The county has no business
being in the restaurant / landlord business .
If any member of the BOS believes that this creep should be
appeased then you fund it out of your own pocket !

William Moughon

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Board of Supervisors Public Comment
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 10:05:42 PM

Board of Supervisors Public Comment

Mathews County Board of Supervisors Public Comment Submission
Please enter the required information below before submission.

Date and Time	1/16/2021
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Name	Charles C. Burford
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Address	820 Peach Point Rd
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City	MATHEWS
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State	VA
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Zip Code	23109
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(Section Break)

Public Questions, Comments, and/ or Concerns

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Answer Below

My question is, what is the BOS doing about the expansion of internet for Mathews. My main concern is Peach Point Rd, I have contacted the service providers and with the cable running right past Peach Point, I was told that I could pay over 10000.00 for a line to be run to me. We have multiple houses in this area, none have any form of hard wired cable internet, I would assume that we all pay a good amount of property taxes. Is there anything the BOS can do to get some service run down into our neighborhood? I have one child left in the Mathews school system and my Verizon wireless internet isn't the greatest. I do understand that he has something from the school but this could be better. Who on the board could give me a good answer?

Charles Burford
757-707-4752

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Board of Supervisors Public Comment
Date: Saturday, January 23, 2021 10:13:55 AM

Board of Supervisors Public Comment

Mathews County Board of Supervisors Public Comment Submission

Please enter the required information below before submission.

Date and Time	1/23/2021 9:30 AM
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Name	Chris Hudgins
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Address	1849 Haven Beach rd
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City	Mathews
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State	Virginia
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Zip Code	23109
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(Section Break)

Public Questions, Comments, and/ or Concerns

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Answer Below

We have discussed parking at the hole in the wall for a few years. There seems to be no consideration for boaters and trailer parking.

The land was once owned by game and inland and designed for a boat launch and trailer parking. It was given to the Gwynns Island civic league who gave it to the county in good faith that it would remain a vital access to the bay. It is now restaurant parking.

We are a county surrounded by water with two sub par boat ramps for access and one beach. The Hole in the wall has 9 restaurant parking spots. The employees take up most of those spots before they ever open for business. That means the business has full intention of using trailer parking for its business.

Why are we taking a vital resource from all of the citizens for the profit of one? It would be nice to see a compromise allowing the business to prosper with out taking away the resource from the citizens.

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)