Buckingham County Planning Commission Monthly Meeting Packet



### February 22, 2021



Buckingham County Planning Commission Agenda Monday, February 22, 2021 7:00PM County Administration Building Peter Francisco Meeting Room <u>www.buckinghamcountyva.org</u>

# The meeting is open to the general public but due to social distancing limiting the number of people the room can accommodate to approximately 20 people, you may view the meeting by logging on to <a href="https://youtu.be/r1g1eHqfoTs">https://youtu.be/r1g1eHqfoTs</a>

1. Callto Order by Planning Commission Chairman

Invocation Pledge of Allegiance Establishment of Quorums

- 2. Adoption of Agenda
- 3. Approval of Minutes
  - a. January 11, 2021 Joint Public Hearing
  - b. January 25, 2021 Regular Meeting
- 4. Public Comment
- 5. New Business
  - 1. Introduction of Case 21-SUP282 John Wicks
- 6. Old Business
  - No Old Business at this time
- 7. Reports
  - A. Building Permits Report
  - B. Zoning Administrator Report
- 8. Commission Matters and Concerns
- 9. Adjournment

In response to the COVID-19 epidemic, Public Comments AND Public Hearing Comments for Buckingham County Planning Commission Meetings and Hearings will be received using the following methods:

1. Written comments may be mailed to the Planning Commission at PO Box 252 Buckingham, VA 23921. Please limit word count to 500 words.

2. Emailed comments may be sent to <u>publiccomments@buckinghamcounty.virginia.gov</u>. Please limit word count to 500 words.

3. Telephone voicemail comments may be left to be played to the board by calling 434-969-5039

4. To appear virtually to the Planning Commission for comments please email <u>publiccomments@buckinghamcounty.virginia.gov</u>. You will receive notice with the link and/or telephone number necessary to connect virtually during the meeting.

5. In person Public Comments will be permitted by signing up (signup sheet) to speak prior to the beginning of the meeting

Please note: Please state your name, district, address, and which hearing you are commenting on. The three (3) minute rule will apply to public comments. All correspondence must be received only by the methods above, and are due by 12:00 PM the day of the meeting.

\*In person attendance will be permitted at this meeting per the Governor's Safer at Home Phase Two Guidelines for All Business Sectors.

#### Buckingham County Board of Supervisors January 11, 2021 Monthly Meeting

At a regular monthly meeting of the Buckingham County Board of Supervisors held on Monday, January 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Peter Francisco Auditorium of the Buckingham County Administration Complex, the following members were present: Dennis Davis; Donald E. Bryan; Don R. Matthews; T. Jordan Miles, III; Harry W. Bryant, Jr.; Joe N. Chambers, Jr.; and Danny R. Allen. Also present were Rebecca S. Carter, County Administrator; Karl Carter, Asst. County Administrator; Cheryl T. "Nicci" Edmondston, Zoning Administrator; E.M. Wright, Jr., County Attorney; Cody R. Davis, Emergency Services Manager and Jamie Shumaker, IT Manager.

#### Re: Call to Order

County Administrator Carter called the meeting to order.

#### Re: Establishment of a Quorum

County Administrator Carter certified there was a quorum. Seven of seven members were present and the meeting could continue.

#### Re: Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Chambers gave the invocation and called for a moment of silence in honor of Robert C. "Bobby" Jones. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all who were in attendance.

#### Re: Confirmation of 2021 Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

**Carter:** The first item of business for our first business meeting of the year is for the confirmation of the 2021 Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. We would need a motion to confirm you all have a schedule you us, we would need a motion to confirm Supervisor Don Matthews as the 2021 Chairman of the Board. Thank you, Mr. Bryant for your service last year.

#### <u>Supervisor Bryan moved, Supervisor Miles seconded and was unanimously carried by the</u> <u>Board to appoint Supervisor Matthews as the 2021 Chairman of the Board.</u>

**Matthews**: Well, this is a new situation for me and I'd just like to thank the other Board members for having the insight six years ago, to start a rolling inventory of board chairman's year by year instead of doing it consecutively. And I think, you know, everything has gone pretty smooth over the last six years with that particular way of doing things. There's a couple things I'd like to just speak on for just a second and we're gonna get started with the rest of the meeting. You know, of course, everybody understands that 2020 has been an exceptional year and, in my opinion, I think the Board of Supervisors has done an exceptional job. This year, just a couple

things, in hindsight that has gotten accomplished during 2020. The first thing, the most important thing last year, when this pandemic started, the Board had the knowledge and the I guess the guts to give the citizens of Buckingham County a reduced tax rate of three cents, which a lot of people said we couldn't do it. But with the help of maybe the best County Administrator in the State of Virginia, we got that accomplished. And one of the other things was having Firefly Broadband begin their five year rollout of high speed internet across Buckingham, and that actually started in District 3 which is my district and without the help of Central Virginia Electric Cooperative, we couldn't have gotten that done. Also strengthening and assuring the quality control of our of our emergency management service which means the operations by investing, and creating a better and more professional infrastructure without increasing taxes. That was really a huge step that the county took on. And, again, that goes back to our EMS Services Director, which is Cody Davis and of course, the rest of our staff, Mrs. Carter and Karl Carter. It was just a great team effort. There was also the sale of the former Gold Hill Elementary School to David and Ramona Christian, bringing in several \$100,000, which will bring in jobs and more industry in Buckingham County. That's another big thing. All this stuff occurred in the year 2020 now guys, with the pandemic, at the head of all this stuff. Giving bonuses to our public school employees, along with our county staff, creation of the new Anti-Litter Task Force committee to clean up our roadways, create the Economic Development Committee to bring more jobs into Buckingham supporting our public school in many ways, including investing about \$100,000 in hotspots for the students for remote use across the county. I mean, that was, in my opinion, that was one of the biggest things this Board has ever done for our public schools. We allotted at least \$180,000 in CARES Act funding to small businesses and nonprofits who demonstrated losses due to COVID-19. We distributed hundreds of health equity packages to residents. We also had an appointment to the Virginia Tobacco Commission, which we've never had from Buckingham County to my knowledge and that's Jordan Miles. And I just want to congratulate him on that. And I'm sure he's gonna look after the best interests of the citizens of Buckingham County. And last but not least, the completion of the library and community center, which has been a long time coming. But in my opinion, and I've said this from day one, that's the best location in the county for what it's doing. And it's gonna really service a lot of things for the citizens, the seniors, the youth, right on down the line, and I'd be so proud of that. And it was kind of a pet project of mine. So, but I look for bigger and better things in 2021 folks. It's gonna get better. But you know, 2020 was a was a heck of a year, but 2021 I'm really being positive about that. So thanks for everything everybody does. And I want to thank this Board. You know, this Board has really worked as a good team. And a lot of times we don't always agree. But we're able to talk about it and get things done. And that's really what the nuts and bolts are about, you know, in my opinion.

Bryan: We agree to disagree.

Matthews: Exactly. All right. All right. So let's move forward.

#### Re: Confirmation of 2021 Vice Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

**Bryan**: Mr. Chairman, I move that we continue with the rotation and nominate Jordan Miles as the Vice Chairman to the Board of Supervisors.

Chambers: Second.

### Supervisor Bryan moved, Supervisor Chambers seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to appoint Supervisor Miles as 2021 Vice Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.

Miles: Thank you, Donnie. Good to serve with you all.

#### Re: Approval of Agenda

**Bryan:** I move, Mr. Chairman, with the exception of considering the appointment to the Planning Commission for District 6. It looks like that's an add on. From the original agenda published. That will be an add on.

Miles: I'll second that, Mr. Chairman.

## Supervisor Bryan moved, Vice Chairman Miles seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to approve the agenda with the addendum of Appointment of Planning Commission member for District 6.

#### **Re:** Approval of Minutes

Miles: So moved. Mr. Chairman.

Bryan: I'll second

Matthews: Call for the vote.

### Vice Chairman Miles moved, Supervisor Bryan seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to approve the minutes of the December 14 and 21<sup>st</sup> meetings as presented.

#### **Re:** Approval of Claims

Bryan: So moved, Mr. Chairman.

Chambers: Second.

<u>Supervisor Bryan moved, Supervisor Chambers seconded and was unanimously carried by the</u> <u>Board to approve the claims as presented.</u>

#### Re: Approval of By-Laws and Rules of Procedure

Miles: I move that we approve the By-Laws and Rules of Procedures, Mr. Chairman.

Allen: Second.

Matthews: Call for the vote.

<u>Vice Chairman Miles moved, Supervisor Allen seconded and was unanimously carried by the</u> <u>Board to approve the By-Laws and Rules of Procedures as presented.</u>

**Re:** Announcements

There were none.

**Re:** Public Comments

There were none.

Re: Joint Public Hearing with the Planning Commission regarding an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to 1. Add "Registered Commercial Prospecting" as a use by right to A-1, M-1, and M-2 Zoning Districts and 2. Define "Registered Commercial Prospecting" as the exploration for the material, including but not limited to, mineral, stone, gas, or rock for commercial purposes, by drilling, excavating, or other land disturbing activity for commercial purposes by an entity that has provided the following information to the Zoning Administrator: Name, Contact Information, Location of Prospecting, Method of Prospecting and Length of time for the activity, etc.

Matthews: I'm gonna turn it over to Mr. Bowe.

**Bowe:** The Planning Commission is reconvened from the December 28 meeting for the purpose of a joint public hearing with the Board of Supervisors. Establishing a quorum. We have 4 in person and 2 on the zoom.

Matthews: I want to open the public hearing on behalf of the Board of Supervisors.

Bowe: And I'll open it for the Planning Commission for the public hearing.

Lann: Okay, we have one on zoom. We have 25 emails. We have one presentation and 11 voicemails. So Kenda Hanuman is on Zoom.

**Hanuman:** Okay, Kenda Hanuman, District 5. I ask why are we here today? Last June, Mrs. Edmondston was alerted to the Canadian gold prospecting company, Aston Bay Holdings drilling for gold on properties on Warminster Road. Her investigation led to the decision that this was an unpermitted activity and therefore prohibited. Thomas Ullrich, the CEO was contacted

and directed to stop. Five months later, we're here today talking generally about commercial prospecting. Do you really believe that this is not about gold mining? Please deny the addition of commercial prospecting in A-1, M-1 and M-2 zones as a by right property use. Your vote for this opens the door to gold mining, poly metallic mineral and cyanide leaching mining in Buckingham County. Thank you.

Lann: Okay, now we have emails.

**Gottlieb:** My name is Barbara Gottlieb. I am the Program Director for Environment & Health at Physicians for Social Responsibility, a nationwide nonprofit organization directed by physicians. On behalf of our hundreds of members in the Commonwealth of Virginia, I urge you to deny the addition of commercial prospecting in A1, M1, and M2 zones as a by-right use. Approval of prospecting puts Buckingham County at risk for gold mining, poly-metallic mineral and cyanide leaching mining.

Mining is an inherently contaminating process. The US EPA, which tracks hazardous releases from industrial sectors, has repeatedly found mining to be the sector with the **largest volume of hazardous releases** due to the large volume of wastes generated. In gold mining, about 95% of excavated material is mine waste; less than 5% is gold.

Most gold mining in the U.S. uses cyanide leaching technology. After the ore is excavated and crushed, cyanide solution is percolated through it to dissolve the gold. The cyanide solution reaches the liner system and runs into a pond. The result is a slurry of crushed rock, water, and residue from processing chemicals. These "mine tailings" are deposited behind earthen and rock dams.

Mine tailings and their toxic constituents do not always stay in place. A 2017 report by the nonprofit organization Earthworks found that 100% of then-operating gold mines in the U.S. experienced at least one pipeline spill or other accidental release; 74% failed to control contaminated mine seepage; 74% resulted in water quality impacts. This happens despite having liner systems in place. Liners break down over time.

Buckingham County could face spills or other accidental releases of cyanide solution; other mineral leaching; and acid mine drainage.

- **Cyanide** as you know is toxic: High exposure levels result in convulsions, unconsciousness and death.
- With **leaching**, other materials excavated with the gold join the large volumes of mine waste. When rain or snow seep through the waste, they can carry those substances into groundwater or streams. They may carry mercury and lead, both of which are toxic to the nervous system and brain. Exposure during gestation, infancy, or childhood can cause developmental delays and abnormalities, reduced IQ and mental retardation, and behavioral problems. That's a terrible thing to do to your children.
- Acid mine drainage occurs when sulfite minerals like pyrite are dug up, then exposed to air and water, forming sulfuric acid. Sulfuric acid dissolves other minerals in the soil; these can run into nearby streams or rivers. The acidity is toxic to fish and aquatic life; the dissolved minerals can harm humans. Acid mine drainage can continue for hundreds of years and is expensive to treat.

Cyanide leaching operations cause significant harm to surface water and groundwater. Your streams, ground water, wells and the James River can all be harmed. So can your air quality, wildlife, vegetation, landscape, people and economy. It's not worth it. Please reject mining and prospecting. Thank you.

Jeff Perkins, Boxley: Ladies and gentlemen, I submit these comments as President of Boxley Materials Company and as President, Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance concerning Buckingham County's unprecedented effort in the Commonwealth of Virginia to restrict the rights of property owners to conduct basic geotechnical investigations on their property. As you are aware Boxley owns and operates a quarry in Buckingham County and provides employment to 30 professionals from Buckingham County as well as 7 employees from surrounding counties. Boxley believes that the changes to the zoning ordinance that the County is contemplating are contrary to Virginia law, not used by any other municipality in Virginia and will cause unintended impacts detrimental to the county and its residents. Boxley supports VTCA's position on this issue. The contemplated changes to the zoning ordinance for registered commercial prospecting are not found anywhere else in Virginia and are so overbroad as to improperly restrict the property rights of every citizen and every business looking to relocate to Buckingham County. The proposed language will negatively impact any type of future growth in the county. The definition of "the exploration for the material... for commercial purposes" is so broad as it will include every potential development activity of a property and any contemplated activity could be impacted by this change. Making these changes could adversely affect future Boxley business opportunities, thus restricting employment growth opportunities and future tax revenue growth for the county. Boxley strongly opposes the contemplated changes to the Buckingham County zoning ordinance. Respectfully, Jeff Perkins

**Carlton Brooks**: I am writing to comment on Buckingham County's plan to amend the Zoning Ordinance to allow "registered commercial prospecting" by right in the A1, M1, and M2 Zoning District. As I read the proposed ordinance, its parameters are too broad. It would allow, not only exploration, but also "drilling, excavation, or land disturbing activity for commercial purposes." While the ordinance was originally limited to "exploration" it now can be interpreted to mean the actual activity of mining itself, since mining can and would include "drilling, excavation and land disturbing activity." I feel the ordinance should be limited to by-right exploration only. Any other activity, such as drilling, excavation, or land disturbance should not be by right. It should be allowed under some more stringent permitting process that requires the applicant to explain in detail what type of mining is contemplated, and that this permit be approved not just by the Zoning Administrator, but by the elected Board of Supervisors after proper public hearings. I respectfully request that the Board of Supervisors <u>not approve</u> the Zoning Ordinance Revision as written. Thank you for your consideration of this request. Carlton P. Brooks **Constance Ober:** To the Buckingham Board of Supervisors, I wish to register my absolute opposition to the proposed zoning amendment that would allow registered commercial prospecting in A-1 zoning districts in our county. If prospecting is a use by right in an agricultural district, then those of us in the farming community would constantly be concerned that the drilling, excavation, and land disturbing activity could affect our farming operations. In addition, if the exploration proves fruitful and a mining operation is started within the A-1 district, the environmental impact would definitely be huge and completely detrimental to our livelihood and the value of our homes. Thank you for your consideration of my opinion.

**David Perry:** Dear Planning Commission Members. The mission of the Central Virginia Land Conservancy is "We protect the lands and waters you love, forever." As the only private, nonprofit land conservancy that works in Buckingham County, we have concerns about the potential impact of gold mining and prospecting in the county. Open pit mines leave permanent scars on the land, rendering it not only unsightly but unusable for farming or forestry. Low-grade ore generates tremendous amounts of waste that must be dealt with by the community for generations to come. Problems with spills, wastewater and tailings can pollute Buckingham County's water supply, permanently ruin fish and wildlife habitat and harm the health of the citizens of the county. We hope that you will consider these very serious and permanent consequences before making any changes to the county's zoning ordinance. Sincerely, David C. Perry, Executive Director, Central Virginia Land Conservancy

**Dr. Prem Anjali:** To the Buckingham Board of Supervisors & the Planning Commission: As a 40+ year resident of this beautiful county, I thank you for this opportunity to express my concerns. It is extremely distressing and puzzling to me that our county is considering allowing gold mining. While it is true that there is already mining in our county, gold mining is different and of deep concern due to the unique dangers it presents. We are currently in a climate emergency in this country and our world. Why add to this? What is the necessity to have gold mining here with its proven dangers? Core drilling not only has been shown to permanently scar the landscape, it also includes the destruction of ecosystems, biodiversity, water table disruption, and more. Then, there is the most concerning aspect, which is the toxic pollution from mine waste stemming from this type of drilling and mining of gold. Why should the citizens of our county be exposed to these dangers? The data on the dangers of this type of mining is welldocumented. Please avail yourselves of this information about the destruction and harm of this gold mining that it has been shown to create and protect us, the citizens of Buckingham County. Respectfully I would remind you that you are tasked with protecting our health, safety, and the wellbeing of this land we gratefully live on, the water we use, and the air we breathe. We count on you for this protection and to be our advocates. Thank you for listening to my concerns. Sincerely, Dr. Prem Anjali

**George M. Neall, III:** I'm a retired mining engineer (B.S.; M.S.; P.E.) living on a small farm in Virginia. I have worked in underground copper, limestone, and coal mines, all of which harmed the environment. I left the mining industry in 1985 for a number of reasons, not the least of which was the environmental damage mining causes. Mining is the reaping of depletable resources. Once a resource has been depleted, mining ceases, leaving behind many mining related problems. Mining can be done in a more environmentally friendly manner, however, this

almost never happens because it's more profitable for mining companies to externalize environmental and social justice costs. Mining never improves our water, air or topsoil, our most valuable resources. It always negatively impacts them. Mines and other businesses are permitted by law to discharge "allowable concentrations" of chemicals and toxins into our water, air and soil. Allowable concentrations typically exceed those that are naturally occurring and may include chemicals and toxins that were not in naturally occurring water. This is akin to someone cutting off a few of your fingers or toes to eat because they are hungry! You don't need all of them to survive. Our most valuable resources are sustainable provided we care for them properly. Mining is not sustainable and places stressors on these sustainable resources, making them less productive. Gold mining is especially harmful because huge tonnages are mined and crushed to flour-like consistency to recover the minute gold particles. It's not unusual for such an operation to mine more than 100 tons of ore to yield one ounce of gold. The waste, the other 99.9%, is deposited in huge piles euphemistically called "tailings storage facilities," or TSFs for short. The waste is not just "stored" there. It's permanently left in place. TSFs, which are permanent structures, will require perpetual maintenance, an externalized cost. Even with the best of maintenance, TSFs slowly erode, grain by grain. Unfortunately, they catastrophically fail all too often, as demonstrated by the Mt. Polley disaster and the compendium of world tailings disasters. Mining is not compatible with the rural lifestyle of Buckingham County or with the First Nations people in Alaska and Canada. It would degrade the environment and harm sustainable resources. Mineral exploration, a prelude to mining, can include activities like core drilling, other exploratory drilling, test pits, exploratory shafts and tunnels, geochemical analyses and geophysical methods. To allow any of these exploration methods to take place while not wanting the actual mining to take place makes no sense, perhaps with the exception of a national emergency. A corporation wishing to make a profit is not a national emergency! I am opposed to gold mining operations, like the Pebble Mine in Alaska and the proposed mine in Buckingham County, Virginia. In a democracy, any type of mining should not take place if most people are against it. It should be a simple task to assess whether the majority of people in Buckingham County is for or against such a mine.

Glenn Cobb: Dear Members of the Buckingham County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors. My name is Glenn Cobb and I am the manager of Government Affairs for Vulcan Materials Company in Virginia. I have been following your attempts to address concerns regarding core drilling and related activities in the County that a few people have expressed objection to. While I appreciate the apparent concerns expressed, I am more concerned with the contemplated actions being discussed. As an operator of a quarry in Buckingham County, we encourage you to not make the proposed changes to the "allowable uses" by defining "registered Commercial Prospecting" in A1, M1 and M2 zoned property. It is a normal course of our business to develop soil profiles of property we own, as well as property we are contemplating buying. Further, developing soil analyses of properties is commonly used to site buildings, homes, septic fields and other day to day activities that go along with owning or looking to purchase property. Our concern is that these new changes will limit the ability of our company to continue to make educated plans concerning property and will also have a chilling effect on property purchases throughout the County. We appreciate your efforts to address the concerns of a few of your citizens, but we believe your current ordinance offers plenty of notification and opportunities for citizen input without the potential negative effects of stalling property transfers

and property improvements, both of which need to be encouraged for the good of the citizens of Buckingham County, not discouraged. Thank you for your consideration of our comments. Glenn Cobb, Manager, Government Affairs and Community Relations, Northern Region, Vulcan Materials Company

Gordon Dixon: Ladies and Gentlemen, I write to you as counsel to [Executive Director of] the Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance concerning Buckingham County's unprecedented effort in the Commonwealth of Virginia to restrict the rights of property owners to conduct basic geotechnical investigations on their property. VTCA believes that the changes to the zoning ordinance that the County is contemplating are contrary to Virginia law, not used by any other municipality in Virginia and will cause unintended impacts detrimental to the County and its residents. VTCA contractors, architects, engineers, consultants, suppliers seeking to improve transportation in the Commonwealth, and its members represent over 90% of the state's aggregate production, which is the largest mined resource in Virginia. Our members include important job creators throughout Virginia, including companies owning land, operating businesses, and employing citizens in Buckingham County such as Boxley Materials Company and Vulcan Materials Company. The contemplated changes to the zoning ordinance for "Registered Commercial Prospecting" are not found anywhere else in Virginia and are so overbroad as to improperly restrict the property rights of every citizen. The proposed definition of "Registered Commercial Prospecting" is so broad as to include any geotechnical investigations a property may wish to engage to determine the composition of the land it owns. The Virginia Code expressly excludes "searching, prospecting, exploring or investigating for minerals by drilling" from the definition of mining. Va. Code §45.1-180(a). Taking a geotechnical sample is not the same as a mine. Virginia Code §45.1-292:2. As a result, the concerns that the County has expressed in its prior meetings will not be addressed by this legislation. Instead, the proposed language will negatively impact any type of future growth in the County. The definition of "the exploration for the material ... for commercial purposes" is so broad as it will include every potential development activity of a property - not simply potential gold mining, which appears to be the stated concern of the County. Drilled core samples involves the exploration of material and is commonly used for a range of activities including to determine the suitability of a site for structures such as public or private roads and structures, buildings, installation of utilities, environmental investigations and property assessments for valuation. For instance, as part of a proposed non-residential real estate transfer, it is common to perform Phase I and II site assessments that require geotechnical core samples. The new zoning ordinance would prohibit these important tools an owner uses to understand its property in all but three zoning districts throughout the County, including B-1, PUD-1, VC-1, A-C, RSA-1 and L-1 districts. This definition is so overbroad that nearly every contemplated activity on property could be impacted by this change. For instance, a proposed sale of a gas station in a B-1 district could not occur since the geotechnical site assessment would be prohibited under the County's zoning ordinance. This is an unlawful restriction on a property owner's rights to use of its property that exceeds the County's authority for zoning regulations. See e.g., Va. Code §§2200, 2280. Importantly, a property owner making a geotechnical investigation of its property is not a "use" that the County has the authority to restrict. The zoning ordinance is intended to address primary uses of a property and not an incidental and customary activity. See Wiley v. Hanover County, 209 Va. 153, 157 (1968). Taking geotechnical core samples is an incidental activity available to any property owner and is not the primary use of any property subject to the zoning

ordinance. It is not a harmful activity requiring regulation, but simply an investigative tool of a property owner for either a current or future primary use of the property. In addition, the "registration" scheme contemplated for a by-right use in three districts is also impermissible under Virginia law. Virginia Code §15.2-2288.1 prohibits a municipality from requiring further conditions on a by-right activity, regardless of the district or activity. The Virginia Supreme Court has ruled that any additional conditions or restrictions on a development allowed as a matter of right is unenforceable. Town of Occoquan v. Elm St. Dev., Inc., 110075, 2012 Va. LEXIS 104 (Apr. 6, 2012). The term registration is not defined, but presumably the County could limit or reject a registration application or else it would be meaningless. This is exactly what the Virginia Supreme Court determined to be an impermissible restriction on a by-right activity. Finally, any such "registration" would become public record creating a chilling effect on a property owner's ability to confidently explore new uses that could benefit both the owner and the County. Immediately, a potential competitor could submit a Freedom of Information Act request for registration information to gain knowledge of investigative activity that they could use to their competitive advantage. This will encourage commercial enterprises, including VTCA members to avoid Buckingham County and do business elsewhere in the Commonwealth. The proposed changes to the County's zoning ordinance are ill advised as they will negatively impact the County in economic development and the cost of protracted litigation sure to follow such problematic language. The language is not consistent with the Code of Virginia, is impermissibly overbroad, and an unlawful restriction on property owner rights. VTCA and its over 300 of members strongly oppose the contemplated changes to the Buckingham County Zoning Ordinance. VTCA's recommends that the County leave the zoning ordinance as it is currently written. The current ordinance protects the rights of property owners to investigate, AND it protects the rights of concerned citizens in that any MINING activity would require a Special Use Permit with public forums to voice concerns and objection. The County has the opportunity to prohibit or restrict the use at that time. Sincerely, Gordon Dixon, Executive VP

Janice "Sumati" Thorn: Please don't permit any steps leading towards open pit mining in Buckingham County. A short-term business boost for a small portion of county members shouldn't be traded for endless pollution issues that would create subsequent economic depression. Buckingham County must plan for the preservation of our community for generations to come. It's rather like the freedom of an all-night party followed by the miserable hangover the next morning. Only in this instance the 'hangover' will last decades, long, long after the party is forgotten. Water pollution is currently the most dire threat to survivability this planet faces. Wisdom dictates that we make every effort to maintain as much of our water's purity as possible. Every year our water supplies become more and more suspect. Water quality testing is becoming a huge business because every year caustic chemicals are leaching into below ground aquifers. Surface contaminants remain in the soil and leach continually into our water systems over decades. And, as you know, open pit mining pollutes the ground and the water. It is inconceivable that we would even consider welcoming foreign investors into our county to despoil our land, displace our neighbors and leave a legacy of indifference for generations to come. Please prohibit drilling in all areas of our County. Thank you, Janice S Thorn

Jeana D. Agostino Ripple: Please deny the addition of commercial prospecting in A1, M1, and M2 zones as a by-right use. Your vote for this opens the door to gold-mining, poly metallic mineral and cyanide leaching mining in Buckingham County. Please do not sell the health and resources of this community. The state is moving toward a clean economy to protect the health of its residents (https://www.vacleaneconomy.org/) and requires that local governments also make decisions with the long-term health and well-being of its residents in mind. Thank you, Jeana Ripple, Central Virginia resident

Jessica Sims: To the Honorable Members of the Buckingham County Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission: I write on behalf of the organization Appalachian Voices and its members, many of whom are Buckingham community residents. We are deeply concerned about the addition of "commercial prospecting" in A1, M1 and M2 zones as a by-right use, and the potential impacts to water quality in Buckingham County. A primary concern is that if this addition occurs, it would escalate facilitation of commercial gold mining in the County, resulting in direct and harmful impacts from cyanide leaching, toxic releases into groundwater, and air and noise pollution. Many Appalachian Voices members have shared concerns about the exploratory drilling which has already occurred including the impacts related to four years of unregulated core drilling, which may result in disruptions to personal well water. Your administration and the county residents deserve full, verified and direct answers from the prospecting company about the impacts of the four years of operation which has already occurred. Oversight is critical and should be at a minimum, equal to oversight for well water drilling and drain field. Mine waste can contain many toxic substances including mercury and arsenic, which are harmful to human and aquatic life. The pollution of drinking water can have irreparable damage, and downstream impacts from gold mining would also be felt by neighboring counties. The review process should be at the county's behest, and not rushed by the prospecting company. I respectfully request that you deny the motion to add "commercial prospecting" in A1, M1 and M2 zones as a by-right use. Respectfully, Jessica Sims On behalf of Appalachian Voices

**Joe Brancoli:** Dear Buckingham County Board of Supervisors, I write representing the Falls of the James Group of Sierra Club to ask you not to amend your current zoning for the purpose of exploring or permitting a gold mine or to allow prospecting. We believe that gold mining is an inherently polluting and health threatening activity, which would negatively impact the lives of many of Buckingham's citizens while providing benefits to only a few. The activities already taken by Aston Bay Holdings do not give confidence that it would be a good corporate citizen of your county. We stand with Union Hill and all residents who would be affected by metal mining, which the Environmental Protection Agency has termed the number one toxic polluter in its toxics release Inventory. Please take no action to change zoning to accommodate mining. Yours, Joe Brancoli, Chair, Falls of the James Group, Sierra Club

**Joseph Anthony:** Dear Honorable Board, I ask you to deny the addition of commercial prospecting in A1, M1, and M2 zones as a by-right use. Your vote for this opens the door to gold mining, poly metallic mineral and cyanide leaching mining in Buckingham County. One cannot put a price on clean, cyanide-free water, while the gold in a little gold ring requires tens of tons of mine waste to produce. The trade-off is not worth it. Please do what you can to protect the

natural resources we so take for granted: clean air, clean water, and a beautiful county for our great-grandchildren. Sincerely, Joseph Anthony

Julie Quillen: My name is Julie Quillen and I live on Warminster Church Road in the James River District. Over the past few months, I have spoken or written a letter to almost every board of supervisors and planning commission meeting, when permitted. Here I am again, sending in another letter, and for the most part my message has not changed: I, as a resident of this county, request that you deny the addition of commercial prospecting in A1, M1, and M2 zones as a byright use. I grew up in northwest Buckingham and I love this county with all my heart and soul. I want to fight to keep it clean, healthy, and habitable. Notice that the majority, if not all, of the residents of northwestern Buckingham speaking at these meetings are NOT in favor of mining in the A1 district. This doesn't mean that we are anti-business. This means that we believe it is possible to support businesses that are sustainable for this county and that are congruent with the Comprehensive Plan, while also prioritizing our public health and the health of our land, air, and water. Adding commercial prospecting in A1, M1, and M2 zones as a by-right use is not sustainable, not aligned with the Comprehensive Plan, and does not support the well-being of this county and its residents. Like I've said before, this is a golden opportunity to act with integrity and to truly represent the voices and interests of your constituents. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Toxic Release Inventory named metal mining as the #1 toxic polluter in the United States. I urge you to look at these obvious facts and conduct further research beyond what your panel of experts has said. Dive deeper into the overwhelming research proving how harmful gold mining is. Next, I encourage you to imagine that this is happening in your neighborhood. Take a walk into your backyard and gaze out at the woods or fields in the horizon, and picture an open-pit goldmine looming back at you. While you're at it, maybe drink a glass of your delicious, clean well-water, and breathe in the fresh air outside of your home. Hold your kids or grandchildren, and consider the future that they may be inheriting if you choose instant profit over long-term health. Please, listen to the needs of the residents of this county. Thank you.

Lawrence Jay Tubb: I am concerned as a resident of Henrico County about the proposed gold mining in Buckingham County. This would create a possible contaminant of sodium cyanide upriver from Richmond, 2.7 million people rely on the water in the James River as their water supply. This toxic extraction of gold from the earth would not create economic prosperity for Buckingham and in fact would create a permanent scar with open pits. Please protect the water that so many need to survive, put that need before the need for corporate profit. Thanks, Lawrence Jay Tubb

Lee K. Francis: Members, Buckingham County Planning Commission: We ask you to deny the addition of commercial prospecting in A-1, M-1, and M-2 zones as a by-right use. Your vote for this opens the door to gold mining, poly metallic mineral and cyanide leaching mining in Buckingham County. Allowing the type of open-pit mining proposed by Aston Bay in Buckingham, practically on the banks of the James River and in a region that depends on groundwater as their primary drinking water source, could result in widespread heavy metals contamination, which would be detrimental to both our environment and public health. The extraction process in this type of mine is incredibly water intensive, generating large volumes of

heavy metal-laden wastewater that would have to be stored and treated, creating the potential for a large-scale spill and groundwater infiltration. In addition to wastewater, this type of mine will generate large amounts of solid waste, which poses additional threats to human health and our environment. Studies have shown that of the ore extracted during the gold mining process, more than 99 percent is released as waste into the environment. This waste product, or tailings, often contains elevated concentrations of toxic heavy metals such as arsenic, cadmium, nickel, lead, copper, zinc, cobalt and mercury, all of which are extremely harmful to public health in instances of high exposure. When water comes into contact with these toxic tailings, it results in acid mine drainage which negatively impacts surface and ground water quality by further releasing these toxic "forever" chemicals into our water supply. The refining process for gold is equally toxic, releasing high levels of mercury and cyanide into our air and water. Gold mining is responsible for releasing 35 percent of all the world's mercury pollution into our land, air and water, estimated at more than 2,000 tons per year. With this litany of potential harm to human health and our natural resources, I again urge this body to reject adding commercial prospecting as a byright land use in Buckingham County. Doing so puts the people of Buckingham, and everyone downstream, in harm's way for the financial gain of a foreign company seeking to profit off of the degradation and exploitation of Virginia's environment. Make no mistake: if you approve this proposal, the people of Buckingham will bear the hardship and environmental burden of gold mining in their community, with no promises of a better life or economic advancement. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter. I sincerely hope you take the above points I raised into consideration as you weigh this zoning decision. Sincerely, Michael Town, Executive Director, Virginia League of Conservation Voters (email from Lee K. Francis)

Louis Zeller: On behalf of the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League, its chapter Concern for the New Generation and our members in Buckingham County, I write in opposition to the proposed changes which would allow commercial prospecting in the County. Background: On December 21, 2020 at its joint work session, the Buckingham County Planning Commission proposed the following changes to its zoning ordinances: 1) To add "commercial prospecting" as a by-right use in A1, M1, and M2 zones, and 2) To add definition of "registered commercial prospecting" as: the exploration of material included but not limited to mineral, stone, gas or rock by commercial purposes by drilling, excavation or other land disturbance activities for commercial purposes by the entity. These changes are now before the Board of Supervisors January 11 meeting. Comments: Of direct interest to the Board of Supervisors is the fact that Aston Bay Holdings states its "Buckingham Gold Property" to be 4.953 acres surrounding a recent gold discovery and "Part of 15 km (10 mile) gold-in-stream anomaly defined by placer gold – expansion potential." Within the Buckingham Gold Property, Aston Bay cites its "new discovery" and 23 exploratory holes drilled during the last two years and five more pending. Separately, outside of Buckingham, the company lists an additional 4,399 acres within the Brownfields Virginia Gold Belt Properties which are located in a region extending from Farmville to Fredericksburg. In an interview for a mining trade

journal Metals News, Thomas Ullrich, CEO & Director of Aston Bay Holdings, said, "Aston Bay is an exploration-stage company looking for gold in Virginia. That's really what we're after right now. At our Buckingham Gold Property, we have a brand new discovery....At Buckingham we're looking to make this small high-grade discovery into something much bigger." Mr. Chairman, I pose three questions to you and members of the Board: 1.) Before starting its prospecting operation, did Aston Bay Holdings not check to determine if any county exploratory permits were required? 2.) Did the company determine if mining was even permissible in A-1 or A-C districts? 3.) Did this small two-person operation perform this due diligence before spending one million dollars for drilling? If the answer to these questions is "no," I recommend the Board of Supervisors also vote no to amending its ordinance. In conclusion, we ask you to deny the addition of commercial prospecting in A-1, M-1, and M-2 zones as a by-right use. Your vote for this would open the door to gold mining, poly metallic mineral and cyanide leaching mining in Buckingham County. Respectfully, Louis A. Zeller, Executive Director

**Marie Flowers:** Marie Flowers PO Box 1155 Dillwyn, Va. 23936 3<sup>rd</sup> District To the Board of Supervisors of Buckingham County, Va. My comments are regarding allowing property owners to have the right to have their properties drilled for exploratory mining of various commercial minerals. I believe that it is possible to affect the water table of someone else's property. I base my opinion on Murphy's Law. Anything that can happen will happen. If you approve this drilling, there should be a provision to protect adjacent property owners. I suspect that if you all approve drilling it will open a Pandora's Box. During the discussions and meetings regarding the compressor station, not one of the board members demanded the highest standards to protect the citizens of Union Hill. There were many suggestions from people who knew what they were talking about. Secret meetings were held. People were told they could not come to certain meetings. That Board only heard what they wanted to hear. I believe this Board will do the same thing when there is the scent of money in the air. Owning property does not give another carte blanche to do what they want. How about a casino? How about common sense? Any kind of mining that is very destructive to our home, the earth, should be banned. Respectfully, Marie

From Dr. Mary Finley-Brook. I teach Geography and Environmental Studies at the University of Richmond. I have more than two decades experience reviewing Canadian gold mining operations in Central America, in the US and in Canada. I ask you to deny the addition of commercial prospecting in A1, M1, and M2 zones as a by-right use as it opens the door to gold mining, poly metallic mineral and cyanide leaching mining in Buckingham County. There are several aspects of application I find concerning in addition to the lack of transparency with which the company began exploring in Virginia several years ago. I am concerned by the lack of demonstrated success by Aston Bay in their operations in Nunavut, Canada. This company does not have a proven track record and they are proposing a large, risky operation in Virginia. The lack of experience about gold mining in Virginia's Department of Environmental Quality is also a cause for alarm because operations can cause serious water pollution without monitoring and regulatory oversight. This will require technical knowledge in the county and state governments so that the community does not end up with dangerous contamination in wells, groundwater and surface water (i.e., from cyanide, mercury, arsenic or other toxic elements). Exposure to mining contamination like heavy metals is particularly harmful to babies, children and pregnant women. Heavy metals do not break down or degrade easily so they persist for a long time causing harm once released from rock or soil. Chemicals will be mobile and can seep into local wells. The majority of the county relies on private wells. Water pollution can also contaminate the James River, which provides drinking water to many communities downstream. Pollution from mines is dangerous to livestock and can enter agricultural crops. Bio magnification can occur in fish and birds. Chemicals will spread throughout the food chain, including to game species people regularly hunt and consume. **Other major concerns:** 

- Risk in Buckingham may be higher because of the proposed use of brownfields and former mining areas as processes could dredge up and release prior contamination.\_
- Mining uses large quantities of water, meaning it is not available for other uses, such as farming and household uses.
- The water discharged from mining operations contains harmful chemicals and is not safe for other productive uses.
- Mining contributes to sedimentation, which can cause property damage and ecosystem degradation.
- Vast quantities of tailings containing the chemicals used to extract gold as well as heavy metals must be treated and stored carefully to prevent leaching or transport during wind, rain, etc.

I am concerned by the lack of detailed information on environmental protection and mitigation measures. A network of groundwater monitoring wells would be necessary to assess the sufficiency of preventive measures and provide an early warning system. There is inadequate information on the technologies to be employed for treatment of wastewater and tailings. Sustainable mining methods are more expensive and would likely only be incorporated if state agencies and local governments require developers to protect human health. Mary Finley-Brook, PhD, Associate Professor of Geography, Environmental Studies & Global Studies, University of Richmond

Mindy Zlotnick: We ask you to deny the addition of commercial prospecting in A1, M1, and M2 zones as a by-right use. Your vote for this would open the door to gold mining, polymetallic mineral and cyanide leaching mining in Buckingham County. On 12/21, the Planning Commission made a motion. The language of the motion "drilling, excavation or other land disturbance activities" broadens the scope of commercial prospecting, leaving us open to possible abusive interpretation. We understand that there are various types of mining. What we're asking for is action specific to gold mining. Allowing core drilling for gold (and other polymetallic mining) and in particular excavation opens the door to the possibility of open pit gold mining, the use of cyanide and requisite leaching and ecological devastation that can't be mitigated, and we do not want that to happen. What is the boundary between excavation and mining? Do not approve this motion of the Planning Commission. In September 2020, the Board of Supervisors instructed the Planning Commission to have a public hearing that would address the removal of mining as a special use from A1 zones. The Planning Commission has not done so. Before the Board of Supervisors votes to allow broadly defined commercial prospecting byright in the county they should first address the very real concerns community members have brought to them. Does the county actually want gold mining to happen in Buckingham County? We ask that you concentrate on this question and give us an answer. According to the Constitution of Virginia in Article 11, Section 1, it is the "Commonwealth's policy to protect its atmosphere, lands, and waters from pollution, impairment, or destruction, for the benefit, enjoyment, and general welfare of the people of the Commonwealth". It is the charge of the Board of Supervisors to uphold the Constitution of Virginia by protecting and maintaining our health and safety. We have the right to clean air, water and soil according to this Article. The timber corporations that are allowing the core drilling of gold (in hopes of finding gold to

mine) feel that they have the right to do what they like on their property. Though this may be true, I feel that they do not have the right to compromise my health with their actions. These companies have been given the right to grow trees as an agricultural product, but gold does not grow on trees and this kind of mining has no place on A-1 land. The Board is charged with maintaining OUR health and safety, not THEIRS, and I ask that you take this charge seriously. Our rights have to be more important than corporate rights when it comes to our right to clean air, water and soil. Thank you for your attention and consideration of this point of view. Mindy Zlotnick, 132 The Way, Buckingham, 23921, Glenmore District

Email from Nancy Thompson from Weyerhaeuser: Dear Buckingham County officials, As we shared at your last joint work session in December, Weverhaeuser remains committed to working with Buckingham County in addressing the concerns of the County and some of its residents as it pertains to core drilling and more broadly, "commercial prospecting." Weyerhaeuser's core value of sustainable land management means that we are active stewards of the land we own and manage, and activities on our land must meet our standards. Regarding the proposed ordinance language being contemplated tonight, Weyerhaeuser believes; (a) that no language changes are necessary, and (b) that the proposed changes are certain to have unintended consequences. As to the first point, Weyerhaeuser shared with the County our legal position via a Memorandum of Law in Opposition submitted in October which outlined that core drilling, or rather "commercial prospecting," is not a "use" as the term applies to zoning language, but rather an incidental activity that is allowable as a matter of right. Unfortunately, County staff remained committed to the position that core drilling, and now any prospecting activity, is a "use." Weyerhaeuser then submitted a Zoning Determination request on November 23rd. Respectfully, Weyerhaeuser believes our legal position is sound, and we plan to continue the Zoning Determination process to show that; (a) core drilling in not a "use" subject to zoning restrictions, and (b) that Weyerhaeuser, and its lessee Aston Bay, were within their rights to perform the core drilling completed to date. You heard from both Commonwealth and academic experts that these activities are commonplace, occur throughout Virginia, and represent no significant groundwater or other environmental risk as some have speculated. As to the second point, you have heard from the Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance (VTCA) that the proposed language changes will certainly have significant unintended consequences. Foremost among those is a stifling effect on economic development in the County since due diligence drilling is a common method of evaluating property for alternative uses other than mining. Applying the County's position, activities such as drilling to determine if a property is suitable for constructing warehouses, an airport, or even to assess environmental concerns would all be considered unlawful as well, unless subject to a zoning ordinance language change and registration. Weyerhaeuser has sought to engage in a cooperative way with the County since this issue was first raised and to respect the County's review process and concerns around the legality of core drilling in the A-1 district. Although we continue to disagree, we appreciate the effort the County has made to address this problem and recognize that County officials believe the proposed ordinance language changes are the best solution to allow everyone to move forward. Weyerhaeuser remains proud to be a responsible corporate citizen of Buckingham County, where we actively manage timber and land in a manner that meets our strict sustainability and environmental standards. If you have any further questions or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to ask. Kendall B. Fountain, Ph.D., P.G., General Manager, Minerals

**Ruby Laury:** My name is Ruby Laury, and I live in the Sixth District: Our Union Hill as well as our neighboring communities are again being devastated with more dangerous chemicals. This time it is Toxic gold mine drilling by a foreign country. Not only does this toxic gold mine waste contain dangerous chemicals, but I also learned that "Mining mineral processing and metallurgical extraction produce large quantities of waste into the environment and waste metals leach out resulting in contaminated water called 'acid mine drainage' which threatens ground water." This is why we in Union Hill and other communities are very concerned about what this drilling will do to our water—our private underground wells. Without water, we cannot survive. We live in an agricultural area, where we raise gardens, orchards, cattle, dairy cows, donkeys, goats, etc. And, we can't forget about our domestic animals and the wildlife. I repeat, no one can live without water, our most precious commodity. WATER is LIFE! Again, as people of color, we are being treated as if our lives don't matter. Our water, our land, and our health is at risk for profit! Finally, how can a foreign country come into Buckingham County, Virginia in this United States of America and be allowed to drill? As your constituents, aren't you supposed to watch over and take care of us? I respectfully ask you to please not allow Commercial Prospecting! Thank you.

Ruth Theodore-Schreiner: To Whom It May Concern: I am a former Mining Engineer, and I am a friend of many residents of Buckingham County that may be affected by the drilling and exploration efforts. I have many concerns that should be addressed prior to allow permitting of these activities: 1) What is the exact scope of the exploration? If more drilling and even possible blasting--it is feasible that past core drilling interrupted wells at local homes. This needs to be further explored so no one's water use is affected, and plans to rectify if it is. The water tables are fragile in this area and housing is close to the exploration site. 2) What is the environmental impact of this activity? Will there be drilling sludge discharged into the environment? Noise pollution? And for the property being explored--will reclamation efforts from the exploration measures be conducted? Yes it is a private property and if this amendment passes, they are not obligated to do this-but as a concerned citizen and former land owner myself I would want this information included if this was my property. 3) What impact on the community--road use? Large trucks? How many people are being brought in from out of town to do this work? In my opinion, more detailed information of the exact location, the type of exploration, the environmental impact to the community based solely on the exploration efforts needs to be addressed. Sincerely, Ruth Schreiner, BS Mining Engineering University of Utah and MBA

**Willie Perkins:** Here we go again with one more thing that will affect the African American neighborhoods. First it was the pipelines and now it's gold. The Warminster Community is outraged that a Canadian gold mining company, Aston Bay Holdings has been drilling since 2016 without permits or the knowledge of the local residents. The Warminster Baptist Church located on Warminster Church Road, is a small neighborhood and has a small, but active church family that has already experienced some problems with the church well going dry. In 2018 Warminster Baptist Church had to dig a new well. And just a few thousand feet from the church neighboring families are experiencing low water and sometimes no water in their wells. We wonder why?! Our planning commission was told by so called "experts", who were either in the industry or who would compromise their professional standing by saying otherwise, that our water table could not be impacted by the 4 years of drilling that took place. We have heard from

other mining experts, no longer associated with the industry, that it certainly could have been the cause. Who do we believe? Those who have an interest in protecting their own interests or those who are outside of it? That's just the beginning of our problems that landowners will experience in the Warminster Community. The company will be bringing in heavy excavation and drilling equipment destroying the roads. The open pit mine will destroy the land, water and air! Our property will be worthless. The county and residents for hundreds of years will suffer. Once the gold is gone the company will leave. Warminster, Union Hill, Yogaville, Manteo, and Glenmore Communities will suffer if this is allowed. Aston Bay Mining Company really doesn't care who it affects or the dangers of gold mining. They don't live here, but we do and we will suffer the considerable impacts. The Buckingham County Planning Commission and The Board of Supervisors need to protect us from this danger. We are asking for your support. Specifically, we ask that you deny the addition of commercial prospecting in A1, M1 and M2 zones as a byright use. Your vote for this opens the door to mining, poly-metallic mineral and cyanide leaching mining in Buckingham County. Thanks, Deacon Willie Perkins, On behalf of the Warminster Church Community

Lann: We'll continue with the voicemails.

Ella Rose: My name is Ella rose. I'm in District 6. I'm calling to leave a comment in regards to the zoning amendment being discussed in the public hearing on Monday, January 11, 2021. By passing the zoning amendment to allow drilling it will put this Canadian company one step closer to developing gold mining here in Buckingham. A gold mine of this magnitude they would like to develop would be destructive for our land and water. Do not sell out Buckingham to this Canadian company or any other mining company that could develop an open pit gold mine here. I live about five miles from the location for drilling has already taken place. This was threatened my water and as we are on the same aquifer as those in the Warminster Road community. In Union Hill, we just pulled off the location of a huge compressor station and pipeline. We are now under the threat of another devastating project that will impact our health and safety, history and human rights. As an African American, it is clear to me that this is yet another example of the systemic environmental racism present in making possible to put deadly projects in the communities where we live. I ask you to deny the addition of commercial prospecting in A-1, M-1, and M-2 zone as a bylaw right use. Your vote for this opens the door to gold mining, poly metallic minerals and cyanide leaching mining in Buckingham County. Thank you. Ella Rose.

Matthews: Mrs. Lann? That presentation, was that ... who was that?

Lann: Chad Oba.

Matthews: Did she speak before? Did she speak in the first part of the meeting?

Lann: That was Kenda Hanuman.

Matthews: Kenda Hanuman. Okay.

Joe Brandon Coley: Hello, my name is Joe Brandon Coley. I'm a resident of Richmond, Virginia. And I am leaving this message regarding the January 11th Board of Supervisors meeting and specifically the initiative to rezone in order to accommodate exploratory prospecting and gold mining activities. I'm making this comment on behalf of the Sierra Club's Falls of the James Group. And my request to you is that you not amend your current zoning for the purpose of exploring or permitting a gold mine or to allow exploratory prospecting. We believe that gold mining is an inherently polluting and health threatening activity which produces huge amounts of waste material. We believe that gold mining would negatively impact the lives of many of Buckingham citizens. And we believe the activities already taken by Aston Bay Holdings do not represent that it would be a good corporate citizen of your county. We stand with Union Hill and all residents who will be affected by metal mining, which the Environmental Protection Agency has termed the number one toxic polluter and it's Toxics Release Inventory. Please take no action to change zoning to accommodate mining. Thank you.

**Virginia Rovnyak:** My name is Virginia Rovnyak. I live in Albemarle County. This comment is for the January 11 meeting of the Buckingham County Board of Supervisors. I strongly oppose adding commercial prospecting as a by right use in A-1, M-1 and M-2 zones. This would enrich the property owners at the detriment of neighbors by polluting their water with the poisons from the use of obtaining the gold and from all the tailings which would be around forever. Please just leave this stuff in the ground. We don't eat gold. We don't have to have gold. A property owner should enjoy their property but not endanger their neighbors. So I strongly urge you to deny this Commercial prospecting is a by right use in those three zones. Thank you. Bye

**John Laury:** Hello, my name is John W. Laury and I live in the sixth district. I'm calling in regards to commercial prospecting by right. And I'm asking you, to the Board of Supervisors, I'm asking you to deny the addition of commercial prospecting in A-1, M-1, and M-2 zones as a by right use. Your vote for this opens the door to gold mining and polymetallic minerals and cyanide leaching mining in Buckingham County. Is this the beginning of another environmental justice issue? So far, one of the black congregation is being affected that is close to our own community here in Union Hill. Please consider the help of your Buckingham constituent constituents. Thank you. Respectfully, John W. Laury.

Joseph Abbate: Dear Buckingham County Supervisors, I am Jeeva Abbate, Director of Yogaville Environmental Solutions from District Five, commenting on the issue of commercial prospecting by right use. Yogaville community members and staff and leadership here in Buckingham County are seriously concerned about the stated plans for gold mining operations in the county by Canadian mining company Aston Bay Holdings. The history of toxic gold mining operations is well established with huge costs of cleanup and pollution mitigation. Open pit, deep pit and other types of gold mining produce waste containing dangerous chemicals, including mercury, arsenic, cyanide, lead, petroleum byproducts and acids. Gold mining, gold mining ore processing and metallurgical extraction produce large quantities of waste into the environment and waste metals, metals leach out resulting in contaminated water called acid mine drainage. This threatens groundwater, our well water, our farms, our livestock, and our health including the health of our children and the elderly. While Aston Bay and their representatives do not reference their use of the poisonous toxins required, they infer that they use biodegradable products and little water. The clear science on this matter disputes that claim. An NIH study noted that there is no effective biodegradable solution to the toxic impact in heavy metal mining polluted areas. While the request for a zoning text amendment by Aston Bay is framed as just providing for the defining the exploration for gold by core drilling as commercial prospecting as a by right use, we all know that the whole basis of this is only for the development of a gold mining operation in Buckingham County. The A-1 agricultural zoning is currently in place in our region to protect us from just such a toxic industry operation. The target area for the gold mining operation lies close to two minority justice communities, Union Hill and the Warminster Baptist Church. The fourth district court in Richmond has already determined that the Union Hill community in Buckingham is a minority justice community and has a right to a full impact study on just how such an operation like industrial gold mining could impact such a community. The court determined that even if the pollutants remain below State and National Quality Standards, failing to take into account the impact of pollutants on those communities would be unacceptable. So I recommend a full and independent environmental impact study be conducted on the possible impact of this operation on the health and safety of Buckingham communities, residents and property.

Lann: That is three minutes.

#### Bryan: Thank you.

**Denise Williams:** Yes, my name is Denise Williams and this is a comment about the hearing tonight about the proposed gold mine in Buckingham County. I'm an internal medicine physician. I practice medicine in Buckingham County and southern Albemarle communities for over for 25 years. The chemical pollution from goldmining includes toxic elements such as arsenic, lead, mercury, cyanide, as well as other pollutants. High levels of these chemicals poisons soil, groundwater, streams and rivers, not only near the mine, but extending well beyond the mine. These chemicals enter the food chain and affect plants, fish, other animals, and finally humans. They can cause cancer and neurologic problems as well as lung, liver and kidney dysfunction. Most concerning is the effect on pregnant women, fetuses and children. High levels of lead, mercury and arsenic can cause premature birth, low birth weight, birth defects and developmental neurologic problems which can lead to lower IQ and learning disabilities. And this exposure does not end when the mining ends. The waste left behind continues to pollute the area for decades and decades, and will affect residents health for years to come. The bottom line is that a gold mine in Buckingham County will adversely affect the health of our citizens. Thank you so much.

James Branch: Yes, this is James L Branch Jr., Warminster Church Road. I'm calling in reference to the changing of its zoning ordinance tonight in A-1, M-1 and M-2. Core sampling, core drilling or whatever you want to call it is concerned. I'm not for this. I'm against it because it will become a goldmine eventually. I also like to ask the county if Weyerhaeuser/ Aston Bay is such good land stewards and that I don't think they are. There's too much land owned by Chesapeake, Westvaco, Meade-Westvaco and now Weyerhaeuser. I'd like to know what they have actually done for the county. Any of them. I have found nothing. This is not going to help the county. It is going to hurt the county. And it will become a mine. We've

already talked to our own experts who does core sampling, he said that it does affect the water table 100%. And it also ... a mile, mile and a quarter is not that far from where those test holes or drilling holes are for the core sampling. I'd also like to know how they can take a legal power to allow the land when they don't have powers of the land. As far as taxes go, they don't really pay any tax to the county either because people lease this land and pay their taxes for that. As far as I'm concerned anybody that has, think this is a good thing for Buckingham, is not going to affect our environment or quality of life, I have to question anybody's integrity, morals or anything else. I would say you don't have that. I'm entitled to my opinion. And this is my opinion. And I also like to know why we're not equally represented on our boards from different members in the community and different districts. And I am in the James River District. Why we don't have equal representation on the Planning Commission board of African Americans, on either board for that matter. So to me, it's a serious issue for the county. It's a moral issue. And it's just wrong. It's not a good thing for the county. We do not need...yes, I don't care about quarry or something like that. You cannot compare what these people are going to be doing to what Solite and Buckingham Slate's doing. Quarrying and what this is doing is two different things. And they will be going 300-400 feet in the ground.

#### Lann: Three minutes.

Lakshmi Fjord: Lakshmi Fjord, District 5. I ask you to deny the addition of commercial prospecting in A1, M1, and M2 zones as a by-right property use. The execution of this zoning amendment at this time, now for all three zoning types, directly accommodates Aston Bay Holdings' unlawful 28 exploratory gold drilling sites -- despite county regulations against this activity. We understand the evolving drafts of this amendment to be ways to circumvent this reality, by including other zoning types than the original A1 Agricultural Zone of the specific unlawful drilling sites already completed. Adding other forms of "registered commercial prospecting" – including gas – creates the semblance of more generalized changes. But you cannot deny that its catalyst "makes legal" what was already done illegally. If not, why aren't we discussing that this generalized amendment would overturn the existing moratorium in Buckingham on fracked gas drilling? This amendment creates an unjust and inequitable legal precedent: a post-hoc regulation tailored to make harmless the unlawful acts already committed by a foreign corporate entity, while holding your own constituents punishable by whatever regulations exist at the time they broke them. Further, what follows if passed by Buckingham's elected representatives, is a 2-tier legal regulatory system. In which, drillers from anywhere in the world with a gold or gas lease hold a special, protected status to do whatever actions they wish - no matter if they are also unlawful under Virginia and U.S. environmental laws, with required pre-action environmental justice reviews. While regulations on property use actions for your constituents -- the ones who live and breathe, drink their well water, and try to make a living without harming anyone else – hold them subject to a different set of permit regulations to even drill a water well or build a home - or face your regulatory limits and fines. We have listened to the logical fallacies perpetrated by the gold industry experts who've testified before us that Gold prospecting must be "made separate" from gold mining. But, as neighbors, we know Aston's 28 drill sites are at the historic Austin Gold Mine very profitable site. We all know this amendment is not to pan for gold in county streams. We know what deep exploratory drilling specifically does, and that it is for the purpose of open pit mining. Which we know is the single

most environmentally hazardous yet least publicly beneficial mineral ever given economic value. In legal terms, making this amendment as if separate from its logical outcome is reducto ad absurdum, "the absurd result principle of statutory interpretation, in which a statute must be interpreted according to its plain meaning."

#### Lann: That's 3 minutes.

Stephanie Rinaldi: Hi, this is Stephanie Rinaldi. I live on Warminster Church Road in District Five, calling for comment on the January 11th public hearing. Had written some comments for you guys like I usually do. And I'm going off script like I usually do. But that's because I have spent an inordinate amount of time rewatching the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors meetings on this issue, which was about as fun as you'd imagine, but I did that because I remembered Commonwealth's Attorney, E.M. Wright explaining to the Planning Commission, the zoning doctrine of accessory use. And I needed to hear him explain it again to be sure that I understood, and I really think this is something that has been overlooked. And when you hear it, because I'm going to read it to you right now, I think you'll find that we don't need to be doing any of this. So what he said at the November 23, 2020 meeting, at around the 52 minute mark was this, quote, "there's a doctrine and zoning known as known as an ancillary or accessory use. In other words, if you have an underlying use for that property that complies with the zoning of that piece of property, there are certain things that you can do, because they are associated with that use. End quote. I'm gonna read that again because I think it's really important. There is a doctrine in zoning known as an ancillary or accessory use. In other words, if you have an underlying use for that property that complies with the zoning of that piece of property, there are certain things that you can do, because they are associated with that use. He went on to say that quote, he could not make the leap from mineral prospecting to associate it with any uses provided for in A-1. He could not make the leap from mineral prospecting to associate it with any uses provided for in A-1. So what I understand this to mean, and I think, obviously you can talk to him and he's probably there, he's gonna come out and explain it to you. But this means that core sampling is already allowed in areas where mining is allowed, because core sampling is an ancillary use associated with mining. It's an ancillary use associated with a great many things but not with any use of provided for in A-1. So we don't need the zoning text amendment to allow for prospecting because where mining is already allowed, prospecting is already allowed because it's an ancillary use. We're here where we are right now because of core sampling in A-1 by a prospecting company, who states outright that they're looking for gold and base metals. That has nothing to do with agriculture has nothing to do with A-1. Drilling core samples has nothing to do with growing trees for timber, including core samples of 400 feet down is certainly not related to agriculture or timber. So it shouldn't be allowed, and it is currently not allowed. There's no need to change the zoning text.

Lann: 3 minutes.

**Grace Barlow:** Good evening. My name is Grace Barlow. I live in District Five and my comment is in reference to the possibility of gold mining here at the Board of Supervisors meeting on January 11. My husband, Paul, and I have spent the last eight years making a peaceful haven in which we plan to live out the rest of our lives. We both volunteer with Historic

Buckingham, and I am lucky enough to have the best job I've ever had working at the new library here in Dillwyn and going to work and volunteering come to know so many members of this community on a personal level that have been made to feel completely at home. That would be gut wrenching to have to leave after working so hard to get here. Even though the area that we're talking about is in my backyard and not yours be aware that all of Buckingham could have the potential to produce gold. We all know about the mines that were top producers in the 1800s. Not one geological map of the county that I've seen shows gold in the area that they're exploring now yet somehow there it is. Where else could it be? If a mining operation starts in Warminster, they will expand the gold is here and they're gonna get it. How much of Buckingham are you willing to let go for an influx of transient workers, threats to our water and our environment, and the mass exodus of the people who make this county the great place that it is? It gave Pandora a box with instructions not to open it. She opened it and every evil too which human flesh, Eric. You know that is the last to come out of the box with hope in a cruel way.

Swami Dayananda: My name is Swami Dayananda, District Five. Commenting for public hearing on January 11 2021. I ask the board of supervisors to postpone the decision on adding commercial prospecting in agricultural zone until you conduct more investigation into the possible connection between the well drying up in Warminster Baptist Church area and the 23 drilling sites done by Aston Bay. Industry representative said that they would need more information to know for sure if the drilling had anything to do with the drying up or the wells. But please take the citizens' concerns about the safety of our well water more seriously and follow up on this issue. Allowing the drilling to continue for gold exploration has the possibility of affecting our well water and aquifer. I'm a small farmer living on Warminster Church Road close to the drilling sites, very concerned about the effect further drilling may have on my well water as well as on my neighbors, including our friends at Warminster Baptist Church. The timber company representative said they have the legal rights as private owners to have exploration done on their land. And I say that we have the human rights for our health. Aston Bay and timber company don't live here, where we drink, bait, garden and farm with our water. We have the right to live with clean water for our health and to pass it on to our children and grandchildren. I ask the Board of Supervisors to care about our human rights as you are pressed with their legal rights. Looking further into the water issue at minimum will indicate that you do take the citizens' concerns and care seriously and about their health and wellbeing. I have observed and felt that there has been an element of predisposition toward the gold mining exploration amongst the planning commissioners clearly expressed in their past meetings. I felt that the citizens' concerns were not being heard, not taken seriously. And we were not treated with equal respect. I ask the Board of Supervisors to be neutral, and take the citizens' concerns seriously, and take time to address and respond to our requests, and especially on this very important issue of our water. Thank you.

**Heidi Dhivya Berthoud:** We ask you to deny the addition of commercial prospecting in A1, M1, and M2 zones as a by-right use. Your vote for this opens the door to gold mining, poly metallic mineral and cyanide leaching mining in Buckingham County. The community's immediate concern is, and always has been, the prospect of gold mining in the county, and the core sampling associated with that prospect. This motion to move forward to allow prospecting.

And substantially expand the definition thereof is deeply disturbing. We have asked you to take modern gold mining seriously. You have not allowed for any discussion of import on the record about the impacts of gold mining. You have asked us, including the 'experts' that you invited, to narrow our comments to prospecting and ignored this critical discussion. The old divide and conquer playbook. But who are you conquering? You say that revenue for the county is of primary concern. And yet you appear to welcome industry without discernment, industry that externalizes the very real expenses that we citizens then have to pay for - in the poisoning of our health, water, land, wildlife, etc. and for centuries to come in the very real case of gold mining, which we have warned you about. It is your primary and I remind you, your sworn constitutional duty as good government, to protect us, not throw us under the bus, yet again. We refuse to be your sacrifice zones so that industry can profit royally, and whose primary purpose is not the welfare of the commonwealth. You have invited experts who are clearly not neutral, and have conflicts of interest, as they are either in the business of mining or of regulating, and therefore permitting it. You have declined to hear from experts that we have consulted; people that are not conflicted, and are telling the damning truth of the ruinous history of gold mining. You are hearing from them today in their limited 3 minute or 500 word allowance. This is suppression of democracy, a systemic disease this country is grappling with in earnest. You could choose today to do differently. We ask you to reconsider your haste to wait while you take a thorough look at what this proposal opens our doors to. Prevention is worth tons of cure.

Lann: That's all the voicemails guess we'll try Chad Oba's presentation again.

Chad Oba: (This was a video presentation with several different people speaking found at https://youtu.be/I5KXZNOeAfo) having a gold mine in Buckingham County would be a disaster threatening 1000s of lives. This strong video recorded last month shows part of the county where gold was found. Here are some of your neighbors who would be hurt immediately by a gold mine. (There were children introducing themselves.) (Stephanie Rinaldi) We have well water here, everybody in this area as well water and chemicals that have been used causes acid mine runoff. It causes all of these chemicals to just pollute the groundwater, pollute the streams, rivers and makes it unlivable. (Kayla Jamerson) I've been here all my life and I want to stay here. I don't want to have to leave. I want my kids to be able to grow up here and have the same life I did in a peaceful, quiet, beautiful community. (Narrator) Members of this historic black church says the goldmine must be stopped. (Deacon Willie Perkins, Jr.) Our neighborhood, our well water and our roads are also going to be devastated. (Sandra McLanahan, MD) I'm here to testify against the gold mining. It creates toxic side effects, including leaching of arsenic and Mercury, a neurotoxin into the groundwater, which can go into the James River, the longest river in Virginia that flows into Richmond town of 230,000. (Chad Oba) I live here in the Union Hill neighborhood about five miles from the gold exploration area. We share the same aquifer here. So if their water is poisoned by the gold mine, ours will be too. So we are sharing the same fate. We've done this before and we know how to fight. We are a nonprofit organization, Friends of Buckingham. We organized the determined opposition to a multibillion dollar fracked gas pipeline project, which threatened our health and safety with our friends and allies. In the climate and environmental justice movement. We surprised the big money interest and we won. Today it's the goldmining people who think they're going to get over on us simple country folk. They're blowing smoke onto our local officials while telling them that it's sunshine. They're saying that

their approach to mining would not hurt the environment. This is the same playbook of nonsense that we heard from pipeline people. It is untrue and misleading. This is the same as it is with a gold mine. We will not stand by and allow them to devastate our land and poison our water while they and their investors get rich. This is a moral issue. It is a matter of sustaining life of human rights. We will fight this. Please join us.

Lann: That is all the comments.

Matthews: Any more discussion? The Board of Supervisors declares this public hearing closed.

Bowe: The Planning Commission declared the public hearing closed.

Matthews: Planning Commission, do you have a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors at this time?

Bowe: I think we are going to have more discussion?

Matthews: All right. You have the floor.

**Bickford:** We started this process several months ago. It's an issue with the health of the public. We've had two panel discussions with experts from all aspects of the mining operation, including DEO. It seems to be a consensus with all that this core sampling and talking specifically about core sampling not gold mining and all into the future here. We're just talking dealing with one aspect of it. They were all in consensus and agreement that it really is no danger to the community water aquifers. And you know they were even were verified or approved by the DEQ representative. So if they feel like it's not enough of an issue to regulate that coming from DEQ that, you know, sort of tells a lot. So, I feel like we need to go ahead and make this a by right in A-1 district. The second point is, is the register, followed by we tried to make this work across several different avenues. Trying not to expose the candidate any legal aspects of it or unintentionally. The register to me is for the issue of property rights. I feel like if you have a register, it needs to be the minimum information possible, just the company's name and they're working in the county and that's it. I feel like if you go farther than that, you're exposing the landowner to some possible blowback from perhaps group's or neighbors. And I feel like also, it's an infringement on property rights. All they're doing was core sampling is you're just looking to see what can be done with the property. The analogy or the comparison that the Weyerhaeuser people did about crews and timber, I can relate to that, because that's what I do for a living. And, you know, you go out there and look at a track of timber doesn't mean it's automatically gonna be cut may not be cut. So it's same situation as this. So my recommendation, or the way I feel is, is we really don't need to register. But if we do, let's have the minimum information available on it, like just the company in Buckingham County and leave it at that. And actually, I would say, perhaps just have the company that's doing the core sampling, actual activity. And that would be coming from the forestry industry. And apparently, mining is the same. So I feel like that maybe will be a compromise. It would be successful.

**Bowe:** Well, that's such a minimal bit of information that we're talking about, is even worth doing?

**Bickford:** Well. That's why I'd say I don't even know if we need to register after thinking about it more. You know, this is done for all kinds of various activities. And you know, in road construction, buildings, I mean, it core sampling is done all the time, all the time. And if you go ahead and make it a by right, then what makes it different than somebody looking at the just, for example, to open up again, as a business, the county is not notified of that until they decided it's they can make it feasible to work.

**Bowe:** It was also a good item brought up I picked up on it. But one of the companies that was talked about was a gas station. That happens every day in this county. But they actually have machines that sniff dirt at various levels. And that would certainly classify as sampling.

Bickford: Anyways, I appreciate it.

Bowe: Ashley, do you have any thoughts on this?

**Shumaker:** I agree that we've come a long way in determining that the environmental aspects are probably not as concerned as they were. My concern is as a county being short sighted, since we are a planning commission, and our zoning administrator told us, you know, 95% of our county is A-1. So that ranges from an iota of an acre to 1000s of acres. So leaving us with no mechanism by making it by right to have any sort of protection for that amount of land, landowners is my biggest concern moving forward. You know, we talked about gas stations, that sort of thing. They would get a special use permit. I'm guessing for those kind of things. Because it's not A-1. So as Miss Rinaldi mentioned in her comment, doesn't really affect mining. Mr. Wright told us that. So I guess my concern is the amount of land that we're talking about and just throwing a blanket statement out there for A-1.

Bowe: Alice, can you hear me?

Gormus: I can.

Bowe: Do you have any thoughts on this?

**Gormus:** I think that core drilling is used a lot. And people don't even realize it. And I think that we have, we have taken this and moved from core drilling or core exploration into mining which it's not. And I just I don't think that core drilling is something that we need to regulate.

Bowe: Okay, thank you. Steve, can you hear me?

Chambers: Steve had a death in the family.

Bowe: Oh, Dabney, can you hear me? How about you, Danny, you got any thoughts?

Allen: Well, I have never got a good answer on, it's always been told, since we got started this, that it's illegal if it's not in zoning. But I have not seen it in writing nowhere that says it illegal. And we have to move on. I mean, to me, if it is illegal, yeah, we got to do something. But if it's not illegal, it's been doing the right thing all the time. We were wasting our time even talking about it. I've asked a question more than once. And I've been told it is not in writing. And then the other part of it is, core drilling everybody else's opinion I've talked to is not a use. And all we're supposed to be working on in the zoning is uses. So if it's not a use, we don't need to touch it. We're going down the wrong road. If I could get answered to both of those, we might just say, forget it. You don't need to go no farther, stop right here right now. That's my opinion.

**Matthews:** I didn't hear what you said, Mr. Allen. Was that you said we don't need to go any further?

Allen: My question is, and I've been told that it is illegal, if it's not in zoning. I have not yet seen it in writing where it is illegal if it's not in zoning. So we're going down the wrong road. And second question is, we're supposed to be in zoning working on uses. Everybody is telling me this is not a use, this is an activity. We should not be fooling with it. So if those two facts are true, leave it alone. We don't need to do nothing. They can go on core drilling when they want to.

Matthews: If they are true, is what you're saying?

Allen: Yeah, if this is true, and I mean, I hadn't seen no evidence that it was. Nobody proven it yet. So that's where I'm at.

Matthews: Okay, thank you.

Bowe: Does anybody feel like they want to make a motion?

Allen: I'd like to get more information before we make a motion myself.

Matthews: Do you want to clarification? Is that what you're asking Mr. Allen? I mean, well, I'm not a lawyer, but we have one here tonight.

Allen: My lawyer told me last time, it's nothing in writing.

Matthews: Okay.

Allen: Unless you've got some other ideas, and

**Bryan:** I mean, it's not regulated by the state. The state has already said, you know, I turned a blind eye to it. Basically, that's what the State of Virginia said, you know, you can do what you want. Pat, in regards to your statement, about a gas station. That's different. The gas station is not prospecting for anything, they're staying on their own property. Okay. I mean, that's my, that's Donnie's take on it. They're going down staying on their property. You and I've had this conversation before. I mean, I've listened to the people's concerns. And you know, Aston Bay is

drilling. Ok. And they're drilling pretty deep. Okay. Are they staying on Weyerhaeuser's' property? Yes. You know, not going past the property lines.

**Bowe:** The law is very specific on that you absolutely cannot go under somebody else's property.

**Bryan:** You know, with the aquifers the way they are, you know, it could run under that property, it couldn't run under that property. I can't say that, you know, I'm not a geologist.

**Matthews:** I will give you a clarification on the gas station. There are different regulations. Because I've been down this road. They can drill test wells on a piece of property as a gas station, and they do it every year and every day to test to make sure you have not contaminated the aquifer. But they it is core drilling, and they go down about 50 feet or so to test that dirt. And they do have a sniffer that they do send that and have that checked out in case there is because if you have a neighbor that is subject to is downhill from you and could be contaminated, they want to make very well sure that you do not have that issue. So from personal experience, so that you know. But would you like to get some input from our county attorney? Mr. Wright. Do you have anything to say on this matter that Mr. Allen and Mr. Bowe and Mr. Bryan have addressed? Well, we just we had some discussion, we just kind of want to get clarification.

Wright: I heard the discussion. All right, what is the question that I'm...

Matthews: I'll let Mr. Allen, I think he's got a question for you.

Allen: We've talked about it more than once. I just want to get a clear answer. It's been stated that it's illegal if it's not in zoning. But to this date, I haven't seen it in writing where it says it's illegal if it's not in writing.

**Wright**: Each of the activities that are described in the zoning ordinance, either as permitted or by right or with special use permit. If the activity or they use is not listed in that, then the presumption in law is that activity is not allowed in that zone. You don't write, actually, if you go look at the ordinance itself, it says these are permitted in this zone. And so the inference is if it's not listed, then it's not allowed. There is nowhere on there does it say that you can cordial or it does say you can mine with a special use permit in A-1. So the inference is an interpretation is if it's not a listed use either as a use by right or a special use, then it's not a permitted activity. This is reinforced somewhat. If you look at the watershed district and the watershed district in special uses, there is a requirement if you're going to explore for natural gas or otherwise you're required to get a special use permit. That seems to suggest that in other districts, not then, you don't have the right to do it at all. That help any?

Allen: Not really. And then the other part is, people I've talked to said it's not a use. So why...

**Wright:** There's been a great, great deal of noise made about it's an activity and not to use. Zoning ordinances control both by assertion, and I've asked that there be some consideration given to the definition of use just to clarify that variation. Matthews: Okay, watershed district, is that...would another definition of that be the conservation district?

Wright: That where the watershed is.

Matthews: There's only one in the county? Only one watershed?

Wright: The watershed district is where Troublesome Creek Reservoir is.

Matthews: Okay.

Wright: And that covers roughly, from Sprouse's Corner, almost to the courthouse, back around through that area, and then back north on 15, down 20 and north on 15.

**Carter:** I think part when we worked on that is that, should a station, Sheetz or something like that want to locate within the watershed, they would have to have a special use permit, because they'd be drilling for having the gas wells and everything.

Wright: That's exploration for gas, natural gas, nothing to do with a service station.

Carter: I mean, not wells but for gas tank?

**Wright:** Well, I think that prohibition you would have to get a special use permit for exploration of natural gas or other ways not related to a service station. Another thing I want to try to clarify, and there seems to be some ambiguity about it, and probably I've done a poor job of trying to explain it. Accessory use, think about that. If you've got to farm in an A-1 district, and you want to put a barn in. And you want to make sure that the ground on which you're going to put that barn will hold that barn. You have every bit of right under the current ordinance to core drill and find out whether it will support a barn or not. You don't have to come to the county to ask permission to do that. That because that is an accessory use to something that is allowed in that district. What we're talking about is core drilling or commercial prospecting in regard to mining. Mining is not an allowed use in A-1. So it's not an accessory use, in that sense to core drill because you don't have the right to do the mining.

Allen: You have to have a special use permit to mine in A-1.

Wright: Mine, you can't core drill because mining is not a right in that A-1.

**Bickford:** It's not by right.

Matthews: It's not an accessory.

**Wright**: Now, I guess from the Planning Commission, if you want to make sure that... if your position is you want people to be able to core drill by right in A-1 and the other districts

mentioned or whichever ones you want to do, then you probably need to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to do that. If you don't, if you want something more strict, you probably need to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to do that. To do nothing from the Planning Commission, they can take action eventually in about probably another 60 day without worrying about what you're gonna say. Now I'll have to say if you say something to them, they still can do what they want to. But if the notion is to allow core drilling to happen in an A-1 district without registration, then you probably need to make that recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. Because right now it is the position of this county, that core drilling in A-1 for the purpose of finding out minerals or otherwise is not an allowed activity or use. And if you want to say okay, well let's test that and let's go ahead and see it through and see where we end up in court or BZA or otherwise and that's fine, but the position is to let them do it without registration in A-1, make that recommendation and then see where we go with it. I'm happy to try to entertain any other questions and make things clear as mud.

Matthews: You've done a great job of doing that already.

Wright: Yeah, I think I've succeeded in that.

Matthews: I think you've done a great job doing that.

**Miles**: Mr. Chairman, I would ask Mrs. Lann, I accidentally hit a button on the...to make a motion by accident. Could you clear that please? That was premature. Thank you didn't mean hit it.

**Matthews:** I agree with Mr. Wright. I'd like to hear... I'd like for you guys to give us something to go with here from your side of the story. So moving forward, you just heard what the man said. So I think we can pretty much see how that goes.

**Bickford:** Due to the fact I feel like we've done our due diligence, I make a motion that we make core drilling a by right in A-1, M-1 and M-2.

Allen: Second. With no registration right? You didn't say that, I just thought I'd make sure that we're on the same page.

**Bickford:** Well, you know, my position on registration, that if you're gonna do it, I think to protect the property rights, it needs to be just say and this company is active in Buckingham County. Or you just say no. I don't know which one...I don't... I'm leaning towards the other, but I'm not opposed to a registration. I just don't want to so specific that it encroaches on the owner's property rights. I feel like the more specific you get, the more apt somebody is fully imposed on them because people will be moving around and sneaking around and trying to find out.

Allen: So you want core drilling as a by right?

**Bickford:** That's what I'm putting for right now. I'd probably do that and then discuss the registration more.

Bowe: Any discussion? Let's vote. All in favor? Alice?

Gormus: Yes.

Bowe: Dabney? Opposed?

#### Commissioner Bickford moved, Supervisor/Commissioner Allen seconded to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that core drilling be a by right in A-1, M-1, and M-2 districts. This motion passed with a 4-1 vote. Dorrier absent, Crews did not answer. One position vacant. Bowe, Bickford, Allen and Gormus voting in favor. Shumaker opposed.

Allen: So move the recommendation on the Board of Supervisors.

Miles: Mr. Chairman.

**Matthews:** The Board of Supervisors will be considering the recommendation from the Planning Commission. Mr. Miles.

Miles: First, I'd like to, I know a lot of thought has been put into this and a lot of public comment and a lot of work by our staff and the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors, I'd like to thank all of you for the hard work. I know it has not been easy, namely for staff and those who have been involved from the public in terms of keeping up with our activity, which is, which is sometimes a full time job for us. So just a few comments, Mr. Chairman, the first thing I'd like to just remark on just a few general observations is that commercial prospecting, core sampling, whatever you want to call it. And we're going to get that straight. Obviously, not only for mining, it's not only for gold mining, it's not only for aggregate mining, and we've heard from Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy, Department Environmental Quality, some landowners, obviously during public comment and also during some of the testimonies we had with the Planning Commission. So I want to be clear to the citizens and that say we do give the green light to by right, commercial prospecting, core sampling as an activity not as a use but as an activity, that's not the green light to mine, whether it be aggregate. It's not the it's not the green light to anything that requires a special use permit because the only thing that can give a green light to something that requires a special use permit is a special use permit. So I want to make that clear. Okay. There's hearings about the Planning Commission. There's conditions that can be put on anything that requires a special use permit. I know, Mr. Chairman, that the there's been a notion of the use of cyanide with regards to with regards to a goldmine, which obviously we're not considering tonight we're considering really a zoning fix. And one of those conditions, if we get to that point, which we're not at that point, again, could be prohibition of cyanide and the mining process. And so that process is separate from what we're what we're considering now. That being said, Mr. Chairman, I'm in favor of a non-registered activity of core sampling in the A-1 district. I do think we need to protect the watershed district, I'll add that that's majority of its and in my district, surrounding the

Troublesome Creek. And that's where I am, in terms of what I think we ought to do. And I think it's, I think it's a fair compromise. Mr. Chairman, I think it's a fair compromise. And

There's a reason why there

Matthews: was a peaceful transfer this afternoon.

**Miles:** And I'm glad that um, it's interesting that, you know, we've heard from some industry experts, and there's a reason why it's why maybe this conversation necessarily has not happened in other states, like New York, New Jersey, and, you know, and other counties in the Commonwealth, and that it's a common practice for many uses. And I'm practicing that by saying that core sampling, in my opinion, is an activity that may contribute to the use, but depends on the use, depends on the permitting process. So that's my take on it. Mr. Chairman, thank you.

Matthews: Okay. Mr. Miles. Vice Chairman Miles is that a motion that you're making?

**Miles:** If it's going to get some discussion sure. I would move that, Mr. Chairman. I would start with the recommendation from the Planning Commission, Mr. Chairman, is A-1. And I guess I would ask staff M-1 and M-2 is by right? Is that right, or is that incorrect?

**Edmondston**: The hearing tonight was of course on commercial prospecting in A-1, M-1 and M-2 Zones.

**Miles:** Okay, I'd like that to be in the motion if we're going to have some discussion today, Mr. Chairman, so A-1, M-1, and M-2.

Allen: Second.

Matthews: We have a motion and it has been seconded. Do we need any further discussion?

Bryan: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I have something.

Matthews: Okay. Mr. Bryan, you were first.

**Bryan:** Do I understand that you're saying core drilling would be as the exploration for the material including but not limited to mineral, stone gas, or rock for commercial purposes by core sampling drilling?

Miles: Is that question for me? Yes, sir.

**Bryan:** Okay. Would you consider additional definitions that are consistent with the current position to the county?

Miles: Sure, if you like to read them.

Bryan: Yes, sir, I would.

Miles: Thank you.

**Bryan**: Any purpose for which a structure, track of land may be designed, arranged, intended, maintained or occupied. Also any activity, occupation, business or operation carried on or intended to be carried on in or on a structure or on a tract of land. That would be the use. Accessory uses as permitted by this Ordinance or subject to the provisions of Part One of Article 10 and accessory use is a use or building which 1. Is clearly subordinate to, customarily found in association with, and serves a principal use; and 2. is subordinate and purpose area or extent, to the principal use served; 3. contributes to the comfort, convenience or necessity of the occupants, Business Enterprise or industrial operation within the principal use served; 4. is located on the same lot as the principal use, except any building that is customarily incidental to any agricultural use shall be deemed to be an accessory use, whether or not it is situated on the same lot with the principal building.

Miles: Supervisor, Bryan, that's from the memorandum we got from...

Bryan: Yes, sir. Would you add that to your motion?

Miles: Just as long as it's defined as an activity? I would. Sure I would...sure. But I'd like to hear from others on that and I'll amend my motion. But just to be clear, that core sampling is an activity not to use.

Matthews: Is it limited to those things you mentioned Mr. Bryan?

Miles: Those definitions.

**Bryan:** That's just the definition. They are additional definitions that are consistent with current position to the county.

Matthews: Okay.

Allen: Those two separate things to me. We're doing core drilling right now. Uses and things, to me we should send that back to the Planning Commission.

Bryan: That was already sent, Mr. Allen.

Allen: That's been sent to you from EM. It hadn't been sent to nobody to go over.

Bryan: This is all in conjunction, Mr. Allen with your core drilling.

Allen: That's what you think.

Bryan: These were from the memo on Friday.

Allen: That's great. Nobody's gone over it. That's all. It's all been sent out.

Bryan: You had it.

Allen: I've got it. Everybody's got it.

Miles: Mr. Chairman,

Bryan: You had the chance to look at it.

Allen: So?

Miles: Mr. Chairman?

Matthews: Your motion, you don't want to leave it.

Miles: Oh, I want to amend my motion. But I want to hear from...

Matthews: We got another person that has some discussion. Supervisor Davis.

**Davis:** Only thing I have with it is everybody keeps...I want to take the commercial prospecting out of it. It's not commercial prospecting. It's core drilling. It's not prospecting. That's where everybody's got so confused over mining, well you say prospecting, whatever. First thing everybody thinks about prospecting is mining. It's core sampling. Core sampling is done every day all over the state. We do it, everybody else does it. Its part of...VDOT does it. So we need to say core sampling or geotechnical surveys. However you want to describe it. It's the same thing.

Allen: He said core sampling right?

Bryan: Core drilling.

**Davis:** Yeah, core drilling, core sampling, whatever. I mean, farmers have to do it. They want to know what the soil is. What they need to add to it and everything else. So I think the commercial prospecting needs to go away in my opinion.

Allen: Right now, it's not involved in what we did.

Matthews: That was a part of your motion wasn't it Johnny? Did you say anything about...?

Bickford: I specifically said core sampling.

Matthews: Okay, that's what that's what we're going with right there. Okay.

Allen: Well, I think the definition should be something else that we work on later. Not right now. I mean, we haven't even had discussion. Y'all got it in writing? Why don't we take time to discuss this and see if it's...

Bryan: It's just additional definitions. Mr. Allen?

Allen: Right. You go back and look at what the State has for it.

**Miles:** Mr. Chairman, the question I have, if I may? Is that if we adopt the definition that that that was the initial part of the motion? Do we need to adopt these two definitions in tandem?

**Bryan:** I'm just asking you to add it as additional accessory use. Okay. These are additional definitions that are consistent with the current position of the county. In addition to your core, I guess you could say core drilling, Johnny, instead of core sampling?

Bickford: I suppose that would be fine. I would say it would be the same.

Matthews: You could do core drilling slash core sampling.

Bryan: Probably one in the same.

**Bickford:** Yeah, I would perceive them both as the same.

Bryan: I would too. I would think they would be one of the same.

**Miles:** I agree with Supervisor, Bryan. But so the question that I wanted to ask Mr. Wright, is that say we do two separate motions, or even one motion? Do we still have to address these definitions tonight?

**Bryan:** No, because they're added into your motion. That's what I'm asking you. Would you consider adding them into your motion as additional definitions? Excuse me, Mr. Allen? I'm addressing Okay, I have the floor right now.

Allen: You ain't got shit.

Bryan: Thank you.

Allen: He made a motion. I asked him a question. Okay. I didn't ask you. I address my question to Supervisor Miles.

Matthews: Okay. Okay. Okay. We have a motion on the floor.

Miles: The answer is yes to amend my motion, Mr. Chairman.

Bryan: Thank you.

Allen: Take my second away then. I will not second your motion with that added to it.

**Robinson**: Order, please, Mr. Bowe. Is that possible? A point of order. I don't know what's going on here.

Bryan: Mr. Quinn...

Matthews: We're in the middle of discussions, Mr. Quinn.

Bryan: Thank you.

Robinson: However...

Bryan: Mr. Quinn, thank you.

**Robinson:** The Planning Commission. Why are the supervisors discussing the motion? You have to do it? So they're going to define...

Matthews: (hits the gavel) Mr. Quinn.

Robinson: Yes.

Matthews: You do not have the floor right now.

Robinson: Wait, okay. This is...

**Carter:** The planning commission has made a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. And now the Board of Supervisors are discussing that recommendation. So they are in the correct order.

Bryan: You can leave.

**Matthews:** So we've got a motion from the Planning Commission on their recommendation. And that's been passed and moved to the Board of Supervisors. So now we're in the midst of trying to get a motion to move forward with a recommendation from us, if that's what you want to do, or do we need to table this thing for further discussion to get better definitions of what Mr. Bryan has brought to light. So which way do we want to go?

Allen: My opinion is two separate motions.

Matthews: Okay. Okay.

**Bryan:** If he adds it into his motion, then it's no longer two separate motions, but it becomes one motion.

Allen: If he does that...

Bryan: And you've withdrawn your second.

Allen: That's what I'm doing. Okay, so if he adds it I withdraw my second.

Bryan: Thank you.

Allen: Now you figure it out.

**Miles**: Mr. Chairman, Supervisor Allen, if I could ask the gentleman a question, Supervisor Allen so you'd rather see this separate? And then we can make two separate motions tonight, or we need to put off the definitions that Supervisor Bryan was talking about?

Allen: What you've got is a motion adding to the zoning.

Miles: Core drilling, talking about that? Yes, sir.

Allen: His part was definition. But that's not exactly what we need to add to the motion in my opinion.

Bryan: It's all part of the same.

Allen: I have the floor. So to me, it's two different motions. But the put them together I think is wrong.

Matthews: Do you want to make remake your motion?

**Miles:** Can I? The question I had for Mr. Wright, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Wright, do we have to adopt the definitions tonight? I mean, how are we looking on this? If we just go ahead with the initial part of my motions?

Wright: Would you mind restating what your motion is just so I can try to address it correctly?

**Miles:** Yes, sir. So my motion would be to allow core drilling by right, without registration as an activity and the A-1 and M-1 and M-2 districts using the definition on putting that forward Yes, sir. So that was the initial part of my motion. And then Mr. Bryan asked me would I amend the motion with regards to the two definitions. And I said, yes.

Wright: Can I ask you a question in return?

Miles: Sure. Please.

Wright: What fish do you want to catch in that basket?

Miles: The fish? I love salmon.

Wright: Well, okay, but do you want to catch prospecting activities? Or do you want to catch all core drilling?

Miles: Wouldn't prospecting be in both of those?

**Wright**: If you say core drilling in A-1, M-1 and otherwise, then you turn around you are now regulating a whole lot of core drilling. And that's why I'm asking whether you are when you say core drilling, are you expanding really what you want to regulate? Mr. Davis pointed out businesses engage in activities that are underlying uses in that permit can do core drilling without any regulation from the county. That's why we've tried to focus on the commercial prospecting or if you want to do core drilling for mineral, dadada exploration, then that would be a way to focus in and you won't catch unintended consequences of other businesses. I think we can work out a definition if you want to table that discussion, maybe we can come back with while you do some other business, maybe we can come back to this. But the notion is and I want to make sure you understand the notion is to allow core drilling for the mineral type of activity as a permitted right and A-1, M-1, M-2, and AC and you want it to be directed at those people who are exploring for the possibility of mining, quarrying or otherwise. Am I understanding the discussion correctly?

**Miles:** Mr. Chairman, so my intent, Mr. Wright would be that core drilling period, not for just for mining but we can table things and until we can get a better definition.

**Wright:** Core drilling, if you're saying core drilling, you may be catching the farmer in that situation.

Miles: I don't want to do that.

**Bryan:** Would it be clear Mr. Wright, if we were to say core drilling, as the exploration for the material, including but not limited to mineral, stone, gas or rock for commercial purposes by core sampling drilling?

**Wright:** If I heard you right. I think its okay. But I was focused on a couple of things. Mr. Allen is quite correct, if it's permitted, right. But the problem is you're only putting it in certain districts. And if you remember the discussion I had earlier was the fact that you haven't labeled in one district as a permitted use implies that it's not allowed in the other districts and if you broaden that definition to include everything, the amperage may be in those other districts, it's not an accessory use.

**Miles:** I would feel more comfortable having something in writing so maybe we should table this until Mr.

Wright: I will bring it back to you after you do some of the other business on the agenda.

Miles: I withdraw my motion until we can further have something in writing, Mr. Chairman.

Matthews: Okay, we're gonna move on.

### Re: Public Hearing: Case 20-ZMA280 Amos Beiler Request to Rezone from A-1 to B-1 for the purpose of Operating Businesses

**Edmondston:** This evening, we also had a public hearing for Case 20-ZMA280. This is Mr. Amos Beiler. He is the landowner and applicant at 115 Acre Point Lane. The tax map is 151-15. It contains approximately 20 acres and the Watson Dugan plat dated September 26. It's located on East James Anderson Highway. His request of course is to rezone from Agricultural A-1 to Business B-1 for the purpose of operating businesses on a main corridor. This was introduced to you last month. Mr. Beiler is here and ready to answer any questions that you have in regard to this rezoning request.

Matthews: Mr. Beiler?

Beiler: Good evening.

Matthews: Good evening.

Beiler: My name is Amos Beiler. I'm at 115 Acre Point Lane in Dillwyn.

Edmondston: Do yall have any questions for Mr. Beiler? This is the public hearing for this request.

Matthews: Are there any people speaking at the public hearing?

Lann: No one signed up.

**Matthews**: Do you guys have any questions for Mr. Beiler? I'm sorry. Let's open up this public hearing to rezone from A-1 to a Business B-1 for the purpose of operation of the businesses. No comments so we will close this public hearing. Any discussion? So I guess they don't have any questions for you, Mr. Beiler.

**Bryan:** Mr. Chairman, I move that we go ahead and rezone this from A-1 to B-1 for the purpose of operating the business.

Miles: I'll second that, Mr. Chairman.

**Matthews:** We have a motion and a second on the floor. Any discussion? No. Let's take the vote. Seven. Yes. It passes. Thank you, Mr. Beiler.

Carter: Thank you for bringing new business to our county.

# Supervisor Bryan moved, Vice Chairman Miles seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to approve the request to rezone from A-1 to B-1 for Mr. Amos Beiler on James Anderson Highway to operate businesses.

**Matthews:** Gonna go back. Does the Planning Commission need to adjourn or do y'all want to adjourn or do you want to wait till...we'll let you go ahead and do your thing then. But stay around for the fireworks.

**Bickford:** I make a motion that we adjourn.

Allen: Second.

Bowe: All in favor? Unanimous.

#### <u>Commissioner Bickford moved, Supervisor/Commissioner Allen seconded and was</u> <u>unanimously carried by the Board to adjourn the Planning Commission meeting.</u>

#### **Re: Road Matters**

Matthews: We have road matters. Do we have any discussion from the board?

Chambers: I got one Mr. Chairman.

Frederick: Good evening Board members. You guys hear me?

Matthews: Yes. We hear you.

**Frederick:** Okay. Scott Frederick with the Virginia Department of Transportation here. I guess road matters is normally where I speak if you guys are ready for me.

Matthews: Mr. Chambers has the floor.

Frederick: Okay, sorry about that, sir.

**Chambers:** Yes sir. I got citizen complaining about water 1002 Camden Street and the Hancock Street where the water runs off the hill down in her basement. Floods her basement when it rains. If someone could check that out and see what they can do to correct that problem.

**Frederick**: Yeah, we'd be happy to take a look at it. Can you tell me the address to the property one more time?

**Chambers:** At the intersection of 1002 and 1001 Hancock Street and Camden Street. In Dillwyn like going down to Ellis Acres.

Frederick: Okay, all right. Well, I'll send somebody out there tomorrow to take a look at it.

Chambers: Okay. She is having a problem with the water flooding the basement.

Frederick: Okay, thank you All right. Thank you sir.

Matthews: Is there any other issues throughout the county that you guys would like to address?

Allen: I've got one thing. It's up Dillwyn with all the new road work and all coming out of Main Street coming right there by the liquor store.

Frederick: Oh yes sir. The Streetscape project.

Allen: Where they make you stop at when you come out of that road. You're looking right into the side of the store. The old store. I don't know if you need to look at that again to see if a it needs changing because you can't tell if anybody's coming down the road at all. Because you're behind the store instead of up further. Just something to look at.

Frederick: Okay, is it which store did you say you come out of?

Chambers: The liquor store.

Frederick: I have to be very careful when I take the state vehicle to the American Boys Club.

Matthews: I think I think Mr. Bryan has one.

Bryan: Scott, were your guys able to look at that runoff right there at 6939 Bell Road?

Frederick: I believe we were, that was that last month or the month before?

**Bryan:** I raised it the month before and then last month with all that heavy rain that we had you know it causes it because it doesn't run into the to the ditch line because of the grass growth there. You know it stays on the road and creates a puddle.

Frederick: Yeah.

Bryan: I mean, I can meet you

**Frederick**: We looked at it. It was actually raining and I snapped a couple pictures. But a lot of that water is coming off the private property next to us and puddling what looks to me like right off the right away and I don't know what I could do the ditch to make it drain better without getting actually off the VDOT right away right there. We might have to meet out there in the field and look at. If you want to meet and look at it with me we could do that.

Bryan: Oh, absolutely. Just let me know when?

Frederick: Okay. Thank you, sir. We can certainly set that up. Hopefully, if not this week, then early next week.

Bryan: Okay, that'll work.

**Matthews:** Scott. This is Don Matthews, District Three. I've just been riding throughout my district here recently and some of the gravel roads on the transition strips and even on the gravel roads themselves, the potholes are seeming to get or getting worse by the day, and I don't know if I don't have any specific road numbers, but I've just noticed on some of the ones I've been riding on that it's not getting better. It's getting worse by the day. So I don't know if they need to check some of those roads up and down the 15 corridor off of 15 and over towards a Crumptown and up towards Chestnut Grove.

**Frederick:** Okay, yes, sir. We, this has been like, I think the wettest year on record since 1920. And we happen to be right smack dab in the middle of what I call pothole season with this cold temperatures at night and wet roads. They, I agree they it seems like every time I ride down certain roads, they're worse, but we've been machining almost every single day on our unpaved roads. And it's just very hard to keep up with. I mean, I think there's over 100 miles of unpaved road in Buckingham County. So we will certainly check your district that that area and add stone as appropriate and try to keep them passable for you, sir.

Matthews: Okay. Thank you so much.

Davis: Mr. Chairman, I have something for him too.

Matthews: Yes, sir. Mr. Davis.

**Davis:** It's Cartersville Road, Rt. 610 from 15 down to Bryant's Store. It is just, the road is coming all the pieces and with the log trucks coming up through and all it's just... the road is just deteriorating bad. I'd just like for y'all to take a look at and see if some of those potholes you could do something with them or something, but it's just getting in bad shape.

Frederick: Ok. I wrote that one down too. Yeah, we'll take a close look at that.

Davis: Thank you.

**Miles:** Mr. Chairman. I'd like to thank Mr. Frederick for addressing the issues that I've laid out to him on email. I appreciate it, Scott. Thank you.

Frederick: No problem. Thank you, sir.

**Matthews:** All right. Well, thank you, Scott. We appreciate all you do for us, and hopefully, it's gonna dry up one of these days.

**Frederick:** Okay, yeah. I'm looking forward to warm dry weather soon. Sooner than later, hopefully. If you don't have anything else for me or any questions, I'll be happy to let you guys continue with the meeting. Thanks.

Bryan: Give me a call when you want to meet.

Frederick: Okay. Yes, sir. I will. I'll bring the superintendent along as well.

Bryan: Okay.

Allen: I do have one more thought or question.

Frederick: Yes, Mr. Allen.

Allen: Yeah, we just approved the new business down there on 60.

**Frederick**: When you guys did that, I said, hey, I'm gonna get a new commercial driveway permit.

Allen: So what the question one time was brought up to you about your 45 mile an hour limit going down through there. Do you have time to look at that? Has anyone said any more to you about it?

**Frederick:** What's the location of it one more time? I heard that they approved the zoning, but I missed the location when it was in discussion.

Allen: About a mile east from the stoplight right there at Sprouse's Corner on Rt. 60.

Frederick: Okay.

Allen: Right there on the left. I think you will see a lot of horse and buggies going that way. And I'm just wondering what we can do to help that situation out.

**Frederick**: Okay, we can look at it and do a speed study. Depending on what the type of business is, I don't know if that we would see a big enough change in traffic volumes just because of that one business coming in. It would certainly depend on what it is. But we can certainly review it. Do a speed study on it if necessary?

Allen: Oh, I don't know a whole lot. But I'm just asking you. You know, once we get involved with it, I'm hoping it's not gonna be a real big deal with a lot of horses going in road and on 60 since that's a busy road.

Frederick: Yeah.

Allen: Keep it in the back of your mind.

**Frederick:** Yeah, other than doing the... we did the county wide signage at the perimeter of the county and then we posted the horse and buggy signage to increase awareness of the horse and buggy activity and I feel like we've got 60 pretty well posted to try to increase driver awareness. But it's legal to travel the roads with a horse and buggy. So, not much VDOT could do to change that or to I mean, we can make signage. We could maybe post smaller signs at that location if there's going to be a big increase in horse and buggy traffic right there. The speed study would be the right move on that I can certainly meet with traffic engineering office and see what their input would be. And then certainly meet with the Board of Supervisors as well through that Amish safety committee that you guys have started that I participate in. So I think it's a good discussion to have and like to see what we could do there.

Allen: Just something to keep an eye on.

Frederick: Yeah, exactly. I'm glad you brought it up. Thank you, sir.

Allen: Thank you.

Matthews: Okay, thank you, Scott. And I think that's all. So have a good evening.

#### **Re: Zoning Matters**

**Matthews:** Other zoning matters? Nicci Edmondston. Do we have anything else that we need to discuss?

Edmondston: No sir.

Matthews: Thank you

#### Re: Melody Foster, Executive Director CRC, Membership Refund

**Foster:** Yes. Can you hear me? Good evening. Yes. Did you want me to go ahead? I'm Melody Foster, the Executive Director of the Commonwealth Regional Council. And I'm here to present a refund tonight. But I first wanted to take a brief moment to direct your attention to a newsletter that's been provided to you. It's the yearend review of the Commonwealth Regional Council, we've had a very busy year with some staff leaving, but we've also had new staff. We've had new board members as well. But we're very happy to announce that Cumberland and Nottoway Counties have joined the CRC. So we now have full membership, which has not occurred since 2005. We have all seven counties now members of the Commonwealth Regional Council, I'm not going to go through the whole newsletter, I'll let you take that home and look at it. But there's stories throughout the newsletter on projects that we've been working on and other notable things. But I want to draw your attention to Page Six, which is the next the last page that shows locality awards of grants that we've assisted on, and as well as grants that come directly to the council. And these are all in 2020. The grand total for 2020 was \$1.8 million in grants to the region. Buckingham County directly benefited in three local projects, totaling \$328,315. And then also with three regional projects that they benefit from as well totaling \$249,125. So the grand total of benefit to Buckingham County was \$577,440. So I just wanted to bring that to your attention, you can see the projects are listed there. And that's the only since last January. So then there's other projects out there that may not have had award announcements. But this was just something we wanted to point out. So now as I said, you should have a check, we're happy to present the Board a check for \$8,536.06 in membership do use refund. As you're aware the Council adopted a policy in 2017. That set a goal for the CRC audited cash fund balance of \$500,000. In years that the audit, if the audited cash fund exceeded that amount, then those funds would be returned to the member's locality. This year's audited cash fund balance was \$544,536. So therefore, we're returning \$44,536 to the member localities. And as I said a minute ago that check for the county is \$8,536.06. However in doing so, we do know that the member locality can keep this refund or choose to reinvest these funds in the Commonwealth Regional Council. I would be happy to answer any questions.

**Matthews:** I'd like to turn this over to Mrs. Carter. I think she usually has a few good suggestions for us as a Board.

**Carter**: In the past when they have money to refund the county has voted to reinvest it back into the CRC. Particularly sometimes there's upfront grant money that they need up front for grants. And also, I think it's important for the CRC, they're being so successful, Melanie, we have... you're right. We have gotten so many grants this year and you have worked so hard with us and our staff. But I think reinvesting it back would help too, because I believe we, in the future need to look at better office space for the CRC. Mr. Miles, Vice Chairman Miles serves on the CRC, but I would recommend you reinvest back that they can use this money.

**Miles:** Mr. Chairman, I would make a motion that we reinvest the money with the Commonwealth Regional Council and as your Commonwealth Regional Council representative it really is great to work with such a professional group of regional leaders. The Council does... the Commonwealth Regional Council staff does a great job in terms of assisting not only this county, but also the Town Dillwyn and the towns and the other localities across Planning District 14. And we've been able to really benefit from that. So that would be my motion, sir.

#### Bryan: I'll second.

**Matthews**: Okay, we have a motion on the floor and a second. Any further discussion? I would like to say, you know, just moving forward, I'm just so happy and so pleased with the amount of funds that CRC has helped generate for Buckingham County, especially during this year where we have taken over the EMS services in Buckingham County, during a pandemic here. This is just you guys hit it out of the ballpark Mrs. Foster, and I just want to commend you on that. So with unless somebody else has something to say, do we need to go ahead and take a vote on this? Okay, let's take the vote. It's unanimous. We're gonna give this money back to you Mrs. Foster, hopefully you can take us out to dinner. So

## Vice Chairman Miles moved, Supervisor Bryan seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to reinvest the \$8,536.06 in the Commonwealth Regional Council.

**Foster:** I want to say thank you. And it's always a team effort to working with the staff and Buckingham County, they do a great job and the council members as well. So I just want to say thank you from the Commonwealth Regional Council.

Matthews: Thank you so much.

#### Re: Dillwyn Mayor Linda Paige, Request for Financial Assistance

**Matthews:** Okay, the next item of business is the Dillwyn Mayor Mrs. Linda Paige. Request for financial assistance, maybe you want to go up to the microphone and give us a little bit of explanation.

**Paige:** Good evening. Thank you all for accepting me to come to make this request. As we had mentioned earlier, we are in the phase with the Transportation Enhancement Project four and five. When we started this project, it was an extension of the other projects, which I just stated, well, we have ran into financial problems because we were not aware, the Town was not aware that we had to pay the money upfront. And then we in turn would have to be reimbursed. We did not have the funding. When they submitted the bill, we have cashed in the CDs. And we have one more that we're going to cash in, in order to pay what we need to pay. So tonight we've paid \$125,000. When our conversation with Sharon, who is the VDOT representative, she ensures us that once payment has been made that it will be turned around within 30 days. We went to a couple of banks but due to the low revenue that we have for the Town, we were not able to secure any help. So we're coming to you to ask the county what they can do to assist us with being...with giving us the money to pay off the Transportation Enhancement Project. And then in 30, within 30 days, is supposed to return back to you. What we were told initially, that we had a \$400,000 and some match. But it's fine tuning as of last Thursday, and I was thinking about that when Melanie was speaking, Melanie CRC what's helping you know crunch the figures. And we found that we have basically matched everything for the Town except like \$86,000. So I'm asking the County, I think is \$1.3 million, if you all could assist us or whatever you can do to assist us with this project. The payment of this project.

Matthews: Don't go anywhere. We got a few questions I'm sure. We've got a few questions.

Paige: Oh, sure. Okay, so I'll do my best to answer them.

Matthews: I'm gonna open up for discussion from these other gentlemen.

Bryan: Good evening Mrs. Paige. How are you?

Paige: I'm fine. How are you? Mr. Bryan?

Bryan: Did you talk to your district representative about this prior to tonight?

Paige: No, I'm sorry. I apologize.

**Bryan:** Um, the way you just said it is you're gonna cover everything except \$86,000. That's reimbursable. Is that correct?

**Paige:** No, ask again, because I don't understand what you...our part that we owe now is \$86,000 for the match for the town. And we are going to match \$60,000 some. We have one CD left is 61 or \$63,000. Then our part left will be \$20,000 some.

Bryan: So you're still you're still short?

Paige: Yes. We're still short.

**Bryan:** Let's round it to \$25,000. Okay, let's say its \$25,000. Okay. So you're gonna need the county to bail you out of what VDOT is willing to reimburse, which is probably \$994,000. And the county is still stuck holding the bag for \$25,000.

Paige: Okay, but no, we would plan to repay you the \$25,000.

**Bryan:** But I don't see looking at your budget, Mayor Paige, I don't see how you can repay us when your revenue is \$148,746. And your expenditures are \$148,746. So basically, if you take in everything, you're giving out everything. There is no excess money in your budget.

Paige: No.

**Bryan:** You don't have a cushion at all. So basically, the county is not going to be reimbursed for the \$25,000.

**Paige:** Yes, because the \$125,000 that we have already paid to the company, \$80,000 is going to be returned to...the whole \$125,000 will be returned. The \$80,000 is what they will be returning to us. So that will be our money. The \$80,000. Out of the \$125,000 that we have paid, the \$80,000 that is coming back is going to be the town's money.

Bryan: From who?

Paige: From who? From VDOT, I'm sorry.

Bryan: But VDOT is only going to give you what the grant says minus your match.

Paige: Yes, we've reached out match except for \$87,000.

Bryan: Yes, but you are able to cover 60 of that 80.

**Paige:** Right. And I'm saying 80,000 is coming back to us. I know. It's confusing. It's confusing. Tell me about it.

Bryan: Doing the math...

Paige: I said, tell me about it. That is confusing.

**Bryan:** No, it's not. I mean, you know, breaking it down. They're saying, you know, let's say it's a million dollars, it's more than that. But let's say it's a million dollars. And they say, Mrs. Paige, you got to pay us \$200,000. Okay, so you paid \$120,000? You still owe \$80,000? Okay, they're gonna give you back \$800,000 for what they promised to pay you. The other money comes out of you. It's not coming back to you. Nobody else is giving it to you. That's your money. You got to generate that money. In looking at your budget, you don't generate that money.

**Paige:** I understand, I guess maybe I'm confused because to me that 100 and when they send me back when they send it back...

Bryan: They are not sending you any money back.

**Paige:** Oh, yes, we have applied to VDOT for them to reimburse us \$125,000 and I apologize for not making that clear. See, the problem is we didn't realize when we when this is an ongoing project. And we did not realize that once the money was spent that we would have to pay the people and then in return, they would give us the money back and looking through the past expenditures, these other projects, they never cost \$1.3 million. They were \$300,000, \$400,000 which the town had at that particular time. But right now VDOT owes us \$125,000. It owes the town because that's the money that we have sent out of our budget and our CD's. So that is our money that's going to come back?

**Carter**: Let me explain the way it was explained to me. Okay, is that VDOT has paid the contractor \$125,000.

Paige: It's in the process.

Carter: Yeah, you have paid that contractor that though.

Paige: We paid him...Yes, I'm sorry, Becky, you're right.

**Carter:** I saw your bank account where y'all did pay that. Now, they're waiting on reimbursement from the state of 80% of that. So they'll get that much back that they can apply toward this. And really the last few days and weekend, we've been crunching numbers because really at first they, the Town was gonna have to pay \$240,000 match. VDOT gave into some of the matches for bonding that didn't apply to that and other things. So, but Friday, I think we came down to we had a conference call with Melanie with CRC because they're managing a project. And we came down to the town needing a match of \$87,167. The town thought they had about

\$25,000 in CDs. But they ended up having \$61,000. So they will still need the \$87,167 minus 61. So they still need almost \$26,000.

Allen: Once we give them \$26,000 they will have the whole amount to pay it and then they'll be able to get the money back from VDOT which...

**Carter:** The way it would work is the town pays the contractor. And the contractor called me today because they're... But they realize it's not your responsibility, but they were told that you might help them. They said you said to call me but they pay the contractor. The town pays the contractor. Then they submit that payment to VDOT and VDOT is going to reimburse the town 80% of that cost. However, the contractor did say there's a couple change orders out there. And we're not sure how much they are yet. Did VDOT approve those change orders?

Paige: I don't know yet. We had a meeting this morning.

Matthews: Well, who made the change orders?

Paige: VDOT.

Matthews: VDOT did?

Paige: I don't know for sure.

Carter: Yeah. The change orders were those things the town asked for and are the things that...

Paige: Oh, I don't think that we had change orders.

**Carter:** He told me today they didn't have all that yet.

Paige: They met today. But I wasn't there this morning.

Allen: But you need to\$ 26,000 so you can pay it in so you can get a refund.

**Paige:** We've already submitted...oh, wait a minute, you're talking about the money that we will end up owing.

Allen: Yeah. If you don't give 100% of what you owe, you don't get the refund? Is that right?

Paige: Yes.

**Carter:** And I think what they're asked them for my opinion, after all discussions is, and by the way, the contractor said as of the day you owe them \$800,000 and some. But they haven't billed yet. They still got invoices to send you. Because yeah, I think what they're asking for is the county to fund the pass through money. And VDOT would then pay them back in the county would pay the county but you'd still be about \$20,000 some short plus whatever change orders.

So that's pretty much guess it.

Allen: Then you'll be able to pay the change orders with part of the \$86,000 that you get back from VDOT.

Bryan: No.

**Paige:** I know that one of the change orders, I know that it is one of the change orders involved, with the Ranson property when they did it. They went in and made it where only one car could go in. And they are now trying to expand it to where two cars will go back and forth. Because it was a controversy in reference to that. I know that's one of the change orders.

Foster: Becky, this is Melanie Foster. I'm still on.

Carter: I'm glad you stayed on.

Foster: Do you mind if I jump in here for a second?

Carter: We'd love that, please.

**Foster:** It's very possible that the change orders actually are going to lower the cost. But we did not want to include that in the amount because we didn't know how much they were going to be. Because one of them is probably going to involve over at the Buckingham Branch Railroad where they're going across the crossing. And then another thing that will probably change the price and make it go down as you know, they've already taken out the sidewalk there at one of the properties there. That involves an instance where the easement wasn't provided. So some of the change orders are actually going to probably lower the cost. We don't really envision it going up.

Carter: That's good.

**Foster:** But to make sure that all costs were covered, that's how we came up with the total that was \$944,688.20 with the town providing the match of \$87,167. So if I'm hearing correctly, if you covered the VDOT cost of \$944,688, and Mrs. Paige is saying she thinks she has a CD for \$61,000. So that would lower her need as \$26,000 in match, if she were to ask for \$970,688 that would cover all costs. And hopefully not even all of that would be spent. We don't know that for sure. Does that answer or did I make it less clear?

Paige: That helped a lot.

Foster: Okay.

**Carter:** Melanie, Mrs. Paige was talking about the money they're gonna get back from VDOT for that payment that they've made, have you all taken in consideration, that that money so that's in these numbers we have? So it's not like extra money, they're gonna have.

Foster: No maam, if you've got that chart I sent you the other day, in the middle there, it's already included.

**Carter:** I thought so. So that's to clear that up, that's not gonna be extra money they're gonna have. It's in these numbers.

**Foster:** I explained this the other day, it probably just confuses the Board. But there are some bond proceeds that are included in the project. And those funds did not have to be matched by the town. So that's why their match actually got lowered. And that was extremely helpful in moving this project forward, that was \$274,005 in bond proceeds that did not have to be matched. So that's why their match got lowered, which was extremely helpful.

**Carter:** That was good news. Very good news for the town. I think she said the \$944 plus the 25.

Bryan: Yeah, 944 688 would come back to us, though from VDOT. We're still out \$26,000.

Carter: \$26,000

Bryan: Yeah. With no way to pay it back.

Matthews: Have you exhausted all avenues of funding?

Paige: Yes.

Matthews: What does your banker say? Who do you bank with?

Paige: First Bank. He said no.

Matthews: Why?

**Paige:** They just told us that we didn't have enough revenue coming through for us to qualify. And then Farmers Bank also. VML. We tried all three of those. And they all said no.

Bryan: How much did you ask for?

Paige: 1.3 million.

Matthews: Well, you really don't need 26,000. Why did you ask for 1.3 million?

Paige: We need that money before we submit to VDOT turn around and come back.

**Bryan**: I mean, before we do anything, I'd like to know, what's the total bill? What's the change orders? You know, what's the final figure?

Paige: Okay, all right.

Bryan: Owed by the Town of Dillwyn.

**Carter:** As Melanie said, if the change orders, and the contractor didn't mention that, but this whole project could be less. So he did say that he was would try to work that up. Because I too was trying to come to a final number and that there could be still some changes made, I guess.

Bryan: I mean, I think the way it's written right now, we can't vote on this tonight anyway.

Paige: Okay. I figured as much.

**Bryan:** Oh, it's way over. I mean, its \$970,000 over. But my concern is the Town takes in \$148,746 and that's cashing in a CD that you no longer have and your expenditures are 148,746. That's based on you getting all the revenue in from everybody that owes you and what happens if you don't?

**Paige**: Something positive I know we get but if we don't, you know, we'll come up with something else. You know, perhaps if we go back to a bank and not answer all this money, asked for you know, a smaller amount, you know, they may would give us a line of credit.

**Carter:** But then didn't they see the VDOT plan. You know, it was just what they were asking for is kind of a line of credit to flow through? To pay the contract and get the money back, let it come back and pay the bank. Right. So I guess what you're saying is, if the county does provide this flow, then you, the bank may loan you \$25,000. Maybe I don't? I don't know. That's maybe the next time? I don't know.

**Paige:** Because to me, CRC, the \$125,000 that we have already paid is our money that's coming back.

**Carter:** She just said, she just said it's included in all these numbers. Yeah, that's not extra money you're gonna have? It's not. It's included in this number where she came to the \$944,688.

**Bryan:** Mayor Paige. Do you mind if Mrs. Carter and Mr. Carter, start working with the contractor and get a final figure?

Paige: I have no problem at all with that. I appreciate your wanting to do that.

Matthews: It wouldn't hurt...

**Bryan:** With all the change orders, I mean, everything. What's the final bill? You know, done, out the door over with walkaway.

**Foster:** can I also add that this project is supposed to be completed by the middle or the end of next month? So by your next board meeting, hopefully, unless, you know, there's any weather issues, we would be able to give you like you said a more firm number of what those costs would b

Bryan: Okay. Thank you, Mrs. Foster.

Carter: Thank you.

#### Re: Back to the Zoning Amendment Issue

Matthews: Do we want to revisit the zoning stuff now? What's the pleasure?

Miles: Mr. Chairman.

Matthews: Yes, sir.

**Miles:** I would offer motion that we allow by right as a non-registered activity, commercial core drilling as a right in the A-1, AC and M-1 and M-2 districts, as defined by the document that Mr. Wright has distributed as commercial core drilling is defined as the exploration for the material, including but not limited to mineral, gas, stone or rock for commercial purposes, about core sampling/drilling. That's my motion, Mr. Chairman, and I'd like to hear some discussion from others supervisors.

**Carter:** In that motion, do you want to include the part he has their about use and accessory use?

**Miles**: Not at this point? I mean, I'll, if anyone wants to make that motion a little bit, you know, because I do recognize that, you know, Supervisor Bryan, and we discussed this earlier, but that that wasn't part of the Planning Commission's recommendation. And the question in the back of my mind is does the Planning Commission need to discuss this more? So that's kind of where I am with that.

Matthews: Yeah, we got a motion on the floor.

Allen: I know. It was sent to us by the Planning Commission as core drilling and not commercial core drilling. It makes a different definition. To me, I'd like to take the commercial out, but that's up yall.

Bryan: The motion dies.

Matthews: No second, the motion is gonna die.

Allen: Nobody made a motion.

Miles: Yes, sir. I did. Supervisor Allen. I'm sorry.

Allen: You didn't push the button.

Miles: No, I mean, I'm not gonna push the button because it's a dead motion. So anyway.

Matthews: Well, it can't be till you make the motion.

Miles: I'll defer to another supervisor on that one.

Matthews: Can you do that? Are you making a motion or not?

**Bryan:** It's one continuous document, as presented by the county attorney to include the use and the accessory use.

Miles: And remove commercial Supervisor Bryan?

Bryan: Just the way it's written.

Allen: It didn't come to us like that. But I mean, yeah.

**Bryan**: I mean, they could have not submitted anything to us. And then we still got the right to make amendments to it and change it the way we want.

Allen: That's fine. I understand. I don't like commercial. But I didn't make a motion. So I'm not gonna I'm not gonna put a second on myself.

Davis: I think the use in the accessory use protects us a little bit.

Bryan: Absolutely.

Davis: The way I am reading it.

**Miles**: So if we included use and accessory uses definitions and cut commercial you would you all would be good with that? I'm just trying to...

**Bryan**: I don't want to cut core drilling. Commercial core drilling is as it's written. That's the whole contentious issue here is the commercial core drilling. The "commercial" core drilling. That's what this whole hearing was about tonight was because Aston Bay was commercially drilling in A-1 district. It wasn't brought here because Mr. Davis was double checking his gas station to see if it was leaking. Or, you know, Mr. Frederick was core sampling a road to see if it

was going to be heavy enough. This is commercial core drilling. That's the intent of why we came here to try to define that.

Allen: When did commercial come up?

Matthews: They are a landowner, just like we are. It's not really commercial.

**Davis:** We'll I want to know, my question is, is all the Weyerhaeuser holdings in the county that they have timber on, is all that land zoned commercial? It's timber, right. So that's agricultural, right? So we allow farmers to core drill to see what they need to put their crops on.

Bryan: That's not commercial core drilling.

Davis: Right. How is it commercial core drilling for agriculture timber?

Miles: But they're exempt. Is that right?

Matthews: Yes, sir.

**Wright:** Drilling related to that farming and forestry operation, they don't have to do anything. They just do it automatic. Commercial drilling is to make sure you don't catch...

Allen: Well that's just the opposite of what we were talking about. While ago, you said anybody can do what they want (several people talking at same time, couldn't hear)

**Wright:** It's not the same. Anybody can do whatever they want to do on their land. I said if they had a right to do it on their land because of a permitted use or an accessory use they could do without having to come to the county. There is no mining in A-1, AC, M-1 or M-2 and what you're doing is establishing the right for them to core drill for a commercial looking for minerals or otherwise.

Carter: Mining is permitted in M-2.

**Wright:** Yeah, then fine. The commercial part is to make sure you don't catch the farmer when you don't catch a service station with by right (may not be exact due to loud noise in system). That was the intent. It's not trying to penalize anybody but reflect what you had in your mind. Or at least what I understood.

**Carter:** You're saying that anything other than commercial is grandfathered or they can do it? Anyway, to clarify, if we're talking about A-1, farmers and all that they're exempt from having to...

**Wright:** Farmers are not affected by these definitions. They are not affected by it at all. It is for the exploration. It is not affected by it all if it's an agricultural farming purpose.

Matthews: One more time, is there a motion on the floor or is it not one are you retracting it?

Miles: My motion died, Mr. Chairman, because nobody would second it.

Wright: A motion by a supervisor does not require second to the motions.

**Matthews:** But it really wasn't what the Planning Commission recommended just for the record.

Carter: We do not have to accept all of their recommendation.

Matthews: We can make that decision on our own but you know.

Miles: So in an effort to compromise, Mr. Chairman, I would make another motion. Okay.

Carter: We have a motion on the floor.

**Miles:** My motion died Becky. Okay. So my motion Mr. Chairman, if I may, would be to define commercial core drilling as a by right activity in A-1, AC, M-1 and M-2 as previously defined and also adopt the definitions for use and accessory use. They are two with the stipulation that core drilling is a permitted activity in A-1, AC M-1, and M-2.

Bryan: That's your motion.

Miles: Yes, sir.

Bryan: As defined on this memo.

Miles: Yes, sir. You put the use and accessory use? Is that what you mean? Yes, sir. With that regard with regard to the as defined with use and accessory use in the memorandum.

Bryan: Okay. Make a motion?

Miles: Yes, sir. That's my motion.

Bryan: I'll second that.

**Matthews:** All right, we got a motion and a second. Any more discussion on this matter? Call for the vote.

<u>Vice Chairman Miles moved, Supervisor Bryan seconded to define commercial core drilling as</u> <u>a by right activity in A-1, AC, M-1 and M-2 as previously defined and also adopt the</u> <u>definitions for use and accessory use. They are two with the stipulation that core drilling is a</u> <u>permitted activity in A-1, AC M-1, and M-2.</u> This motion passed with a 5-2 vote. Supervisors

## Davis, Bryan, Miles, Bryant and Chambers voting in favor. Supervisors Mathews and Allen opposed.

#### Re: Consider appointment of two Board members to the Water and Wastewater Utilities Committee and County staff as outlined in the By-Laws and Rules of Procedures

**Matthews:** One, consider the appointment to board members to the water and wastewater utilities committee and county staff as outlined by the bylaws and rules and procedures.

Allen: Who's on that committee now?

**Bryan:** That Supervisors Miles and myself since were the two districts that have waste, water and utility.

Allen: Y'all want to stay on it? He made a motion to keep it on and I'll second.

Matthews: Okay. Let's take the vote. Yes, unanimous. Seven votes so remains the same.

#### Supervisor Chambers moved, Supervisor Allen seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to reappoint Supervisors Bryan and Miles to the Water and Wastewater Utilities Committee.

#### Re: Consider appointment of two board members to the Solid Waste Committee and County staff as outlined in the By-Laws and Rules of Procedures

**Matthews:** Consider the appointment of two board members to the Solid Waste Committee, and county staff as outlined by the By-Laws, Rules of Procedures.

Allen: Who's on there now?

Bryan: Currently Mr. Bryant and myself.

Allen: Y'all both want to stay on it?

**Matthews:** Okay. So any more discussion? Let's call for the vote. Seven yes. Let's move on to the next item.

<u>Supervisor Chambers moved, Supervisor Allen seconded and was unanimously carried by the</u> <u>Board to reappoint Supervisors Bryan and Bryant to the Solid Waste Utilities Committee.</u>

### Re: Consider appointment of two board members to the Finance Committee and county staff as outlined by the By-Laws and Rules of Procedures.

**Matthews:** I'm already on the Finance Committee. So the chairman's automatically on there. But we need one other person. But well, you got the county attorney and Karl Carter and Mrs. Carter, and the chairman and board at large.

Carter: Supervisor Bryant represented the board.

Matthews: But I'm currently on there all the time, so Mr. Miles?

**Miles:** If no one else will do it. I'm happy to serve. But I would defer to you all on that on anybody else. I mean, if no one else wants to do it, I'll be happy to serve.

Allen: I make a motion for Jordan and Matthews on the finance committee.

Matthews: Okay. Call for the vote. Seven yes. Unanimous.

#### <u>Supervisor Allen moved, Supervisor Davis seconded and was unanimously carried by the</u> <u>Board that Chairman Matthews and Vice Chairman Miles serve on the Finance Committee.</u>

### Re: Consider the appointment of two board members to the Personnel Committee and county staff as outlines in the By-Laws, Rules of Procedures.

Miles: I move, Mr. Chairman that the committee remain as is with Supervisor Chambers and Bryant.

Bryan: I'll second that motion.

Matthews: So moved and a second on the floor. So let's take the vote. Seven yes. Unanimous.

#### <u>Vice Chairman Miles moved, Supervisor Bryan seconded and was unanimously carried by the</u> <u>Board to reappoint Supervisors Chambers and Bryant to the Personnel Committee.</u>

#### Re: Consider the appointment of to the Planning Commission for District 3.

Matthews: Can we entertain a motion for the appointment to the Planning Commission?

Bryan: Currently, you're on the Planning Commission. Right, Danny?

Matthews: Oh, that's not for him. It's for District 3.

Bryan: Pat Bowe is currently from District 3. I move he be reappointed to the commission.

Allen: Second.

Matthews: Let's take the vote. Seven yes. Unanimous.

Supervisor Bryan moved, Supervisor Allen seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to reappoint Pat Bowe as District 3 representative for the Planning Commission for another four year term.

#### Re: 2021 Budget Calendar

january 25, 2021, climberi	Ostribute Request Forms
Fabricaty 12, 2011 (Friday)	- Request due to the County Administration
March B. 2021 (Mandau)	<ul> <li>Departments / Agencies make builget request presentations to the illusti of Supervisors (if necessary)</li> </ul>
March 15, 2321 (Mercland	<ul> <li>Courty Administrator states monthmester budget to the Board of Bupervisors. (no meeting)</li> </ul>
<u>teamin 17, 2021</u> (Weekendar) Possible part meeting with School Board at 6:00 p.m. belowed by Beard of Supervisions work sension	Work season and passive adoptor of proposed budget and latin test for public hearing.
March 18, 2021 (Thursday)	Work assoint and possible adoption of proposed budget and us invies for public hearing. (This work assoon will be held only if necessary.)
March 24, 2021 (Medianolay) and Nami 31, 2021 (Medianolay)	<ul> <li>Adverting Buenc of Supervisors propried budget and tax leves for public nearing</li> </ul>
6pt 11 Xill chevant	<ul> <li>Public Yearing - Board of Supervisors proposed budget Amil Sax Key</li> </ul>
Apri 19, 2021 (Homes)	<ul> <li>Consider from adoption of budget instantion, rates.</li> </ul>
Note This is a littliftle calender and is	whiled to observe in proceedance with
frame cost of a company distribution of	conducts on some dat to weather property with

#### FY 2021-2022 Budget Calendar

**K. Carter:** I mean, this is a standard budget calendar. The dates, the way the weeks worked out, we don't have to change our board meeting dates and anything for any budget meeting. So they fall in line with our normal annual schedule for the Board of Supervisors. We also, we expect this to be a difficult budget. So luckily, it works out that we had some time at the end if things don't go as planned. We have some extra time allowed in there to have actual work sessions or do more research on certain items. But this is our standard budget calendar. There is nothing majorly different from last fiscal year.

Bryan: We anticipated difficult budget

K. Carter: With COVID.

Allen: So moved.

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Bryan: I'll second that motion, Mr. Allen.

Matthews: Okay, so moved to approve the calendar as Mr. Carter has suggested. Let's take the vote. Alright. Seven yes. Thank you.

#### <u>Supervisor Allen moved, Supervisor Bryan seconded and was unanimously carried by the</u> <u>Board to approve the 2021 -22 Budget Calendar as presented.</u>

### Re: Consider the acceptance of EMS grant in the amount of \$88,915.50 with a local match of \$88,915.50 for the purpose of purchasing six heart monitors and defibrillators.

Miles: I so move. Mr. Chairman,

**Bryan:** I have a question about that. Mr. Cody. Is it possible to use some carriers like money to match that?

**Carter:** We don't think so. Because this is not, I don't think we can use the CARES Money. It would not qualify. But what we can do is, since they've extended the deadline for the CARES money, we can pay DRT a couple more months out of CARES money and use that money that we would be paying out...

Bryan: to give us back the money that we use. Outstanding, like reimburse ourselves.

Carter: This is something that we would have to buy anyway.

Bryan: Yes, but it just so happens that there's a way to work it out

**Carter:** CRC getting this grant, I mean, we'd be putting out \$190,000 But we can we can work it around and pay for it with what we would be paying DRT with out of our CARES money.

Allen: Where would they be located?

C. Davis: These heart monitors, on each of our ambulances.

**Carter:** I think what they have is probably not in good working condition.

C. Davis: And they're obsolete and half the fleet is broken down.

**Matthews:** We have motion on the floor and a second. So we're ready to vote if you want us to do that. It's seven.

<u>Vice Chairman Miles moved, Supervisor Bryan seconded and was unanimously carried by the</u> <u>Board to approve the grant for \$88,915.50 with local match of \$88,915.50 for heart</u> <u>monitors/defibrillators.</u> **Matthews:** Oh, just want to give a shout out to Mr. Davis and Miss Carter for coming up with this ingenious plan of getting these items. So thank you so much appreciate money figuring.

#### Re: Covid Update

**Carter:** We didn't have time to get it in on this agenda. But there'll be another grant offer come in and Cody's been working with, we'll bring that next month. But while he's up here, I would ask him to give an update on our COVID cases in the County.

**C. Davis:** Oh, in talking to the health department today, outside of the DOC facility, so within our community, we've got 38 active cases, a little bit on a downhill trend from what it had been, thankfully. But within the DOC the Buckingham facility has just over 100 positive cases. A majority are in the offender population. And then Dillwyn, they only have a very few positive cases. They're doing really well. And then the nursing home is starting to calm down, finally. I commend them on the way they handled it when things were peaking for them, but thankfully now they're calming down and then of course, you guys are all aware that the vaccine is making its way around. Right now, the CDC controls what phase of administration we're in and we're still in the first phase. Phase One A, which is strictly healthcare workers. But we're slated to shift to Phase One B, which includes some correction officer staff and things like that on the 19th of this month.

Matthews: Thank you, Mr. Davis. Appreciate the good job.

Bryant: I got a question for you Mr. Davis. Do you have qualified people for those AUD's?

C. Davis: Yes.

Bryant: Okay. That's just a question. That's all.

### Re: Consider appointment of an elected official to the CLEO Board with the South Central Workforce Development Board

**Carter:** Presently, Supervisor Bryant served as Chairman of our Board on there. She said it just has to be an elected official.

Matthews: Would you like to stay on that Mr. Bryant?

Bryant: Yes.

Miles: So moved, Mr. Chairman that Supervisor Bryant serve on the CLEO Board.

Matthews: We have a motion and a second. Let's take the vote. Seven yes. It's unanimous.

#### <u>Vice Chairman Miles moved, Supervisor Chambers seconded and was unanimously carried by</u> <u>the Board to reappoint Supervisor Bryant to the South Central Workforce Investment CLEO</u> <u>Board.</u>

#### Re: Consider appointment to the Planning Commission for District 6

**Chambers:** Mr. Chairman, I'd like to put Joyce Gooden on the Planning Commission for District 6.

Bryan: Who?

Chambers: Joyce Gooden.

Bryan: Okay. I'll second that. Make a motion, Joe?

**Matthews**: We have a motion to appoint Joyce Gooden for District 6 Planning Commission spot vacated by who?

Chambers: Chet Maxey.

Matthews: Okay. All right. And let's take the vote please.

### Supervisor Chambers moved, Supervisor Bryan seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to appoint Joyce Gooden to the Planning Commission for District 6.

#### **Re: County Attorney Matters**

There were none.

#### Re: County Administrator's Report

**Carter**: Yes, we did get an extension of that money to spend until December of 21. So, I mean, we're down to what \$300,000 and some left. So that's, that's good. But we just talked about using about 80,000 of it for paying our providers. But we do thank goodness, we do still have some time. And we hope there will even be another allotment. But we'll see about that.

The other is discussions regarding meals and beverage tax. During the last budget process, you all did talk about wanting Karl and I to look into that. And what we did look into that. As you can imagine, this hasn't been a good year for restaurants and food sales because they've been shut down. So getting into looking at the previous year's the commissioner of revenue, I believe, have some time off during the holidays, and we've not been able to get those numbers. I've heard some board members say we should look to implement the meals tax, I've heard some say, it isn't a good time to do it in the middle of a pandemic, to our businesses. We're still trying to get those numbers for you for the February meeting. If you do intend to move forward with that, we need to have a hearing soon. But...

**Matthews:** I've got a suggestion too. I'd like to look at a cigarette and possibly alcohol tax versus a food tax.

**Carter:** I'm on the committee with VACO with that. I think they're even looking at possibly doing it regionally. Because it's a big deal, but we are working on it. Now they don't have this information for this year. But as you all know, I've made you aware that Dominion Energy called me and said their board met. They will be providing a million dollars to the county, for but it has to be for emergency services. We bought two new vehicles. Of course, I've been trying to see how you could keep from raising taxes during a pandemic, that will cover for the next year. They should make an announcement for next month. But I think it gives us a little more time to still continue to look at that meals tax. And look at that tobacco tax so we know more about how it works. It's I guess it was just in July that the ...

**Bryan**: Meals tax, the last time we talked about a meals tax has been several years ago, many, many years ago. And I think we could only do 4% I think is what it was.

Carter: It was about \$300,000. We can't really...

**Bryan:** Yeah, I mean, you know, it's kind of hard to do that in the COVID times, but you know, 4 percent you're looking at, you know, a \$10 meal.

Carter: It's something to look out for the next year.

Bryan: Yeah, absolutely.

Carter: That's a couple pennies.

Bryan: Yeah, I mean, that would save a couple pennies on the tax rate.

**Miles**: Yeah, I would agree with that, Mr. Chairman, and to Supervisor Bryan's point, you know, this code change last year where we can do like cities and go up to 6%. And we got to start looking at alternative revenue streams, besides always, rather looking to the real estate owner. I'm very much in favor of exploring those options.

Bryan: Do you anticipate any more CARES act money coming from the federal government?

**Carter:** Based on Virginia's cases, going up in all it's a possibility, but it's my understanding from reading it. And it's very complicated, but I think a lot of the money now will be going towards housing and utilities and really all kinds of things. So I'm not so sure.

Bryan: I like the positivity rate today was 16% in the State of Virginia.

Carter: With unemployment, we don't know.

**Davis:** I got a question. This is all the million dollars that we are promised from Dominion. Can we use that money to fund volunteer fire departments, what the county puts out?

**Carter:** I think, see, originally, they were supposed to give us the million dollars for Emergency Services brought in on cost of where the compressor station was gonna go. I'll have to ask him about that with the fire departments.

**Davis:** I was just saying that would be money that the county could save with what the county gives to fire departments each year, if we could use that money to fund a lot of the volunteer stuff.

**Carter:** If you want to use part of that to save, because you gave about a half a million dollars to the fire departments. Instead of raising taxes to...you are gonna still have...this gives us time to really see what's gonna cost us because you know, we don't know what the call volumes gonna be. We don't know what the cost of recovery is gonna be. We're basing this, like we do everything in our budget on guesstimates. But based on what we had you all would need to increase revenue of about \$840,000 to fund so that could definitely help offset that. I will make sure from Felix if we can, and it's an emergency services, purchase vehicles or pay providers, but I'll check with him. It's funny because Cody asked me that question too. So he's supposed to make a presentation.

**Bryan**: And hopefully there'll be more care CARES Act money. I can't see them not giving the counties more CARES Act money with the caseloads that we're having.

**Carter:** You know, and if anything good, if anything good has come from this. It has been that this money came down. Or we would have to put a burden on the taxpayer. I'll check into that.

Bryan: Okay.

#### **Re: Information Items**

**Matthews**: We have Item T which is informational items that you have that in your board packet. The December building permit report and CRC information. We don't need to take any action on that.

#### Re: Other Board Matters.

There were none.

#### Re: Executive Closed Session

**Bryan:** Mr. Chairman, I move that we go on to executive closed session under Section 2.2-3711. A.1 Discussion, consideration or interviews of a prospective candidate for employment, assignment, appointment promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining or resignation of specific Public Officers, appointees or employees of any public body and evaluation of performance of departments. That's my motion.

Allen: I second.

Matthews: So moved. Let's take the vote. Going into closed session.

#### <u>Supervisor Bryan moved, Supervisor Allen seconded and was unanimously carried by the</u> <u>Board to enter into Executive Closed Session under Section 2.2-3711.A.1.</u>

#### Re: Return to Regular Session and Certification

**Bryan:** Mr. Chairman I move that we returned open session and certification that to the best of each board members knowledge, only business matters related to the code of which the executive meeting was convened was discussed or considered in the closed executive session.

Allen: Second.

Matthews: We need to take a vote on this.

Supervisor Bryan moved, Supervisor Allen seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to return to regular session and certification that to the best of each board members knowledge, only business matters related to the code of which the executive meeting was convened was discussed or considered in the closed executive session.

#### Re: Action as a result of Closed Session

**Bryan:** There's one other thing, Mr. Chairman. I have a motion based on the result from the closed session. The Board has agreed to accept the retirement of Mrs. Becky Carter effective the end of June. And we are going to make an announcement shortly that we will advertise for that position, the middle of February. So that's my motion.

Allen: Second.

Matthews: All right. Let's take the vote. All right, seven. Accept the retirement.

**Miles:** Mr. Chairman, I have a motion too, very briefly, I would move that the Buckingham Board of Supervisors petition the Virginia General Assembly, namely Senator Peake and Delegate Farris to adopt a joint resolution commending and honoring the service of County Administrator Rebecca Carter in the 2021 session, and I'd make that as a motion, Mr. Chairman,

Vice Chairman Miles moved, Supervisor Bryan seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to petition the Virginia General Assembly, Senator Peake and Delegate Farris to adopt a joint resolution commending and honoring the service of County Administrator Rebecca S. Carter.

#### Re: Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Matthews declared the January 11, 2021 meeting of the Buckingham County Board of Supervisors adjourned.

ATTEST:

Rebecca S. Carter County Administrator Don R. Matthews Chairman

### Buckingham County Planning Commission January 25, 2021

At a regular meeting of the Buckingham County Planning Commission held on Monday, January 25, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Peter Francisco meeting room, located within the Buckingham County Administration Complex, the following members were present: John Bickford; James D. Crews; Patrick Bowe; Alice T. Gormus; Steve Dorrier; Ashley Shumaker; Joyce Gooden and Board of Supervisors' representative Danny Allen. Also present were Nicci Edmondston, Zoning Administrator, and E.M. Wright, Jr., County Attorney.

#### Re: Call to Order, Quorum Present, Invocation, and Pledge of Allegiance

Zoning Administrator Nicci Edmondston called the meeting to order. Ashley Shumaker gave the invocation, John Bickford led the Pledge of Allegiance and it was said by all who were in attendance. Zoning Administrator Nicci Edmondston certified there was a quorum- eight of eight members were present. The meeting could continue.

**Edmondston**: The next item on the agenda is to consider the vote for the seating of the chairman of the Planning Commission.

Bickford: I like to make a motion that Pat Bowe be our chairman for this coming year.

Allen: Second.

**Edmondston**: We have a motion and a second on the floor and now we will vote. Is there any discussion? If not...

Bickford: I close the nominations.

**Edmondston**: So nominations are closed, no discussion, and if you would vote by raising your right hand. Okay. And Dabney, Mr. Crews. Can you hear us today?

Crews: Yes, I hear you.

**Edmondston**: There was a nomination from the floor by Mr. Bickford to nominate Pat Bowe as the chairman for 2021 and a second by Danny Allen. We're taking a vote now the nominations have been closed. So we'd like to get your vote for this motion.

Crews: Yes.

**Edmondston**: Thank you, sir. The Motion carries. Congratulations, Mr. Bowe. Another year in the office of the seat of chairman. The agenda is all yours.

<u>Commissioner Bickford moved, Supervisor Allen seconded and was unanimously carried by</u> the Commission to appoint Pat Bowe as chairman for 2021.

Bowe: Do we have nomination for vice chair?

Allen: I nominate John Bickford.

Gormus: I'll second that.

Bowe: We have a first and a second. Let's vote. Dabney?

Crews: Yes.

### Supervisor Allen moved, Commissioner Gormus seconded and was unanimously carried by the Commission to appoint John Bickford as vice-chairman for 2021.

**Bowe**: Thank you like to recognize Joyce Gooden as our newest member. Happy to have you aboard Joyce. I would like to thank everybody for their confidence. I would assume it is. I'll try to do my best to keep y'all out of jail.

Gormus: We appreciate that.

**Bowe**: And thank you for the last year's work. I know it hasn't all been easy. Its been time consuming and a little hectic at times. But I appreciate the effort put into it and we will try it again this year. Adoption of the agenda?

Allen: So moved.

Bickford: Second.

Bowe: All in favor?

Crews: Yes.

### Supervisor Allen moved, Commissioner Bickford seconded and was unanimously carried by the Commission to approve the agenda.

Bowe: Thank you. Approval of minutes December 21.

Bickford: Moved to approve as presented.

Allen: Second.

Bowe: Vote. All in favor.

Crews: Yes.

### Commissioner Bickford moved, Supervisor Allen seconded and was unanimously carried by the Commission to approve the minutes as presented.

Bowe: Unanimous. December 28 regular meeting.

Bickford: Move to approve as presented.

Allen: Second.

Bowe: We have a first and a second. Let's vote. All in favor.

Crews: Yes.

#### <u>Commissioner Bickford moved, Supervisor Allen seconded and was unanimously carried by</u> the Commission to approve the minutes as presented.

**Bowe**: Thank you Dabney. Approval of the 2021 bylaws and rules of procedure we have an amendment that we would like to add. Nicci do you want to read that?

**Edmondston**: Sure I can read it, Mr. Chairman. The amendment would be as an amendment to the bylaws as it refers to code of conduct for meetings. And it would state "individuals are expected to respect the rights, privacy, safety and dignity of all persons, exercise appropriate consideration, and respect in their speech and actions. Refrain from harassing speech and other harassing behavior. If at any time you feel that this code of conduct has been violated, please inform the chairman or vice chairman. Those who have been found to be in violation can be removed from the meeting and may be prohibited from participation in future events. If you do not feel comfortable informing the chairman or vice chairman, you may notify the zoning administrator or county administrator."

Bickford: Would just be as another bullet point or condition in the bylaws?

Edmondston: It would be a condition within your bylaws and it could be read at every meeting.

**Bickford**: I think that would be appropriate just so people get an understanding that what we're trying to accomplish here and reminder before each meeting.

Bowe: Do I have a motion on the approval of the bylaws.

Allen: Are we going to add the other one? Talking about the speakers. I know we have part of it didn't know if we had all of that.

**Bowe**: Do you want to have a discussion on that?

Allen: On the sheet we have it says Planning Commission has adopted into...

Edmondston: Oh, Mr. Allen, that that was adopted two to three years ago.

Allen: I thought it was I don't know if all it was.

Edmondston: Yes, sir.

Allen: I just want to make sure.

Edmondston: I apologize.

Allen: Don't worry. I just want to make sure it's right before we move on. All right. Good enough. I make a motion that we accept it with the new amendment to the bylaws.

Bickford: Second.

Bowe: First and seconded any discussion? Let's vote All in favor.

Crews: Yes.

# Supervisor Allen moved, Commissioner Bickford seconded and was unanimously carried by the Commission to approve 2021 bylaws and procedures with changes.

Bowe: Thank you. Dabney. Unanimous. Public comment?

**Edmondston**: Mr. Chairman, we do not have anyone signed up this evening in person, but we do have one comment received today. Prior to the deadline.

Bowe: Would it be appropriate to read the second statement here?

Edmondston: Yes, sir.

**Bowe**: The Planning Commission would like to remind all speakers that they have a First Amendment right to speak. However, speakers do not have indemnification. If the statements are made with actual or constructive knowledge that they are false, or with reckless disregard for whether they are false. We ask all speakers to keep to what they know to be the truth. And by signing up for comment, you are acknowledging your understanding and agreement with the above.

Chad Oba: Yes, hello, my name is Chad Oba and I'm in district six and I'd like to make a public comment to be played tonight at the Planning Commission meeting. This is in regards to the recent public hearing that addressed commercial prospecting. As a by right use and A1, an M1, and M2 I think I got that correct. During that hearing, I was pretty surprised at the lack of consideration for the 40 comments. Well, most of these comments there were some that were considered obviously there were a couple from mining industry, folks. But there were there were 40 comments, and the majority of them were not in favor of going forward with this. And I realized that you have a tough job. And you know, you have to balance the people and their concerns and your own judgment and consideration of what is right for the county. And it has to be a frustrating process for everyone. for you as a representative and for us, the people, but there must it has to be a balancing act, where the views and concerns of your constituents are important and are to be considered. And there's just important principles and doing both. And recently in this public hearing. I did not feel as so the people were heard at all. There were a lot of really good comments from retired mining experts, respected medical people, experts in the field of gold mining, and the environmentalists, and others simply from your constituents who just are expressing great concern for what would happen to their land, their health, their water, their history here. And immediately after, there was no discussion or consideration for any of these opinions. This new information was totally ignored. And this did not to me represent a democratic procedure. There was no actual real hearing going on. It was as if you didn't hear us at all. So I, I just have to speak out and say something about that it was just do as you want and ignore the people's voices. But I just would also like to assure you that we're still here. We're still going to take part, we still are hopeful that you will hear us and going forward, I hope that we all can do better to work together for the better of this whole community. And that means everyone. Thank you. Respectfully.

Bowe: That the only one Nicci?

Edmondston: Yes, sir. That's all for public comment.

Bowe: Close the public comment section. Old business.

**Edmondston**: Yes, sir. This evening. We are holding a public hearing for case 20 ZMA 281. The landowner is JD Corporation of Virginia and the applicant is Dez Raj. This property is located at tax map 95-32 contains approximately an acre at 3407. South Constitution route Dillwyn it is at the intersection of State Route 649, which is Slate River Mill Road and route 20. This property currently is known as the route 20. Market. It is currently zoned A1 and the request before you is asking you of course to recommend this public hearing that we're holding for the rezoning from A1 to B1 for the purpose of business expansion. Mr. Raj wants to expand his business and construct a 4000 square foot facility that will house a convenience store and food and specialty grilling shop. When an existing grandfathered use will be expanding or enlarging further Buckingham County zoning ordinance the usage must be brought into compliance. Mr. Raj

would not be able to apply for a special use permit in an A1 because this new facility will be larger than the specifications on page 11 of the zoning ordinance which states convenience general store maximum 2000 square feet and no more than four petroleum pumps. This location is approximately nine miles south of the centenary Scottsville growth corridors outlined in the comprehensive plan. Mr. Raj has included v dots determination and understands that further v. That review may be needed along with a site plan for construction all subject to any final decision. Mr. Raj is here with us this evening to address any questions that you may have. And we may have a public comment for the public hearing. We do not have anyone signed up in person for public comment for this hearing. But we have received one comment during the day prior to the deadline.

**Edward Hanes**: This is Edwin Hanes, Maysville district I own the property near the route 20 market property I own the hay field. I am in favor of the market having an upgrade however, I would like to see a chain link fence put on the boundary line. So that trash will not be coming out into the Hayfield and sense the construction is going to be so close to the property line. Some people may even try to park in my hay field so I am requesting that by A chain link fence or something similar be required on a property line to keep me from having trouble with patrons of the store. If you have any questions, give me a call 434-315-3153 Thank you.

Bowe: Okay, open it to the commission. Anybody have anything they want to say about this?

**Dorrier**: Mr. Chairman, I'm looking through the pamphlet on page 10. Traffic impact? I see where VDOT didn't sign off on it totally. That they were... they had something else to do. Does existing entrance meet the requirements for proposed use? And he has no. And I didn't know exactly what they want to do, what else they wanted to do. I saw where they would change to the curving. But it seems to me like it is something else could be done on the egress on Route 20. That's a bad spot down there I don't know how many of you have traveled it. Probably all the time. But it's s a curve right there. And also, it's a hill where the people come out of the convenience store. And I was wondering, is there anything that we could recommend for VDOT to do rather than just come right out on Route 20 at a blind spot?

**Edmondston**: Raj, would you like to address any of these questions? I'll ask you to go the microphone. Let me make sure it's on for you.

**Dez Raj**: I've Talked to VDOT a couple times now and since the new building is going to the back...\*Inaudible\* Our building is closer to the road now but in the future we may have to change but for now he doesn't have any concern.

**Dorrier**: Would he be coming back looking at that in the future?

Raj: Yes. \*Inaudible\* He comes in all the time.

**Dorrier**: That's a bad stretch of road when you come around a curve you never know what you might run up on.

**Raj**: We have done business from there for the last 12 years. It's all right now. Moved back its even safer. Off the road far back far safer turning place.

**Dorrier**: Glad to hear you expand in and I'm all for that. I'm good for you in the county too. So good.

Allen: How big is your building you got right now?

**Raj**: \*Inaudible\* I cannot use it. Its to much money for me to remodel the place. I can spend that money to build a new one. It'd be bigger, better. The building's been maybe...Who knows? Maybe 200 year old.

Gormus: Are you going to leave the store open while you build?

**Raj**: Yes. Yes, ma'am. Okay, we're going to keep the store open. We're going to build a building in the back. We move into new building, then we can tear it down. And we put the pumps in the front.

Bowe: How many pumps do you have out there now?

**Raj**: We have five. You got a hard time to come. You know, keep all the customers... sometimes they fight each other? Because then I have no room. They wants to come to us support us. But they get frustrated. I can understand their frustration because no room.

**Bowe**: How many are you going to have at the new?

**Raj**: We're going to have a three lanes.

Bowe: How many?

Raj: Three lanes.

Bowe: Three lanes?

Raj: Yes, sir.

Bowe: You sure you got enough room for all this on one acre

Raj: Yes, sir.

Bowe: Okay as long as your sure.

**Raj**: Yes, sir we already have that dealt with the company that build stores they give me okay with that.

Bowe: And how about the chain link fence your neighbors talking about is that a problem?

Raj: If there is any problem for him, I'll put the fence up there

Bowe: So you want to wait and see if it's a problem first is that what you're saying?

**Raj**: He told me when he came to the store he'll have no problem but just heard today he wanted put fence there so I will do it.

Bowe: Okay, thank you. Anybody else have anything?

Bickford: Are you planning on changing any your operational hours from what you are now for?

**Raj**: My hours right now six to nine week days? Weekend six to 10, Friday and Saturday. Used to be 11 o'clock I just cut hours because the COVID so cant find him employees to work those times. Its hard. Yes, if the business is there Yes, I do. I would maybe go back to the regular hours. I used to have.

**Bickford**: With this new building are you on change the lighting or your lighting will be proportional to what it is now?

Raj: Lighting? Not really. We're not changing lighting.

Bickford: Just wanted to know. How about signage, you plan to put signs?

**Raj**: Yes we are going to have a digital sign on the on the road. This was the requirement from gas company now. Which is going to be in same place. Same size as the sign what we got now. We just want to replace it. Upgrade it.

Bickford: You're not going to have a big large tall sign?

Raj: We use to have that. We just cut it down. We not going to have that. No.

Bickford: Okay Mr. chairman that's all the questions I have.

Gooden: I have a question. The pumps that you're installing. And you said three lanes?

**Raj**: It's three pump, which is giving you more room. It's not going to be three lanes like huge. It was three pumps; three cars can pump at one time. Now my problem is if you go there, you can only pump one at a time. With this maybe take like 40 feet, more room to put two more pumps

Gooden: Will these pumps that you can use the debit card?

Raj: Yes. It's going to be BP station, already have been approved from the company.

Gormus: You going to keep your kitchen?

**Raj**: I'm going to expand the kitchen. I try to sell fresh meat, fish. Some of the frozen stuff people buy from the store try to make a market. I used to work in Ukrop years back. I now hold on to their philosophy, how they used to do it, more like organic fresh food. Today's people diet problems. So we try to be healthier.

Allen: Are you going to be able to have a parking lot all the way around?

Raj: Yes sir.

Allen: Okay I just hadn't seen that...

Raj: If the building goes away from there. It's a pretty big lot. It's pretty big lot

Bowe: Anybody else have any questions of him?

Gormus: I'd like to see this move along.

Bickford: I'll second that motion.

Bowe: We have a first and a second. Any discussion? Let's vote All in favor. Dabney?

Crews: Yes.

Raj: Thank you.

Gormus: Thank you, sir.

Raj: Thank you, everybody.

## <u>Commissioner Gormus moved, Commissioner Bickford seconded, and was unanimously</u> <u>carried by the Commission to move ZMA-281 on to the Board of Supervisors.</u>

Bowe: Unanimous. New business.

Edmondston: Mr. Chairman, I do not have any new business for you at this time.

Bowe: Reports.

**Edmondston**: The building permit report is included in your packet for informational purposes. And as far as the zoning administrator report, I would just like to tell each and every one, thank you so much for your hard work and dedication for everything that happened during the year of 2020. There are many great decisions and recommendations made by you as a planning commission. It's been my joy and honor to work with each of you and to learn from each of you. We have quite a wealth of knowledge from the members who have served for many years and the new faces to the Planning Commission. You are all great assets. And I have truly enjoyed 2020. I think that sometimes things that are challenging just offer the opportunity to learn more. So I look forward to 2021 and everything that we can accomplish this year as well. So thank you all very much.

Bickford: Thank you Nicci.

Gormus: Thank you, Jamie for keeping us straight.

Edmondston: Amen to that, Jamie.

Gormus: And technology.

**Edmondston**: You know that there's a lot to be said for that Buckingham has been able to continue, I applaud each of you. And I do think Jamie Shumaker, because work has been able to continue. We have not had any pause in things that needed to take place. And I know that, you know, I'd say we're leaps and bounds ahead of other places that may not have been as fortunate as we are to have the team members and team players that we have here so many thanks, guys.

**Bowe**: Commission matters. I have one. Joyce, I think we all got a little text from you this evening about joining a texting group.

Gooden: I heard about that.

**Bowe**: Was that you?

Gooden: That was me.

Bowe: Okay.

**Gooden**: Let me explain that. When I get numbers and messages, all I do is put a name to that number. And so what I was doing was putting a name to that number. So when its on my phone I know who it is. I did not intend to send a group message. I am only grateful for the name I chose.

Gormus: Is this the 588 number?

Gooden: Yes.

**Bowe**: We've got this little thing that no more than two of us can be together at any one time or it's classified as a meeting. Okay, so we can't have any little chats on the phone.

Gooden: I understand. I got that.

Bowe: Just wanted to make sure you...

Gooden: Yes. Oh, yes.

Bowe: Any other commission matters for anybody? Looking for an adjournment.

Bickford: Move to adjourn.

Gormus: Second.

Bowe: We have a first and a Second. All in favor of adjournment. Raise your hand. Dabney?

Crews: Yes.

Bowe: Good. Thank you. Unanimous. We're adjourned.

## Commissioner Bickford moved, Commissioner Gormus seconded, and was unanimously carried by the Commission to adjourn the meeting.

There being no further business, Chairman Bowe declared the meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:

Nicci Edmondston Zoning Administrator Patrick Bowe Chairman

## Buckingham County Planning Commission February 22, 2020 Administration Building 7:00 PM Introduction of Case 21-SUP282

Owner/Applicant:	Landowner	Steven A. Wicks 5532 Summer Crescent Virginia Beach, VA 23462	
	Applicant	John M. Wicks 5350 Cove Garden Road	
		Covesville, VA 22931	

**Property Information:** Tax Map 80, Parcel 40, containing approximately 74.85 acres, site for business will consist of 1.06 acres, located at 2451 Banton Shop Road Dillwyn, VA 23936 (State Route 617) Maysville Magisterial District.

Zoning District: Agricultural District (A-1)

**Request:** To Apply for a Special Use Permit to Operate a Custom Woodworking Shop as a Small Business for Custom and Heirloom Furniture. Mr. Wicks is asking the Planning Commission to hold a Public Hearing for this request.

**Background/Zoning Information:** The property is located on Tax Map 80 Parcel 40, 2451 Banton Shop Road, Dillwyn VA 23936. The property is zoned Agriculture (A-1). The Zoning Ordinance does not permit Custom Woodworking Shops as a by right permitted use. However, within A-1 Agriculture Zoning District, Custom Woodworking Shops may be permitted by the Buckingham County Board of Supervisors by a Special Use Permit following recommendation by the Planning Commission in accordance with this ordinance and the Code of Virginia. The Planning Commission may recommend and the Board may impose conditions to ensure protection of the district if the Special Use Permit is approved. Mr. Wicks has indicated in his written narrative that he wishes to open a small self-contained woodworking shop/studio in order to create unique custom and artistic sets of furniture. He anticipates being a one person operating shop, not to exceed a three-person operation. Mr. Wicks does not expect more than ten customers and visitors per month for low volume impact to traffic in the area. Mr. Wicks has no plans to construct housing on the 1.06 acre site for the woodworking shop.

Below are conditions that you may consider attaching to the request if approved:

1. That all federal, state and local regulations, ordinances and laws be strictly adhered to.

- 2. Right of ways and roadway shoulders shall not be used for parking.
- 3. The property shall be kept neat and orderly.

4. That the applicant pursues a commercial solid waste container and follow the County Solid Waste Ordinance.

5. That all documentation submitted by the applicant in support of this special use permit request becomes a part of the conditions except that any such documentation that may be inconsistent with these enumerated conditions shall be superseded by these conditions.

6. Nothing in this approval shall be deemed to obligate the County to acquire any interest in property, to construct, maintain or operate any facility or to grant any permits or approvals except as may be directly related hereto.

7. The County Zoning Administrator and one other County staff member, as appointed by the County Administrator, shall be allowed to enter the property, with proper notice, if a complaint is registered against the property for noncompliance with this permit. Any complaints not solely related to this permit will be given to the appropriate department or agency.

8. In the event that any one or more of the conditions is declared void for any reason whatever, such decision shall not affect the remaining portion of the permit, which shall remain in full force and effect, and for this purpose, the provisions of this are hereby declared to be severable

9. That any infraction of the above mentioned conditions could lead to a stop order and discontinuation of the special use permit, if it be the wishes of the Board of Supervisors.

10. That the applicant(s) and landowner(s) understands the conditions and agrees to the conditions.

What are the wishes of the Planning Commission?

Set a hearing date and time?

March 22, 2021, 7PM?

## SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION CHECKLIST

#### BUCKINGHAM COUNTY OFFICE OF ZONING AND PLANNING MINUMUM SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The following table lists the information necessary to review a special use application. All items are required, unless otherwise stated, and must be submitted in order for the application to be accepted for review. This completed checklist must be submitted with the application.

Adjacent Property Owners List and Affidavit (pages 4, 5 & 6 attached). This list can be obtained from the Clerk of Courts Office: (YES) NO

**Completed application for special use permit** (page 3 attached). If not signed by the owner, a Power of Attorney must accompany the application: (YES) NO

Interest Disclosure Affidavit (page 7 attached). Must be signed by the owner: (YES) NO

**Power of Attorney** (page 10 attached). Required if anyone other than the owner is signing the application form or proffer statement on behalf of the owner: YES NO (N/r)

Written Narrative (page 11 guidance in preparing the Written Narrative): (YES) NO

Fees: (YES) NO

Deed: YES NO

**Plat** (15 copies). The plat information may be incorporated into the Special Use Permit General Site Plan, in which case, copies of a separate plat are not required. The plat must be prepared by a certified land surveyor or licensed civil engineer and contain the following:

- A. Bearings and distances of a scale of 1'' = 100' or less for all property lines and existing and proposed zoning lines: YES NO |i'' = 300'
- B. Area of land proposed for consideration, in square feet or acres: (YES) NO  $i \cdot O \leftarrow 4 \leftarrow$
- C. Scale and north point: (YES) NO
- D. Names of boundary roads or streets and widths of existing right-of-ways: (YES) NO

**Tax Map** (15 copies). Identify property that special use is being considered for and identify by name all adjacent landowners.

STEVEN A. WICKS

Special Use General Site Plan (15 copies) The General Site Plan must contain the following: 1"=300' 1. Vicinity Map – Please show scale: (YES) NO N/A 2. Owner and Project Name: NO N/A YES) 3. Parcel Identification numbers, name, present zoning, and zoning and use of all abutting or (YES) NO adjoining parcels: N/A 4. Property lines of existing and proposed zoning district lines: N/A NO 1.06 Ac. 5. Area of land proposed for consideration, in square feet or acres: NO N/A 6. Scale and north point: (YES) NO N/A 1"= 300' 7. Names of boundary roads or streets and widths of existing right-of-ways: YES ) NO N/A (YES 8. Easements and encumbrances, if present on the property: NO N/A 9. Topography indicated by contour lines: YES (NO)N/A 10. Areas having slopes of 15% to 25% and areas having slopes of 25% or greater clearly indicated by separate shading devices (or written indication of "no areas having slopes of 15% to 25% or (N/A)greater"): YES NO 11. Water Courses to include the approximate location of the 100 year floodplain (if applicable) based on FEMA maps (or written indication of "not in floodplain"): (YES) NO N/A 12. Delineation of existing mature tree lines or written indication of "no mature tree lines": YES NO {N/A} 13. Proposed roads with right-of-way width that will connect with or pass through the subject property: YES NO (N/A) (YES) 14. General locations of major access points to existing streets: NO N/A 15. List of the proposed density for each dwelling unit type, and/or intensity of each non-residential (N/A) YES NO use: 16. Location of any open space and buffer areas, woodland conservation areas, storm water management facilities, and community and public facilities: YES NO (N/A)17. Location of existing and proposed utilities, above or underground: (YES) NO N/A 18. Vehicular and pedestrian circulation plan, including traffic counts and typical street sections, right-of-way improvements, access points, travel ways, parking, loading, stacking, sidewalks, and trails: YES NO (N/A)19. Layouts and orientation of buildings and improvements, building use, height, setbacks from property lines and restriction lines: YES NO (N/A)NO 20. Location and design of screening and landscaping: YES (N/A 21. Building architecture: YES NO N/A See picture 22. Site lighting proposed: YES NO (N/A)23. Area of land disturbance in square feet and acres: YES NO 24. Erosion and Sediment Control Plan submitted (10,000 square feet or more): YES (N/A) NO 25. Historical sites or gravesites on general site plan: YES (NO) N/A 26. Show impact of development of historical or gravesite areas: YES NO (N/A) 27. A copy of the current status of all real estate taxes of all property owned in Buckingham County. If real estate taxes are not current, an explanation in writing and signed by the owner shall accompany this application. Any liens or other judgments against property shall also be explained in writing and signed by the owner: (YES) NO N/A

#### **APPLICATION FOR A SPECIAL USE PERMIT**

CASE NUMBER: $\frac{21 - SUP282}{(Case Number Assigned by Zoning Administrator)}$
DATE OF APPLICATION: _ Dチ しゃ しゅし
Special Use Permit Request: TO PERMIT THE OPERATION OF A SMALL
BUSINESS FOR MAKING CUSTOM AND HEIRLOOM FURNITURE.
Purpose of Special Use Permit: TO PERMIT THE USE OF A WORKSHOP BUILDING
TO STORE MILL AND SHAPE WOOD FOR FURNITURE PRODUCTS,
Zoning District: $\underline{\lambda-1}$ Number of Acres: $\underline{1.06}$
Tax Map Section: <u>XD</u> Parcel: <u>4D</u> Lot: <u>Subdivision:</u> Magisterial Dist.: <u>Magsville</u>
Street Address: 2451 BANTON SHOP ROAD Directions from the County Administration Building to the Proposed Site: GO EAST UN RE. 60 LEFT ON TROUBLESOME CREEK RD., LEFT ON RTE. 20, LEFT ON STATE RTE. 617
(BANTON SHOP RD), RIGHT ON GRAVEL DRIVEWAY (BLUE FARM GATE) ABOUT 0.3 MILE
Name of Applicant: JOHN M. WICKS
Mailing Address: 5350 LOVE GARDEN RD. COVESVILLE VA 22931
Daytime Phone: 919-344-8857 Cell Phone: 219-344-8857
Email: Wicks. pequod @gmail.com Fax: NA
Name of Property Owner: STEVEN A. WICKS
Mailing Address: 5532 Summer CRESCENT, VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23462
Daytime Phone: 919-222-1620 Cell Phone: 919-222-1620
Email: Stevenawicksegmail.com Fax: NA
Signature of Owner: Steven & Wicks Date: 02/09/2021
Signature of Applicant: John M. Wichs Date: 02/09/2021
Please indicate to whom correspondence should be sent: Owner of PropertyContractor Purchaser / LesseeAuthorized AgentEngineer Applicant

Buckingham County Special Use Permit Application

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#### ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNER'S LIST

(Required)

The applicant shall provide a list of all adjoining landowners, including subject property and all property immediately across the street/road from the subject property. Any body of water does not constitute a boundary line for this purpose, therefore a body of water and the property adjoining the subject property but separated by a body of water is still considered an adjoining landowner. County boundary lines and those adjoining property owners in the next County are considered adjoining property owners if the land adjoins the subject's property. Adjoining landowners can be verified through the Buckingham County Clerk of Courts or the Clerk's Office in the adjoining County, or by personal contact. The list shall include the name, address, town/city, zip code, road route number, tax map section number, parcel number, lot number, and subdivision. The list shall be typewritten or printed legibly. Failure to list all adjoining landowners could delay the process.

1. Name: TERESA E. COBB
Mailing Address:SEE BELOW
Physical Address: 2599 BANTON SHOP READ DILLWYN VA 23936
Tax Map Section: <u> </u>
2. Name: JAMES L. & SANDRA H. BLANKS
Mailing Address: PO Box 203, DILLWYN 23436
Physical Address: BANTON SHOP ROAD (VACANT - NO STREET NUMBER) DILLWYN 23936
Tax Map Section: <u>\$0</u> Parcel: <u>40 B</u> Lot: Subdivision:
3. Name: CLARENCE ALISTIN
Mailing Address: SEE BELOW
Physical Address: 5663 S. CONSTITUTION ROUSE, DILLWYN 23936
Tax Map Section: 81 Parcel: 5 Lot: Subdivision:
4. Name: JENNIFER DAWN MCGEE
Mailing Address: SEE Below
Physical Address: 282 ROACHS LANE DILLWYN 23936
Tax Map Section: <u>その</u> Parcel: Lot: ( ユ Subdivision:
12. Name: LAURA NORRIS
Mailing Address: SEE BELOW
Physical Address: 367 THOMAS CREEK LANE DILLWYN 23936
Physical Address: 367 THOMAS CREEK LANE DILLWYN 23936 Tax Map Section: 80 Parcel: 40A Lot: Subdivision:

Buckingham County Special Use Permit Application

6. Name: ROBERT ANDREW DRAFT & CAROLYN DENISE DRAFT
Mailing Address: See Benow
Physical Address: 232 ROACHS LANE, DILLWIN 23936
Tax Map Section: 80 Parcel: 1 Lot: 13 Subdivision:
7. Name: EDWARD L. STUMP ETALS.
Mailing Address: 504 N. HAYFLELD RD, WINCHESTER VA 22603
Physical Address: 212 ROACHS LANE, DILLWYN 23936
Tax Map Section: 80 Parcel: 1 Lot: 14 Subdivision:
8. Name: TIMOTHY H. & CATHERINE S. PAGE
Mailing Address:
Physical Address: 150 ROACHS LANE, DILLWYN 23936
Tax Map Section: 80 Parcel: 1 Lot: 15 Subdivision:
9. Name: MCKINLEY MYLES, JR
Mailing Address: ನರ್ ೫೯೭೦ಬ
Physical Address: 2237 BANTON SHOP ROAD, DILLWYN 23936
Tax Map Section: <u>80</u> Parcel: <u>L</u> Lot: <u>16</u> Subdivision:
10. Name: CHARLES & LYNN THOMAS
Mailing Address: المال المعالية المعالية المعالية المعالية
Physical Address: 555 THOMAS CREEK LANE DILLWYN 23936
Tax Map Section: <u>80</u> Parcel: <u>41, 42, 43</u> Lot: Subdivision:
11. Name: CHERRY LANE FARM
Mailing Address: SEE BELOW
Physical Address: 6656 5. CONSTITUTION ROLTE, DILLWYN 23936
Tax Map Section: <u>65</u> Parcel: <u>46</u> Lot: Subdivision:

Buckingham County Special Use Permit Application

#### ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS AFFIDAVIT

	E OF VIRGINIA NTY OF BUCKINGHAM	1				
This _	10th	day of	FEBRUARY	, year _	2021	,
I	$\frac{STEVEN}{Printed name of ow}$				hereby make o	ath that

the list of adjoining landowners is a true and accurate list as submitted with my application.

Signed: (to be signed in front of notary public)

Vich lever

( owner / contract purchaser / authorized agent – please circle one )

NOTARY:
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
COUNTY OF BUCKINGRAM
STATE OF VMMM
Subscribed and sworn to me on the 10 day of FUMUM
of the year My Commission expires on
Notary Public Signature: Kallman Kelly Dillin
Stamp:
KATHERINE RELLY OLIVER NOTARY PUBLIC REGISTRATION # 7753192 COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA MY COMMISSION EXPIRES JULY 31, 2021

## CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT AND RECORD CHECK FOR PENDING DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

Case Number / File Name:
Visual Inspection Findings (describe what is on the property now):
WOODLANDS, STORAGE BUILDING 10'X20' (BUGGY TOP)
WORKSHOP BUILDING 50'X 33' WODER CONSTRUCTION
County Records Check (describe the history of this property):
PREVIOUS OWNER (CURTIS PEARSON) USED PROPERTY FOR LOGGING
YEARS AGO
Were any historical sites or gravesites found on site, or be suspected by a reasonable person to be on the site? Yes No If yes, please explain and show on the site plan the location of such and explain any historical significance:
Will this proposal have any impact on the historical site or gravesite? Yes No ルA If yes, please explain any impact:
Owner/Applicant Signature: Aleven a Wicher Date: 02/09/2021
Printed Name: STEVEN A. WICKS Title: OWNER

Buckingham County Special Use Permit Application

## **INTEREST DISCLOSURE AFFIDAVIT**

STATE OF VIRGINIA
COUNTY OF BUCKINGHAM, VIRGINIA
On this 10th day of FEBRUARY of the year 2021
I STEVEN A. WICKS (printed name of owner) hereby make oath that no member of the Buckingham County Board of Supervisors nor the Buckingham County Planning Commission has interest in such property either individually, or by ownership of stock in a corporation owning such land, or by partnership, or as a holder of ten percent (10%) or more of the outstanding shares of stock in or as a director or officer of any corporation owning such land, directly or indirectly by such members of his/her immediate household, except as follows:
Signature of Owner: (to be signed in front of notary public)
NOTARY PUBLIC BUCKINGMAM STATE OF VIGINIA
Subscribed and sworn to me on this 10 day of Flbman,
of the year $2021$ . My commission expires $7312021$ .
Notary Public Signature: Kallene Kelly and
Stamp: NOTARY PUBLIC REGISTRATION # 7753192 COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA MY COMMISSION FXPIRES JULY 31, 2021

## **APPLICATION FOR A TRAFFIC IMPACT DETERMINATION**

Please fill out the following information before presenting to VDOT:

Case Number / File Name:
Applicant: STEJEN A WICKS
Applicant: STEJEN A WICKS Location: 2451 BANTON SHOP ROAD DILLWYN
Proposed Use: ACCESS TO SMALL WOODWORKING SHOP.
For VDOT use only:
A Traffic Impact Statement is required per 24 VAC 30-155-60. A Traffic Impact Statement is not required. The traffic generated by the proposed zoning change / development does not exceed normal thresholds.
The Traffic Impact Analysis has been waived by the Zoning / Planning Department for the following reasons:
Does the existing entrance meet VDOT requirements for the proposed use? Yes No If no, please explain the necessary steps to bring into compliance with the requirements for the proposed use:
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Signature of VDOT Resident Engineer:
Printed Name: Charles D. Toluc ds Date: 2/11/2/

Buckingham County Special Use Permit Application

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## SPECIAL POWER OF ATTORNEY AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF VIRĠĮNIA
COUNTY OF BUCKINGHAM
On this day of, in the year of,
I the owner of (printed name of landowner)
(printed name of landowner) (Tax Map Number)
Hereby make, constitute, and appoint
(printed name)
my true and lawful attorney in-fact, and in my name, place, and stead give unto him/her
said full power and authority to do and perform all acts and make all representation
necessary, without limitation whatsoever, to make application for said zoning. The
right, powers, and authority of said attorney-in-fact herein granted shall commence and
be in full force and effect on the day of the month
in the year of and shall remain in full force and effect thereafter until
actual notice by certified mail with return receipt requested is received by the Zoning /
Planning Office of Buckingham County stating that the terms of this power have been
revoked or modified.
Signature of Landowner (to be signed in front of Notary Public):
$\wedge$
NOTARY PUBLIC
County of State of
Subscribed and sworn before me on the day of
in the year My commission expires
Signature of Notary Public:
Stamp:
1

## WRITTEN NARRATIVE

The Written Narrative shall describe the relationship of the proposed project to the relevant components of the Comprehensive Plan. Please be very detailed and describe in depth each and every component 1 through 15. The following outline is provided to aid you in preparing the written narrative:

- 1. Land Use
- 2. Community Design
- 3. Cultural Resources
- 4. Economic Development
- 5. Environment
- 6. Fire and Rescue, Law Enforcement
- 7. Housing
- 8. Libraries
- 9. Parks and Open Spaces
- 10. Potable Water
- 11. Sewage
- 12. Schools
- 13. Telecommunications
- 14. Transportation
- 15. Solid Waste

If this proposal is for an event, describe the handling of the entire event, including but not limited to: number of participants, schedule of events, police, security, food, beverages, water, sanitation, emergencies, crowd control, entrances and exits, traffic control, signage, advertisement, parking, fee collection, control of animals, trash disposal, site clean-up, fighting, alcohol, abuse of alcohol and/or illegal substances February 7, 2021

John M. Wicks 2451 Banton Shop Road Dillwyn, VA 23936

RE: Special Use Permit Application - Written Narrative

Dear Mrs. Edmondston, Zoning/Planning Administrator, and Buckingham Planning Commission:

I am looking to open a small self-contained woodworking shop/studio in order to create unique custom and artistic sets of furniture.

The proposed use of the land is to allow the business to control the means of production from start to finish. Starting with the milling of lumber, storing of stock and finally shaping it into the final product of heirloom furniture.

Considering all aspects revolve around renewable resources, the nature of the proposed property has ample space to use nearly all waste byproducts. For example, the largest waste product will be sawdust which will serve excellently as mulch and compost for the adjacent land such as the small orchard next to the shop itself. Therefore, it is projected to have a negligible impact on the environment.

The potential growth of the business is not meant to exceed a three person operation and would optimally only be two. At this current point and into the foreseeable future this will be a one person operation. Thus, currently there is no need for any sewage system or potable water sources. If growth were to exceed two people, creating a water and sewage system would become optimal for shop design and further additions would be considered for such.

Potential customers and visitors are not foreseen to be in any great numbers and are expected to be less than ten a month. Therefore, parking is only meant to accommodate three to four vehicles maximum on a small gravel pad and an auxiliary pad is meant for the milling of wood.

Development potential of the proposed land would be in the long term the building or setting up of structures for the storage and drying of wood, again in proportion of a one to two person operation.

The usage of the proposed land will not be for housing of any type and with the reuse of most byproducts the solid waste will be less than the average household and will consist primarily of used glue and finish (varnish, etc.) vessels as well as any plastic bottles and aluminum cans.

There are also plans within the proposed land of garden spaces (floral) as well as small recreational structures such as benches and picnicking area simply meant for the beautification

of the property, ideally becoming elaborate over time with multiple gardens and other similar small structures.

In the future upon stable success of the business, I would like to provide resources to the community such as an opening of an apprentice position for a predetermined amount of time to an occasional student and also providing resources to organizations such as the Boy Scouts or the Historical Buckingham site. Naturally all of this would be contingent upon meeting community guidelines and necessaries. This is a long term success goal.

As for public services such as the library, I do not believe I will have any impact whatsoever.

I aim to achieve a state of preparedness for any emergencies or injuries that hopefully never occur and always have basic medical necessities on site. I also will install a cell phone signal booster in order to reach emergency services in case of any accident. I also plan to install a security system to alert local law enforcement if needed in the case of a break in.

I very much hope that Buckingham County will approve this Special Use Permit application so that this proposed business can flourish and give back to the community. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

John Wichen 02/09/2021

John Wicks

WOODWORKING SHOP HOURS OF OPERATION: 9:00 AM - 5:00PM, MONDAY-FRIDAY PUBLIC VISITORS : 12:00 PM- 4:00 PM, MONDAY-FRIDAY

## SIGNAGE AT PROPERTY

The Buckingham County Zoning Ordinance requires the following:

The applicant in any case which requires a public hearing shall post signs furnished by the agent on each parcel involved at least 21 days prior to the public hearing indicating that a public hearing is eminent, the date, a rezoning issue, and a County contact number. The signs shall be placed on the VDOT right-of-way closest to the applicant's property line and shall be clearly visible from the road with bottom of the sign not less than one and one half feet above the ground. If more than one public road abuts the property, the signs shall be placed in the same manner as above for each abutting road. If no road abuts a property, then the agent shall define an area for the signs. The agent may ask the applicant that the sign be moved to another area either on the property to achieve greater public visibility. The applicant shall be responsible for keeping the signs free from grass, weeds, and any other plants or vines that may obstruct the public's view. The applicant shall contact the Virginia Department of Transportation for any information concerning where the right-of-way is located. The applicant shall be responsible for the signs should VDOT or their contractor conduct mowing or clearing of the right-of-way in the area where the sign is located.

Any signs required shall be maintained at all times by the applicant up to the time of the final public hearing. No person, except the applicant or the agent or an authorized agent of either, shall remove or tamper with any sign furnished during the period it is required to be maintained under this section. All signs erected under this ordinance shall be removed by the applicant within 15 days following a decision at the final public hearing and shall be returned to the agent. The applicant shall purchase the signs at a fee as determined by the Board of Supervisors and shall be non-refundable. The applicant shall be responsible for the replacement of the sign(s) and shall contact the agent as soon as possible for another sign to be replaced as the manner described above. Should the sign(s) have to be replaced more than twice, this section shall no longer be forced upon the applicant.

I have read, understand and agree to the above requirements.

Applicant/Owner: Stoven & Wicky

Date:  $\frac{02}{09} \frac{09}{202}$ 

## **TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR A SPECIAL USE PERMIT**

The application, site plan, written narrative, and all information requested in this application must be filled out in its entirety and supplied to the Buckingham Zoning / Planning Office and the fee must be paid before this case will be allowed to move forward.

Case will be introduced at a regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting held on the fourth Monday of every month. Planning Commission may set a Public Hearing at this time to be held during a regularly scheduled meeting. Public Hearings offer an opportunity for citizens to speak concerning the case.

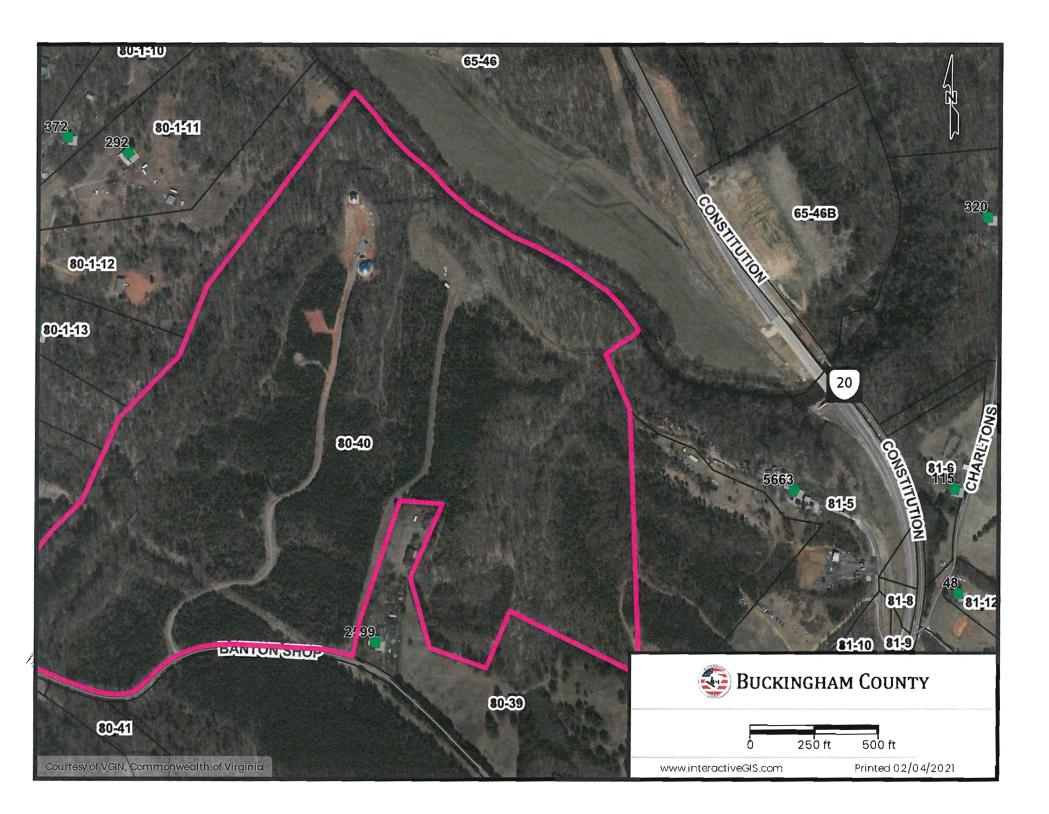
Following the Planning Commission Public Hearing, the Planning Commission may make a recommendation to approve / deny / or table the case for more information. Once the Planning Commission makes a recommendation to approve or deny, this recommendation will be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors at their next regularly scheduled meeting. The Board of Supervisors meetings are held on the second Monday of every month. The Board of Supervisors may set a Public Hearing at this time to be held during a regularly scheduled meeting. The Board of Supervisors will make the final decision to approve or deny the application after the public hearing.

### **Example Timeline:**

- January 25 Case is introduced to Planning Commission. Planning Commission sets Public Hearing for next regularly scheduled meeting on February 22.
- February 22 Planning Commission Public Hearing. Planning Commission recommends to approve / deny / or table for more information. Once the Planning Commission reaches a decision to approve or deny, this recommendation will be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors at their next regularly scheduled meeting.
- March 8 Case is introduced to Board of Supervisors.
- April 12 Board of Supervisors may approve / deny / table for more information.

The Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors has a right to call extra public hearings at their discretion if the Board(s) decide they are needed.

You or your agent are encouraged to attend these meetings to answer any questions that may arise concerning your application / proposal. The County strongly encourages the applicant to visit the area around his proposed site and understand what the adjoining landowner concerns are.



## BOOK 428 PAGE 433

THIS DEED, made this 30th day of November, 2015, by and between H. CURTIS PEARSON, JR., party of the first part (grantor), and STEVEN A. WICKS and ALICE G. WICKS, husband and wife, parties of the second part (grantees).

WITNESSETH, that for and in consideration of the sum of \$20.00 and other valuable consideration paid by the parties of the second part to the party of the first part, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the party of the first part does hereby bargain, sell, grant and convey, with General Warranty and, except as hereinafter set forth, English Covenants of Title, unto the parties of the second part, as tenants by the entireties with the right of survivorship as at common law, all the following described real estate, to-wit:

> All that certain tract or parcel of land, with improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto belonging, situated in Maysville Magisterial District of Buckingham County, Virginia, containing Seventy-Four and eightyfive/hundredths (74.85) acres, more or less, said lands fronting on Virginia Secondary Route #617 Shop Road) (Banton and the centerline of the Slate River and being more particularly described by a plat of survey prepared by Michael Ray Goin, L.S., dated April 1, 2015, revised November 5, 2015, which is attached hereto, made a part hereof and recorded simultaneously herewith in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Buckingham County in Plat Cabinet A, at slide 250B, to which plat reference is hereby made for a more complete and accurate description of said lands. Said lands being a portion of the lands conveyed as "TRACT T-348 (Taylor) -Tax Parcel 80-40" unto H. Curtis Pearson, Jr. from GIC Virginia Timberlands, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, by deed dated January 31, 2008 and recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Deed Book 355, at page 781 et seq.

This conveyance is made expressly subject to any and all easements, restrictions, conditions and reservations which are: contained in duly recorded deeds, plats, and other instruments constituting constructive notice in the chain of title to the

Consideration: \$165,000.00 Assessed Value: \$89,216.72 Return to: J. Robert Snoddy, III

Part of TM #80-40 Title Ins. Fidelity Nat. Title Ins.

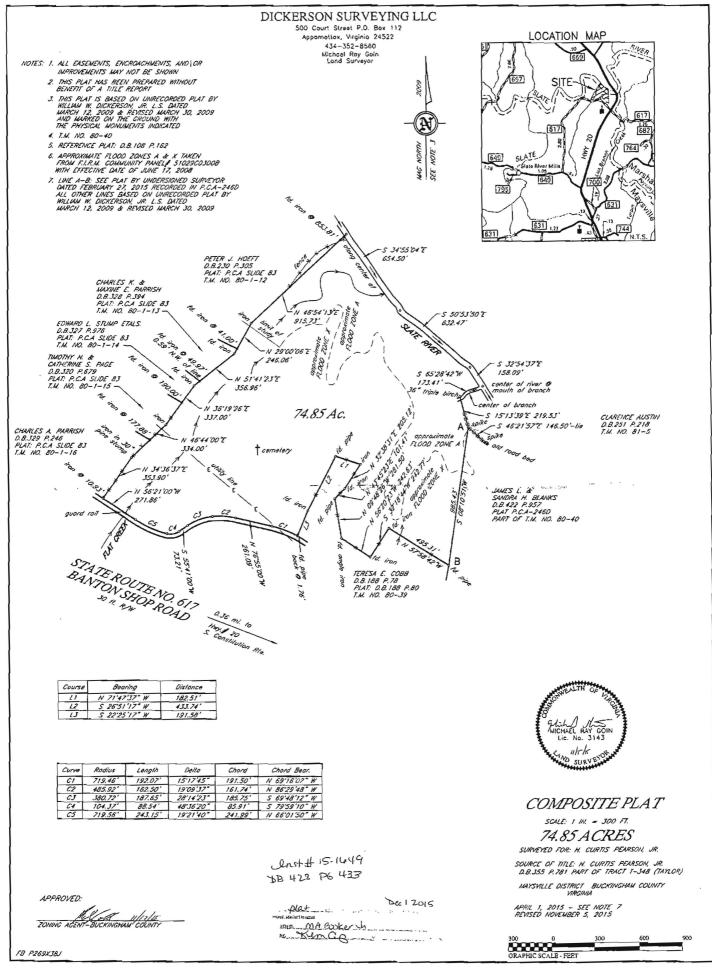
Prepared By: I. ROBERT SNOODY, III Attorney and Counselor at Law P. O. BOX 325 DILLWYTK, VIRGINUA 23936 VSB Na. 13494

\* 15-1449

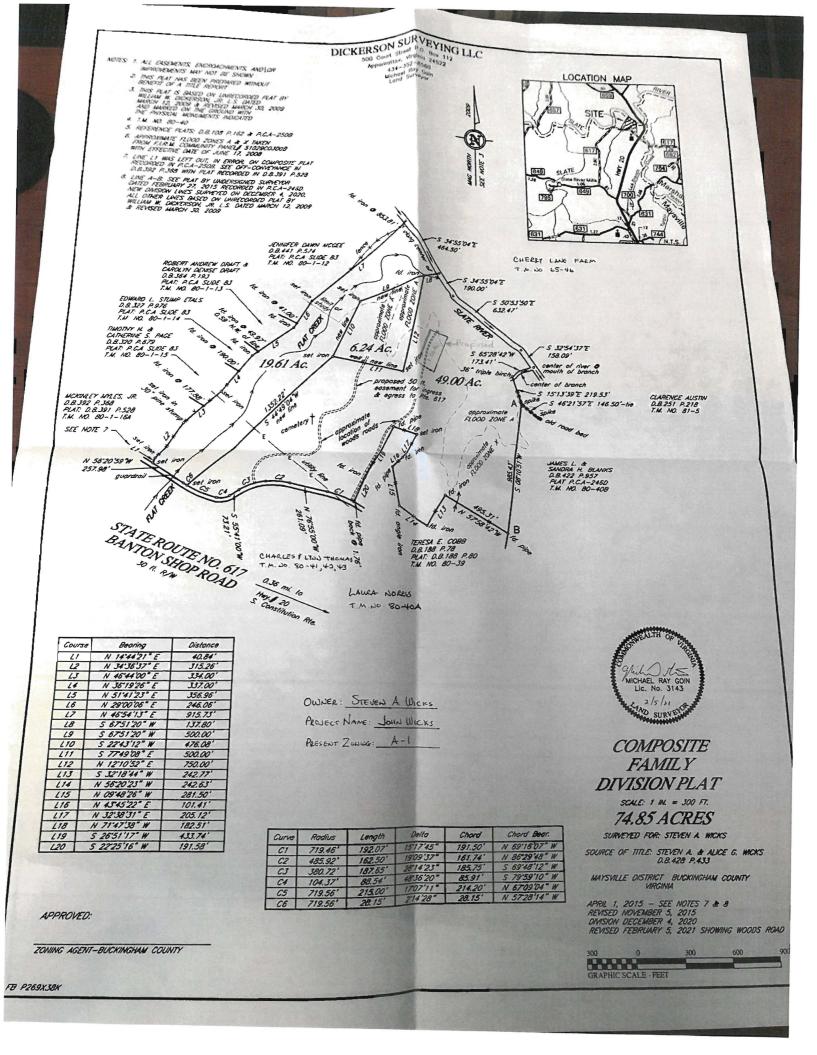
BUUK 428 FAGE 434 property hereby conveyed that have not expired by limitation of time contained therein or have not otherwise become ineffective; or, apparent upon inspection of the premises. WITNESS the following signature and seal. (SEAL) CURTIS PEARSON, JR. STATE OF VIRGINIA COUNTY OF BUCKINGHAM, to-wit: I, <u>KINOA N Neador</u>, a notary public in and for the county aforesaid, State of Virginia, do hereby certify that H. CURTIS PEARSON, JR., whose name is signed to the writing above, has acknowledged the same before me in my county aforesaid. Given under my hand this 30th day of November, 2015. My commission expension My commission expension My commission expension My commission and commission of the commission o 8.31\_2018 NANH REF. ' G 10 PAGY A Start Start NOTARY Grantee address: 211 W. James St. Mt. Olive, NC 28365 I CO. VIRGINIA: CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BUCKINGHAM COUNTY 035 Rec Fee 412/50 St. R. Tax The foregoing instrument with acknowledgement 137 50 Co. R. Tax 100 - was admitted to record on Dec 1 \_ 20 15, Transfer 2800 Clerk - at 11:20 AM. in D.B. 429 Page(s) 433-434 300 10 20 (45 00 2000 777600 Lib.(145) T.T.F. Teste: MALCOLM BOOKER, JR., CLERK Granior Tax BY Kum Crump\_, DEPUTY CLERK 036 Proc. Fee Total \$ -2-

Propored By: 1 ROBERT SWOODY, III Attorney and Counselor et Law P. O. 80X, 325 DILLWIN, VRCIANA, 23936 VSB Na, 13494

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BUCKINNELAM COUNTY CASISITY L CHARTELIAN FORT DEFIDE BUX 105 BUCKINNELAM VA B3921 Frans. WI READ KT DO-617 - 6 MI N DF DD 1040 STLEWN 74,85 AC ACTES 74,850 Frincipal Boing Paid \$ 956.28 Frincipal Boing Paid \$ 956.20 Frincipal Boing Paid \$ 956.28 Frincipal Boing Paid \$		DUPLICATE.	- <sup>2</sup> , E	IY AND INTERES	WICKS PENALTY	TNCLUD	STEVEN A & A	by WICKS STEN BALANCE DUE I	PG Ly W ANY BALA
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Permit	District	Name	Purpose	Cost of	Cost of Permit
No.				Construction	
18263		Minnick Floyd	Permit Upgrade	4445.000.00	\$25.50
18294	Maysville	Courtina Morgan Watson	Doublewide	\$145,000.00	\$514.61
18294	James River	Marsha Verber	Electrical	\$3,000.00	\$25.50
18343	Francisco	Centruy Link	Electrical	\$500.00	\$25.50
18346	Curdsville	Ellington Energy	Mechanical	\$700.00	\$25.50
18347	Curdsville	lan Boyer	Addittion Residential	\$15,000.00	\$175.15
18348	Maysville	Steven Stoltzfus	New Dwelling Stickbuilt	\$0.00	\$912.12
18349	Maysville	Marion Coblentz	New Dwelling Stickbuilt	\$170,000.00	\$246.94
18350	Cursdville	Pearson Construction	Commerical Construction	\$8,000.00	\$51.00
18351	Slate River	Daniel Fought	Remodel Residential	\$40,526.30	\$51.00
18352	Maysville	Myers Electric	Electrical	\$1,200.00	\$25.50
18353	James River	Southern Air	Electrical	\$9,883.90	\$25.50
18354	Francisco	Ben and Ronnie Moss	Addittion Residential	\$60,000.00	\$157.80
18355	James River	Michael and Sons Services	Mechanical	\$2,000.00	\$25.50
18356	Maysville	Ricky and Billie Davis	Doublewide	\$55,000.00	\$383.23
18357	Marshall	James and Sonia Ransom	Garage Detached	\$100,000.00	\$77.32
18358	Slate River	Mike Boyce	Farm Building with Fee	\$7,000.00	\$90.78
18359	Curdsville	Mitchell Homes	New Dwelling Stickbuilt	\$223,000.00	\$671.7
18360	Francisco	Ellington Energy	Mechanical	\$10,398.00	\$25.50
18361	Slate River	Ruby and Samuel Ludovissy	Modular Unit	\$277,000.00	\$977.96
18362	James River	Christopher Dye	Farm Building Exempt	\$1,200.00	\$10.00
18363	James River	Tiger Fuel	Mechanical	\$180.00	\$25.50
18364	Slate River	Parker Oil Company	Mechanical	\$800.00	\$25.50
18365	Slate River	Bernice Baird	Remodel Residential	\$9,000.00	\$51.00
18366	Slate River	Clayton Homes	Doublewide	\$156,000.00	\$374.2
18367	James River	Rock River	New Dwelling Stickbuilt	\$222,000.00	\$579.02
18368	James River	Rock River	New Dwelling Stickbuilt	\$179,800.00	\$406.1
18369	Slate River	CS Retreats	Commerical Construction	\$10,000.00	\$61.0
18371	Slate River	James Jones	Electrical	\$0.00	\$25.5
13872	Maysville	Cary Bryant	Remodel Commerical	\$12,000.00	\$51.0
18374	Curdsville	Energix EPC US LLC	Commerical Construction	\$17,793,926.00	\$192,662.00
18375	Marshall	True Power Electrical	Electrical	\$950.00	\$25.5
18376	Marshall	True Power Electrical	Electrical	\$950.00	\$25.5
18377	Marshall	True Power Electrical	Electrical	\$950.00	\$25.5
18378	Marshall	True Power Electrical	Electrical	\$950.00	\$25.5
18379	Marshall	True Power Electrical	Electrical	\$950.00	\$25.5
18380	Curdsville	True Power Electrical	Electrical	\$950.00	
18381	Curdsville	True Power Electrical	Electrical	\$950.00	
18382	Slate River	JT Enterprises	New Dwelling Stickbuilt	\$190,000.00	
18383	Slate River	JT Enterprises	New Dwelling Stickbuilt	\$190,000.00	
18384	Maysville	Parker Oil Company	Mechanical	\$850.00	
18385	Francisco	Ellíngton Energy	Mechanical	\$1,719.00	
18386	Maysville	Central Virignia Electric	Commerical Construction	\$80,000.00	
18378	James River	Adrían Jones	Farm Building Exempt	\$2,800.00	
18389	Maysville	ENYAP Land and Reality	Demolition	\$0.00	
18390	Curdsville	Shenandoah Cable Television	Addittion Commerical	\$25,000.00	
18392	Slate River	Clayton Homes	Doublewide	\$170,000.00	
18393	Slate River	Clayton Homes	Doublewide	\$198,000.00	
18388	Maysville	Travis Hicks	Farm Building Exempt	\$39,000.00	

50 Building Permits were issued in the amount of \$200,910.19 for the month of January 2021