



VIRGINIA: A VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE SURRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HELD REMOTELY ON THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M. USING THE 'GOTOMEETING' PLATFORM: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/447043917>

PRESENT: SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.
SUPERVISOR MICHAEL DREWRY
SUPERVISOR JUDY LYTTLE
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM (TIM) CALHOUN

ALSO

PRESENT: MS. DANIELLE POWELL, COUNTY ATTORNEY
MRS. MELISSA ROLLINS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
MR. DAVID HARRISON, DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
MRS. LAUREN CHAPMAN, COUNTY ADMINISTRATION
MR. DELON BROWN, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR
MRS. CAROL SWINDELL, INTERIM FINANCE DIRECTOR
DR. SERBRENIA SIMS, SCPS SUPERINTENDENT
MRS. MELISSA HARVEY, SCPS FINANCE DIRECTOR
MR. STACEY WILLIAMS, PROJECT AND BUILDING MANAGER
MRS. CLAIRE STEEN, DEPUTY REGISTRAR
MRS. VALERIE PIERCE, SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR
MRS. LAJEUNE STONE, YOUTH AND FAMILY RESOURCES DIRECTOR
MRS. LINDA GHOLSTON, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
MR. PANAYIOTIS JABRI, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
MR. RAY PHELPS, EMERGENCY SERVICES DIRECTOR
MR. NATE GOMES, MAINTENACE

Invocation/Call to Order/Moment of Silence/Pledge/Agenda Adoption/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Elliott at 7:00 P.M.

Legal Representative Opening Statement

"This meeting is being held electronically due to the COVID 19 Pandemic which has made it unsafe to assemble in quorum in a single location. The meeting is convened by 'GoToMeeting' as posted on the County's website."

The invocation was given by Minister Charles Stone of Saint Paul's Holiness Church in Dendron, Virginia. Following the invocation, Chairman Elliott led those present in a moment of silence.

Supervisor Calhoun led those present in the pledge of allegiance.



In Memory and Honor of Mr. Kenneth R. Holmes Sr.

1. Resolution 2021-03; Honoring the life of Mr. Kenneth Holmes

Supervisor Lyttle read the prepared Resolution honoring the life of Mr. Kenneth Holmes, Board of Supervisors Member representing the Carsley District.

Consent Items

1. *Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes: March 4, 2020*
2. *Accounts Payable Report: Approval of Payables in the amount of \$219,706.33*
3. *Resolution 2021-04; Surry County Clean Up Month April 2021*
4. *Approval of Contractor to Perform General Reassessment*
5. *Surry County Sheriff's Department Proclamation: Retirement of Lt. John Irons*

*Supervisor Lyttle made a motion to approve the consent items as enumerated. Supervisor Calhoun seconded the motion. The motion was approved during roll call vote. **(Approved)***

SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.	AYE
SUPERVISOR MICHAEL DREWRY	AYE
SUPERVISOR JUDY S. LYTTLE	AYE
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM CALHOUN	AYE

New Business

1. Grant Award and FY2020-21 Budget Appropriation for \$49,608 - Virginia Department of Emergency Management

*Supervisor Drewry made a motion to accept the Grant Award and FY2020-21 Budget Appropriation for \$49,608 as presented. Supervisor Calhoun seconded the motion. The motion was approved during roll call vote. **(Approved)***

SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.	AYE
SUPERVISOR MICHAEL DREWRY	AYE
SUPERVISOR JUDY S. LYTTLE	AYE
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM CALHOUN	AYE



2. Consulting Service; Federal Engineering - County Radio System Upgrades

Supervisor Drewry made a motion to approve the request to procure consulting services from Federal Engineering in relation to necessary County Radio System Upgrades as presented. Supervisor Lyttle seconded the motion. The motion was approved during roll call vote. (Approved)

SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.
SUPERVISOR MICHAEL DREWRY
SUPERVISOR JUDY S. LYTTLE
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM CALHOUN

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Appointments

1. Board of Supervisors, Carsley District

Board Members will discuss the appointment process of a Carsley District representative to the Board of Supervisors during the continued meeting to be held Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

Presentations

1. Surry County Public Schools Superintendent Proposed Budget

Dr. Serbrenia Sims, SCPS Superintendent and Mrs. Melissa Harvey, SCPS Finance Director presented the FY21-22 Surry County Public Schools Superintendent Proposed Budget presentation. (presentation included in agenda packet)

2. Economic Development Update - Verbal, Mr. Jabri

Mr. Yoti Jabri, Economic Development Director informed the Board of multiple Economic Development Updates. (report attached as an integral component of these minutes)



Public Hearing

1. Cavalier Solar LLC

Mr. David Harrison, Deputy County Administrator and Planning and Community Development Director informed the Board of Cavalier Solar LLC's intended project detailed below. Mr. Ben Saunders, Cavalier Solar LLC, was in virtual attendance.

Siting Agreement: Pursuant to Chapter 802 of the 2000 Acts of Assembly (Va. Code Sections 15.2- 2316.6 et seq.), the Surry County Board of Supervisors will hear public comments and consider the terms and conditions of the siting agreement related to the Cavalier Solar Project to be developed on parcels designated as 53-3B, 53-3F, 53-4, 53-5, 53-6, 59-31, 60-1-1, 60-12, 60-17, 60- 20, 60-21, 60-9, 61-1, 61-1-4, 61-1-5, 61-2, 61-2-1, 61-2-2, 61-2-3, 61-2-4, 61-2-5, 61-3, 61-4, 61-5, and consisting of approximately 1,341 acres, whereby the Applicant intends to develop, install, build, and operate a utility scale energy facility. The siting agreement includes terms and conditions to mitigate the impacts of the facility, including financial contributions to address capital needs of the County. The siting agreement may include terms and conditions, including (i) mitigation of any impacts of such solar facility; (ii) financial compensation to the host locality to address capital needs set out in the (a) capital improvement plan adopted by the host locality, (b) current fiscal budget of the host locality, or (c) fiscal fund balance policy adopted by the host locality; or (iii) assistance by the applicant in the deployment of broadband, as defined in § 56-585.1:9, in such locality.

Supervisor Elliott opened the Public Hearing for Public Comments at 8:14 PM.

(All Public Hearing Comments submitted to the Board of Supervisors will be included as an attachment and considered an integral component of these minutes)

Surry District:

1. Harold Jones - for
2. Diane Cheek – against
3. Chelsea Jones – for
4. Vickie Jones - for
5. Elizabeth Pittman – against

Bacons Castle District:

1. C A (Charles) Nuckles – for
2. John Tinge – against
3. Amy Nuckles – for
4. Evelyn Ellis – against
5. Vince Beale – against

Dendron District:

1. Jessica Cunningham – against



Claremont/Spring Grove District

1. KC Hill – against
2. Kenny Pittman – against
3. Susan Corvello – against
4. William Skinner – for

Carsley District

1. Brandon Eggleston - against

Supervisor Elliott closed Public Comments at 8:45 PM.

After discussion, Board Members opted to defer action on the requests made by Cavalier Solar LLC until the next meeting held in May 2021. Cavalier Solar LLC will provide answers to Board Members questions in preparation for the May 6, 2021 meeting.

*Supervisor Drewry made a motion to table Cavalier Solar LLC's presented requests at this time and revisit the request at the May 6, 2021 Board Meeting. Supervisor Lyttle seconded the motion. The motion was approved during roll call vote. **(Approved)***

SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.
SUPERVISOR MICHAEL DREWRY
SUPERVISOR JUDY S. LYTTLE
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM CALHOUN

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Reports

1. LGIP Investment Letter February 2021
(informational only, no action required)
2. Revenue Memo, Mr. Jonathan Judkins, Commissioner of Revenue
(informational only, no action required)

Public Comments

1. Diane Cheek
2. Jeremiah Williams
3. Susan Corvello
4. Amy Drewry



County Administrator's Report

1. Mrs. Melissa Rollins, County Administrator provided Board Members with a monthly County Administrator's Report. *(report attached as an integral component of these minutes)*

Mrs. Melissa Rollins, County Administrator informed Board Members tonight's meeting will be continued to Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. for the purpose of holding a Budget Work Session and discussion of the appointment of a Carsley District Representative to the Board.

Supervisor Drewry made a motion to approve the request to hold a Budget Work Session next Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 6:00 PM as requested. Supervisor Calhoun seconded the motion. The motion was approved during roll call vote. (Approved)

SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.	AYE
SUPERVISOR MICHAEL DREWRY	AYE
SUPERVISOR JUDY S. LYTTLE	AYE
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM CALHOUN	AYE

Mr. Ray Phelps, Emergency Services Director informed the Board of his latest COVID-19 updates and COVID-19 Vaccine information.

For Your Information

1. Windsor Mill Job Fair Flyer
2. Alcohol Awareness Month 2021
3. Child Abuse Prevention Month 2021
4. National Public Health Week 2021



Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, Supervisor Elliott entertained a motion to adjourn. Supervisor Drewry made a motion that the Board adjourns their meeting until Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Lyttle and approved by majority roll call vote.

SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.
SUPERVISOR MICHAEL DREWRY
SUPERVISOR JUDY S. LYTTLE
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM CALHOUN

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Meeting adjourned at 9:22 P.M.

Diane Sheldon <dpsheldon@gmail.com>

Thu 4/1/2021 3:59 PM

Forward

I am writing on behalf of myself, Diane Sheldon - District 4, owner of Hampton Roads Winery and Treasurer of the Surry County Chamber of Commerce to support the AES Cavalier Solar Project. Solar energy is a clean, safe, and renewable source of energy. AES is a current member of the Chamber of Commerce. AES will bring jobs and tax revenue to Surry for many years to come. But most importantly, AES has shown itself to be concerned with the social and economic development of Surry, by reaching out to support local organizations and businesses throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic. AES is a business that Surry should not let get away.

Sincerely,

Diane Sheldon

Hampton Roads Winery

6074 New Design Road

Elberon, VA 23846

(757) 899-0203

(978) 382-0039 (cell)

Brandon Eggleston <bmeegleston04@gmail.com>

Thu 4/1/2021 12:16 PM

Forward

Brandon Eggleston

Carsley district

Questions as followed

1. Who will be paying for the dismantling of these solar farms and how long do they have to complete the process?

2. In reference to question one, are the ones responsible going to be held responsible no matter what? EXAMPLE filing bankruptcy. If not then who will be?
3. What is the actual cost to completely dismantle these farms and is that price locked in or is it likely to double maybe triple by the time the decommission stage starts?
4. What are the long term effects of the solar farms on the land and the environment and what will be done to correct it?
5. How is this helping the people that are living in the affected areas? Will their power bill be cheaper?
6. I do not believe trading this peaceful, scenic, county full of wildlife and mother nature for solar farms that won't be beneficial to this community is a fair trade.

From: "swberryman@aol.com" <swberryman@aol.com>

Date: April 1, 2021 at 10:38:40 AM EDT

To: Robert Elliott <relliott@surrycountyva.gov>, Michael Drewry <mdrewry@surrycountyva.gov>, Timothy Calhoun <tcalhoun@surrycountyva.gov>, Judy Lyttle <jslyttle@surrycountyva.gov>, Comments <comments@surrycountyva.gov>

Subject: Solar Farms

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Steve Berryman of 399 Alliance Road and I am a lifelong resident and farmer in Surry County. I am writing each of you to ask that you vote down tonight's solar project and any other industrial-sized solar projects that come to the county in the near future.

Initially I was willing to give the idea of solar farms a chance but after seeing some of the negative affects of the Spring Grove solar project, I am adamantly against these large projects in Surry County. The current project being built is encompassing a large amount of land in Surry and I don't think it is the right move to ruin thousands more acres. A few weeks ago I visited fellow resident David Shook who has panels built on 3 sides of his property. To say the solar project has negatively affected him would be an understatement. His driveway has washed out multiple times since the solar panels were installed and areas of his property now have standing water causing several trees to die. I know this is just one resident and a small area bordering the panels but I can only imagine what is happening in other areas around the project.

I am definitely not an environmental engineer but I know from working on the land my whole life that the natural landscape of earth sometimes has a hard time dealing with the amount of rainfall that can occur in one event. I believe that by drastically changing the natural landscape and installing these large areas of panels in fields and cleared woods will dramatically increase flooding and runoff in areas around the projects. I don't believe enough retention ponds can be built to catch and hold the water that will

be deflected off the panels. The land will be so compacted from clearing, leveling, and installing the equipment that even less water will be able to be absorbed compared to current conditions. This will lead to more runoff, especially in a 4-5 inch (or more) rain, which we all know happens more frequently now.

I think solar electric generation has a place in this day and time but I think they instead need to be installed in cities or on roof tops. No amount of money is worth Surry County losing this massive amount of farms, forestland, and our rural character.

Respectfully,

Steve Berryman

From: Steven Pittman <itatafarms96@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Apr 1, 2021, 9:51 AM

Subject: Board meeting

To: <jlittle@surrycountyva.gov>

Mrs Little this is Steven Pittman I want to send you my family's concerns on the solar project proposed cavalier project. My family is probably on of the larger adjoining land owner's to this project. We know from study that adjoining land values decline. With my parents in their eighties and we being a family farm are worried if have to sell land my parents worked and payed taxes to county all these year's how will this affect us with taking care of them in future if have to sell land for care. We pride ourselves in farming so the citizens of surry and nation have food. The other is the road from route 10 to berrymans corner White Marsh is barely able to accommodate two cars let alone tractor trailers of the amount this project will entail. The money they are offering for roads will only be a drop in bucket to keep road safe for citizens and power plant workers. Please look at all aspects of this because money is not everything when it come to Surrys citizens and children. Thanks for your time Steven Pittman 757/880/4015

I see no reason not to approve the solar project as will be a great source of revenue for the county ,that could be used for other projects and programs,and maybe keep our taxes from going up.Most of the land they are proposing to obtain is to wet for residential use or is protected wetlands that can't be developed anyway.And it seems that most of the complaints are from people who don't have land near the project,where as I have it on three sides of me. With all the talk about renewable energy and climate change now is the time to act.At first I was against it but the manager of the project Ben Saunders addressed every concern my wife and I had.So I hope the board members will vote to approve the project. Thank You. Jasper Wooten.

e

Nancy Kells McNamara <nancykells@outlook.com>

Wed 3/31/2021 11:48 AM

View with a light background

Reply all

I just wanted to say thank you! Thanks for encouraging people to wear masks. I saw that on your Facebook page today. Also, I just got a card in the mail which allowed me to call to register myself for the vaccine. I was feeling frustrated since my doctor is only doing 65+ and I haven't been able to get one at CVS due to not being over 65 or in school staff so I really appreciate you all doing what's best for the county and helping us by getting us the vaccine. I registered today and wish I had known about the event today to have registered in time to get my appointment today, but I'm grateful I'm at least on my way to getting one finally. I have terrible asthma and on 3 different prescriptions for it so it's serious and I am a health risk. I feared our county would be like so many rural counties in this country who are often last on the list for things to get to us. Thanks for taking the initiative. I appreciate it!

-Nancy Kells McNamara

Carsley, VA

From: Sam Edwards <sedwards@edwardsvaham.com>

Date: March 30, 2021 at 3:51:49 PM EDT

To: Melissa Rollins <mrollins@surrycountyva.gov>, David Harrison <dharrison@surrycountyva.gov>, Panayiotis Jabri <yjabri@surrycountyva.gov>

Subject: In favor of solar farms

Here are some facts about the AES Cavalier Solar Project:

The project will be one of the largest taxpayers in the county just behind the Nuclear power plant.

The project will provide a new source of local revenue without increasing any county costs, school enrollment, or placing demand on local infrastructure.

The project will be screened by either existing vegetation, or, where it does not already exist. AES is going above county requirements by planting more evergreens than needed to ensure the project will be well screened.

Cavalier Solar will generate \$16.7 Million in revenue for Surry County over the life of the 35 year project. If the property were to remain as is, it would generate just over \$500 thousand for Surry County over the same time period. Cavalier Solar will pay to Surry County 33 times the revenue as would be paid if the project site remained unchanged.

Cavalier Solar will not require investment by the County—it will not increase demand on schools or area infrastructure. In fact, because the project will be required to repair any damage to area roadways caused by traffic associated with the project, the project is likely to improve local infrastructure at no cost to the county.

The workers hired to construct Cavalier will support the local economy by spending their money in area businesses.

Per Cavalier Solar this is how they will address the following concerns:

Decommissioning

Q. How can the county be certain that the panels will be removed at the end of the project's life?

A. Shutting down operations and removing the facilities, including all solar panels and platforms, and returning the site to usable condition, is a process called "decommissioning." This is a critical aspect of any solar project and it is regulated by Virginia law. AES is required to submit a decommissioning plan and bond to both counties. Decommissioning requirements will be included in the county permits.

Road conditions

Q. Road conditions are important. How do you make sure our roads will be in as good or better condition once construction is complete?

A. We work with state and local authorities to ensure that road conditions are not impacted by construction vehicles. Before any work is started, we have the roads assessed to determine the condition of the roads, bridges and culverts we will use, and which need to be improved before work can begin. We then meet with the entity responsible for maintenance of the road, usually the state or county, to review our findings and ensure no information is missing. Improvements made to the roads are paid for by AES, formerly sPower.

The document detailing the road conditions before work begins is essential because it is used by us, the county and state to determine to what extent construction vehicles have impacted the roads. AES is fully responsible for paying for the repair of all damage to area roads caused by our use of the roads.

Edwards is in favor of solar farms in SURRY County.

Samuel W Edwards III

S. Wallace Edwards & Sons, Inc.

757-650-8182

From: Emily Seward <seward9310@gmail.com>

Date: March 31, 2021 at 8:01:43 AM EDT

To: Ben Saunders <ben.saunders@spower.com>, Comments <comments@surrycountyva.gov>, David Harrison <dharrison@surrycountyva.gov>, Judy Lyttle <jslyttle@surrycountyva.gov>, Michael Drewry <mdrewry@surrycountyva.gov>, Melissa Rollins <mrollins@surrycountyva.gov>, relliot@surrycounty.gov

Subject: Re: Public Comment for BOSM-4-1-2021

We write to you today, to express our support of the Cavalier Solar project currently being planned for development in Surry and Isle of Wight Counties.

Our involvement with this project began only after careful consideration of the benefits Cavalier Solar would bring to us and our communities.

Solar Power is not a new technology. There are a great number of facilities

in operation throughout our country and abroad and many of those have been producing solar energy for decades. There is an abundance of information and research materials available from the United States and Europe showing solar energy facilities to be reliable, cost effective, and safe.

Cavalier Solar is committed to building a facility that will be a good neighbor, blend in, and not detract from our natural surroundings. The facility will not be seen or heard and there will be no pollutants released. There is often terrible flooding on Beechland Road and White Marsh Road near the project site. Cavalier Solar has offered to add these problem areas, outside of the projected solar facility site, to its own storm water system, effectively eliminating this problem.

Over the last few years, we have had interactions with numerous representatives from Cavalier Solar and always found they genuinely care about making this project a benefit to our community. As lifelong residents of Surry and Isle of Wight, we know there is a great need for the tax revenue and the temporary as well as permanent jobs generated by this project. The skill set acquired by our county residents who participate in the construction of the facility will be invaluable and easily translated into future employment opportunities since there are and will be numerous solar projects planned for construction in Southeastern Virginia in the coming years.

Because of the proximity to the Dominion Septa Substation and the sparsely populated nature of this part of the county, Surry County can reap substantial financial rewards for decades to come. Therefore, we see no negatives to this opportunity that Cavalier Solar presents to the county.

In closing, we cannot overstate the importance of replacing the use of fossil fuels with clean, cost efficient solar generated power. Our community can give our future generations a healthier world in which to live.

We thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Michael and Emily Seward

Economic Development Report

Good Evening Chairman Dr Elliott, Board Members, Mrs. Rollins, and others joined with us virtually. Thank you for letting me speak this evening. I will give a quick Economic Development Report.

Ambassador Program Launch:

We have launched our first Surry County Ambassador Program. This program allows individuals who are passionate about the advancement of Surry County the ability to advocate on the county's behalf. Ambassadors will engage with state and federal government officials, chambers of commerce, regional organizations, community development partners, developers, hospitals, universities, and tourism agencies to advocate for Surry County's goals and initiatives.

Tourism Video:

We are scheduled to begin filming of our very first Tourism video which will highlight tourist attractions and businesses within our VTC Wanderlove Campaign. We are planning for this to be completed and begin marketing in the Summer reaching our top target markets of Richmond, Hampton Roads and the DC area. I have to commend Mrs. Berhausen, our Tourism Coordinator, as she won the VTC Tourism Recovery Grant to complete this.

Commercial Prospect:

We have a very exciting commercial prospect who has signed a purchase agreement within the Town of Surry. At this time, I cannot disclose more details per the buyer's request. This is a step in the direction that aligns with our Comprehensive Plan to take steps in the revitalization of our downtown.

Farmers' Market: We are working with Mrs. White from the Virginia Cooperative Extension, and Mr. Jones, from Parks and Rec, to bring more visitors and vendors to our Farmers' Market by aligning County Events and activities to bolster Agrotourism as well.

Business Roundtable: We plan to have a Virtual Business Roundtable on May 11th at 12pm during the National Economic Development and Tourism Weeks to highlight what Economic Development and Tourism is, current projects and goals in the future. We invite all county businesses to attend. More information to come on the event soon.

Broadband: The Broadband Update Meeting that was held on March 16 is now available on our website for those that could not attend. We want to thank PGEC for taking the time out to thoroughly explaining the project.

I will now go over the PGEC RURALBAND Report. PGECE has passed a total of 2079 homes, they have 68 pending applications, with 664 homes connected and 447 poles replaced with 15 new applications for the month of March.

I also wanted to share to the public the Emergency Broadband Relief Fund that the Federal government has available to citizens which allows those qualified individuals to apply for subsidiary assistance for broadband service. Those wanting to apply are to contact your local Internet Service Provider to begin that process.

VEDA Award:

Surry County was 1 out of 3 localities statewide to win a VEDA Community Economic Development award. The video acceptance including some of our Board of Supervisors, Administrator and PGECE was aired at the Statewide VEDA Spring Conference. A press release as you have in your packet was also sent out by VEDA to congratulate the winners on this award. We have been given many kudos by state and local officials. And, Kudos again to leadership in taking on this project for the betterment of our community and economic well-being.

And that concludes my report.

Thank you

County Administrator's Update – April 1, 2021

Good evening members of the Board of Supervisors and citizens of Surry County:

Congressman McEachin's office has advised that the Committee on Appropriations [announced](#) that they will be accepting requests for Community Project Funding in appropriations bills for the upcoming fiscal year and have met with localities to discuss the opportunity to submit projects for the bill. Staff is diligently working to carefully vet this request, to hear from the Board and to put together the appropriate resolution at the next continued meeting to forward to Congressman McEachin's office before April 9th.

As you are aware the new American Rescue Plan will provide additional federal income stream to localities. OF the 65 billion approved for counties, Surry County is slated to receive about \$1.2 million. The funding is being provided to aid county governments in recovering from a combined demand for services during the Pandemic and reduced revenues during the resulting economic downturn. Will be waiting on Treasury Guidance.

- Community Announcements: Huge participation at the events this past weekend with Social Services sponsorship of the pre-easter parade and the giveaway of the Nintendo devices to Surry County youth which was made possible via donations from community organizations. This was followed up with the free meal giveaway from Nixon's on the following Sunday with over 200 meals served.
 - April 19, Windsor Mill Job Fair from 10:00 to 2:00 p.m. on site.
 - April is Child Abuse Awareness Month, Alcohol Awareness Month and National Public Safety Week is April 5-11. These proclamations are included in the agenda material and we want to respectively bring awareness to these important initiatives impacting the health, safety and welfare of the community.
 - We are safely moving toward some departmental activities; Spring Soccer is being planned under guidelines.

- April is also Clean County Month: Citizens are asked to clean up, spruce up, and beautify their properties and the roadsides of the county during the month of April 2021. The County Solid Waste Collection Crews will provide special refuse collection containers at the following locations and times for citizens to dispose of appliances, furniture, yard debris, and scrap building material. April 10th Date & Time: 9:00am—1:00pm 9:00am—1:00pm 9:00am—1:00pm 9:00am—1:00pm Location: Bacons Castle Grocery (Rt 10 & Rt 617) Old L.P. Jackson School Site Goodson Path Collection Site (Rt 10 West) Mantura Collection Site (Rt 10 East) Employees will be cleaning alongside Colonial Trail west on April 30th. If you are a citizen group or business, tell us about your cleanup efforts, we would love to share what you are doing on our social media and website platforms and to recognize your efforts at a future BOS meeting. Send it to Lauren Chapman. Earth Day is April 22nd and VA Cooperative Extension will be taking part in community cleanup activities.

April 24th 9:00am—1:00pm 9:00am—1:00pm 9:00am—1:00pm 9:00am—1:00pm Claremont Fire Station (28 Mystic Ave.) Pineview Road Collection Site (off Rt 40) Claremont Beach Villa Road Goodson Path Collection Site (Rt 10 West)

Project Updates –

- The electric messaging signs for the government center will be finished soon; the footing work has started for the brick work to commence on next week. **The mobile signs for Claremont, Surry and Dendron were delivered to the Government Center and the Town of Dendron has taken their sign off our hands.**
- Budget: Ms. Swindell and I after having met with department heads have been working on the FY 21-22 budget in preparation of getting a proposed Administrator’s recommendation to you. It has been a challenging task and I know that we have much to deliberate as we continue through our work sessions. Per the budget schedule, we have a work session for April 8th and April 15th. Chairman Elliott, if the Board will continue this meeting until the April 8th for the presentation and discussion that would be helpful and the time per the calendar is 600 p.m.

April 8, 2021 ⁽¹⁾	Thursday	• 6:00 P.M. - Budget Work session #1 with the Board of Supervisors
April 15, 2021 ⁽¹⁾	Thursday	• 6:00 P.M. - Budget Work session #2 with the Board of Supervisors
April 16, 2021	Friday	• Release Advertisement for Public Hearing to the Local Paper
April 21, 2021	Wednesday	• FY 21-22 Proposed Budget is Published in the Local Paper
		•
May 6, 2021	Thursday	• Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting • Board of Supervisors Conducts Public Hearing on the FY 21-22 Proposed Budget
May 11, 2021 ⁽¹⁾	Tuesday	• 6:00 P.M. – Budget Work Session #3 with the Board of Supervisors (if needed)
May 13, 2021	Thursday	• 7:00 P.M. Board of Supervisors considers action on FY 21-22 Budget, sets tax rates and adopts Budget Resolutions

Unity in the Community at Work – It has been wonderful to continue to see the outpouring of support and volunteerism from the community. We have had great success with the vaccination clinics. The hard work by Mr. Phelps and his team on the coordination, planning and execution of the clinics has not gone unnoticed and while you Board members and citizens have expressed gratitude, and we are also receiving kudos from outside of the community from those who have seen or heard about our operations in Surry County. I have participated in a news podcast about vaccination efforts in rural communities and have bragged about Surry County. Cannot go without again thanking Prince George County, Mr. Percy Ashcroft County Administrator and his call center team for taking hundreds of calls from Surry Citizens! Not being placed in a que or a voice mail but personal connection during this time.

Lastly Board members, It was 113 years ago April 2, 1908 that the nations first Board/Council-Manager form of government was enacted in Staunton, VA and nine years ago, the General Assembly adopted their first week of April in recognition of the 1908 act and work of local governments as local government education week.

Staff Announcements: It is wonderful to receive comments from citizens about the great job that employees are doing. Mr. Emily Matthews from a citizen who spoke about her care and compassion for animals and her job during a recent response for animal control assistance; Mr. Epps, Solid Waste Attendant for his diligence in assisting residents. Ms. Chapman and Mr. Slade for quick and responsive action to a trash situation at Surry Seafood. Anytime a citizen takes the extra time to send in a note of thanks, it is a good thing for the

team and for the County. A return phone call at the end of the day, a citizen complimented Ms. Frances Bailey in Planning & Community Development in the performance of her duties.

April 1, 2021
Dianne Cheek
Surry District
757-817-3033

The agreement with Cavalier Solar Farm and Surry County should not be approved. There is still much work to be performed before this project can even be considered as a good candidate for Surry County. There is considerable discontent in the county with how the Strata solar farm was handled. Understanding and addressing issues from this first project is an essential step the county must take before agreeing to more projects. The County needs to work with citizens to better understand if this type of industry is even desired. The 2040 Comprehensive Plan gives very high-level guidance on solar industry in Surry. There is also a Surry Solar Farm Ordinance. Both documents, although a good start, are not adequate for what is needed for Surry to make informed decisions for implementing solar industries in the County. We need to do our own internal work to develop strategic plans for where the best locations would be for solar industries in our county. Right now, companies are telling us where they will be located. Companies are looking at areas that best suit their needs. They are not looking at our community's needs. We have to establish what our county wants and then we are in a position to negotiate agreements with these industries.

The agreement presented tonight is a wonderful example of why Surry has more work to do before we can even consider more solar farm industries in our county. In reviewing this agreement several questions arise. For example, what is the basis the county requires to be addressed in the determination of the decommissioning costs? What considerations are related to the landowner for decommissioning? What is the county's position on revenue sharing and how does the county determine what revenue sharing dollar amount is best for our county? It appears this agreement is offering revenue sharing payments without a county ordinance and an additional \$500K to seal the deal tonight. Accepting this amount tonight could result in a 20% reduction in the payment amounts according to the state code. Additionally, why would our county agree to remove the benefit of its own planning commission from this process? According to state code, a special exemption permit would be needed. What is the basis for this special exemption?

When it comes to rezoning 4,328 acres of land, why would the county agree to a CUP when so many questions remain unanswered for items such as fire and safety planning, road usage and repair plans, community acceptance, adequate screening, stormwater management, independent assessment of financial benefits/impacts, and impacts to surrounding property values?

All good negotiations begin when both parties know their needs. Our county needs to develop its position before it is ready to negotiate. Only after the county has adequately identified its requirements, can we be assured that the county's needs will be met.