At a joint budget work session of the Buckingham County Board of Supervisors and Buckingham County School Board held on Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. in the Peter Francisco Auditorium of the Buckingham County Administration Complex, the following members were present: Don Matthews, Chairman; T. Jordan Miles, III, Vice-Chairman; Dennis Davis; Donald E. Bryan; Harry W. Bryant, Jr.; and Joe N. Chambers, Jr. Danny R. Allen was absent. Also present were Rebecca S. Carter, County Administrator; Karl Carter, Asst. County Administrator; E.M. Wright, Jr., County Attorney; Jamie Shumaker, IT Manager; Cody R. Davis, Emergency Services Manager. For the School Board, those present were Theresa D. Bryant, Chairperson; Thomas Hutcherson, Jr., Vice-Chairman; Joii W. Goodman; Jacqueline J. Newton; Sherry S. Ragland; Pamela P. Morris. Rachel M. Castello-Dunn was absent. Also present were Dr. Daisy Hicks, Superintendent and Wendy Oliver, Clerk of the School Board.

Re: Call to Order

Chairman Matthews called the meeting to order for the Board of Supervisors. Chairperson Bryant called the meeting to order for the School Board.

Re: Establishment of a Quorum

Chairman Matthews certified there was a quorum, six of seven members present and the meeting could continue.

Chairperson Bryant certified there was a quorum for the School Board, six of seven members present and the meeting could continue.

Re: Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Chambers gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was said by all who were in attendance.

Re: Budget Work Session: Dr. Daisy Hicks, Presentation of the 2021-22 School Budget

Matthews: Dr. Hicks, Superintendent of Buckingham County Public Schools, presentation of the requested Fiscal Year 2021-22 school budget discussions regarding the requested budget and consider any action regarding the school board requested budget. Dr. Hicks.
**Hicks:** Good evening Mr. Chair, Madam Chair and Board Members. We received the 2021 Governor's budget on federal on December 16, the Senate budget and the House budget on February 26, and the General Assembly's budget on March 9. All three versions of the state budget are similar. Each of these budget provide no loss funding to divisions to offset the ADM losses due to the pandemic. Virginia preschool initiative funding for SNAPS was also restored in all three versions of these budgets. Compensation supplements are included in all three of these versions of the budget ranging from a 1%, a onetime bonus, a 3% salary increase and a 5% and salary increase. All versions do, though do have local matches to be certified. The proposed 2021-22 school budget is based on the most recent state budget, the General Assembly version. Next slide. This chart is a comparison of March 31, ADM for 10 years. This is the final ADM that is reported to the state and what the state is funding based on due to the pandemic statewide projections are $44,296 lower than fiscal year 2022. Last year, our March ADM was reported at 1972.17. Currently as of February 28, our ADM is at 1898.51 which is a decrease of 73.66. At this time, Mrs. Oliver were present the next slide.

**Oliver:** We will be comparing this proposed budget to our current state budget from the General Assembly with an ADM of 1955. We are projecting a lower ADM for next year of 1910 which is 45 less than current. In the complete budget document that you have in your packets, you will see that the state budget has four main categories. SOQ incentive categorical and lottery funded programs. The programs that require local match have been indicated in green in the far right of that document. The required local match is based on the Composite Index, which is the county's ability to pay. Buckingham composite index will remain at .3422 being that this is the last year of this biannual budget. With the reduction of our ADM our total funding from the state and SOQ programs will be $143,681 less than this year. However incentive program funding will be increased $881,052 mainly because the state has added no loss funding which is basically holding the schools harmless for ADM loss. Also included in the senate programs is additional funds for salary increase for SOQ positions and the amount of $458,072. Lottery funds are increasing as well $63,039 which is mainly At Risk funds to be used to support SOQ mandates on school counselors. The total General Assembly's budget increase for 2021-2022 $800,019. This also increases the local match by $780,666. And looking at the comparison in the federal funds, we are receiving $2,179,333 and the latest CARES Act Grant. CARES Act Grant is labeled ESSERF II. The use of these grant funds have to be in guidance with federal regulations and approved by DOE prior to spending these funds. These funds are reimbursed as our majority of all of our other federal funds. With this additional grant and adjustments to other federal grants we are projecting an increase of $1,162,736 in federal funds. This budget we are also proposing an increase in local appropriations of $400,024 to support the local match of a 5% raise, increase for contracted employees, as well as an insurance premium increase. We are also adjusting our current budget to remove the onetime bonus funds that were transferred back to the school board from year end monies of $261,776.

**Hicks:** The cafeteria fund budget proposal includes a slight reduction in state funds of $15,531 in the breakfast program. An increase in the federal funds for a portion of the new CARES Act Grant increasing those revenues by $13,734. The total cafeteria revenues are projected to be lower than a total of $19,021. The proposed budget also includes a onetime transfer of $803,210 from the prior two years balances to reappropriate back to the schools in a capital projects fund. We are proposing that these funds remain in our budget each year and the unspent balance rollover as the cafeteria funds currently...
do. We are also requesting that moving forward and our unused funds at the end of the year be transferred directly back to the school to this fund at the end of the audit once the audit is completed to be used by the school board at the discretion of capital projects.

**Oliver:** In looking at the percentages of revenue in our funding sources, you will see that the state funding for this proposed budget is 55% with the federal revenues at a little over 17 ½%. The County's portion of revenues are at 26.15%. For the cafeteria Fund, the federal revenues make up 69% of the total revenues with the local at an average of 30%.

**Hicks:** The total cost of the 5% increase for all contracted employees and a step of years of experience credited on their scale is $896,500. The proposed a budget is projecting $458,072. The school budget has been adjusted by $200,139 to approve the step increase and the non SOQ funded positions. And we're requesting an additional $238,298 to support the raise which is the local match. The total employer increase with health insurance is $236,000. With an adjustment of the school's budget of $73,036. We're requesting an additional $161,726 to support this premium increase. The total expenditure budget is proposed to increase by $2,865,519 to reflect the 5% increase with a step and insurance premium adjustments and the CARES Act II grant projections as well as the addition of the facility's budget of $803,210.

The breakdown of the expenditure budget, that area shows that the instructional budget is the majority of the school budget at 68.53%. Transportation and maintenance both are around 8% and technologies at 6.12. Administration at 5.5% and all other areas are less than 4% or around 4%.

Group benefits notified us on February 24 that the Anthem had submitted a renewal with a 31.5% increase due to high claims. Total cost increase would have been $841,917. Benefits submitted bids on behalf of Buckingham County, resulting in three declines for quotes and two additional proposals higher than Anthem’s original renewal. Benefits is currently negotiating with Anthem for higher deductible plan structure to lower the total cost of the premiums with the deductibles increasing $1500 per plan. Therefore, the total renewal increase would be closer to 10% versus the 31.5%.

On this chart, you will see the balances of school funds and in the years listed and the uses of these funds. As stated earlier, the board is requesting the fiscal year 19 and fiscal year 20 balances be returned to this proposed budget for capital projects fund. You also have a current list of projects and the BCP and the BCP that these funds will be used for moving forward. The last few pages of your packet is our current school bus fleet mileage along with the replacement schedule. I can address any questions?

**Matthews:** Would you like to start, Mr. Bryan?

**Bryan:** Before we start, Mr. Chairman, I need to read a statement for the record. I'm advising that I have sought an opinion from the Commonwealth Attorney concerning any conflict I may have in participating in discussions and voting on the county's budget because I'm a school teacher for the Buckingham County School System. I've received a written opinion from Mr. Wright and I can that I can participate in the discussions and vote on budget matters. The Code of Virginia requires that I make a statement concerning my situation. According I make the following statement for the record, I will
participate in the discussions and vote on matters relating to the adoption as well as the adoption of the 2021-2022 Board of Supervisors budget for the county. I am a school teacher employed by the Buckingham County School Board, which is funded in part by allocations from the Buckingham County Board of Supervisors. I am a member of a profession. The members of which are affected by the transaction, I am able to participate in the transaction fairly objectively and in the public interest. And I do not set the budget or authorize the expenditures of Buckingham County School Board.

**Miles:** Mr. Chairman may offer a statement that’s similar?

**Matthews:** Yes, sir, Mr. Vice Chairman.

**Miles:** I’m advising that I have sought an opinion from the Commonwealth’s Attorney covering any conflict I may have in participating in discussions and voting on the county’s budget because I’m an employee of Piedmont Senior Resources. I have received a written opinion from Mr. Wright, that I can participate in the discussions and vote on budget matters. The Code of Virginia requires that I make a statement concerning my situation. Accordingly, I make the following statement for the record. One I will participate in the discussions and mode on matters relating to the adoption as well as relating to the adoption of the 2020-2021 Board of Supervisors budget for the county. I am an employee of Piedmont Senior Resources, which is funded in part by allocations from the Buckingham County Board of Supervisors. I am a member of a group of employees of Piedmont Senior Resources, that group being more than three which are affected by the transaction and I am able to participate in the transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest. I do not set the budget or authorize the expenditures of Piedmont Senior Resources. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Matthews:** I’d like to start with any discussion.

**Bryan:** Dr. Hicks, you said when you mentioned the 5% did I hear you right, you said it includes a step increase?

**Hicks:** Our total budget includes the 5% increase as well as the step. We’re not asking any money from the county for the step increase. We only ask him to help with the 5%.

**Bryan:** Okay, but the money overall includes the step increase?

**Hicks:** Yes.

**Bryan:** Okay. And that's for all employees?

**Hicks:** That's for contracted employees. The 5%, the salary scales are based on contracted employees. Hourly employees would include, like your grant funding care professionals, substitute teachers, car drivers is part time or hourly. And I can’t think of the other ones. The dishwashers, I believe at the school. So it's about 30 employees that fall in to the hourly employee schedule versus contract.

**Bryan:** Okay, so that does not include them.
Hicks: No.

Miles: Mr. Chairman, I've got a question.

Matthews: Okay.

Miles: Dr. Hicks, how many folks roughly what's the number of people who are included in the non-contracted?

Hicks: About 30.

Miles: About 30. Okay, thank you.

Chambers: How much do they make an hour, Dr. Hicks?

Hicks: It varies, but we also included in our budget because we all know, of course, they've been talking about increasing the minimum wages so we have included for everybody to make no less than $11 an hour for any of those positions. So we've adjusted…we're looking at proposing to adjust those as well to include that. But they wouldn't get the whole 5% but they would get something if they're not at $11.

Matthews: I've got a question too. Ms. Hicks…

T. Bryant: (did not pick up on tape so not verbatim) Chairperson Bryant asked for Dr. Hicks to be addressed as Dr. instead of Ms. because that is her title.

Matthews: I’m going to address her as Ms. Hicks. Because that’s what I’m going to say. So thank you. Ms. Hicks, do we have…we had two emails today with two different totals on the salaries with the step in it. So which one is the correct total? Mrs. Carter, would you like to read those?

Carter: What's your question again?

Matthews: The two emails we got regarding the salary increases. One was different than the other one. So I'm just trying to get a clarification on which total is right.

Carter: Yeah. And I think we cleared it up because it's been several emails. And I know one email did say that the 840 some thousand dollars did not include the step. And then another one said it did. But I think it's what we particularly want to know, this board to know, that every employee and I understand about the hourly, because we talked about that, but I mean, do you have some teachers that are contracted but not paid for by the state?

Hicks: No.
Carter: You don't have any positions other than those 30 that's not state fund?

Oliver: We do have a few teachers that are federally funded, but their raises will be written into those grants.

Carter: But they will get a raise. So the only ones that will not get that 5% is, you want to, but you have money in here to raise the hourly and do that.

Hicks: Right.

Carter: So if the Board votes to give this money, they are voting for all employees to…their contribution would allow all employees to get a 5% raise except those 30 that you are working with negotiating on their hourly rates?

Hicks: Correct.

Carter: So say that I think that was the misunderstanding. Some of the emails were like it made you think it might be just SOQ.

Ragland: It confused me reading all the thread of emails to so I can understand that. But Dr. Hicks did a really good job of explaining that. I know. But it was very…

Carter: I think we got mixed up with the step because I was asked about it today. And Karl and I did not know. But now we do know. And so I think that's where it is. I think you all wanted to know if everyone would get the raise.

Matthews: Yes.

Carter: Not just the SOQ funded positions.

Hicks: Yes, the state only funds that SOQ.

Miles: Can I ask a question, Mr. Chairman?

Matthews: Yes, sir.

Miles: So, Dr. Hicks, in terms of the and just so I'm clear, as I'm asking this. So just that $200,000 costs for Step is part of that $896,509?

Hicks: Yes.

Miles: Okay. Okay, just want to be clear. Thank you.
Carter: I think what to come to bring it clear, the $890 some thousand dollars, all of the salary increase and the $400 and some is state. Some of it in there might be some federal. No it’s not. In that state and local money. And some money that the school is going to contribute their self, which is yes, it is local money. But its money there evidently found savings in. All of that pay is in that 800,000. That’s what we finally are coming to.

Bryan: Where’s that money coming from Dr. Hicks? Just out of curiosity.

Hicks: What money? I’m sorry.

Bryan: That money, $200,000.

Hicks: It could be for as far as positions, through people retiring and we hire people with less experience. We can reduce, it might be a reduction in instructional supplies or something that we know apparently not going to use it just a various pool that we usually have some money from. Same time when we give money back. That’s usually what we would be where our savings come from.

Bryan: One hand washes the other. Health insurance, I guess, Wendy or Dr. Hicks, what percentage does the school pay?

Hicks: Depending on the plan, and it went from I think the lowest amount is 70. And it ranges all up to 85% for what the employer would pay toward that.

Bryan: And that just pays for the employee?

Hicks: That’s the portion the employer pays for the employees portion of the of the

Bryan: Does the employer pay for any dependents?

Oliver: We have three different plans.

Bryan: Yes, ma’am.

Oliver: So the plans range in the mid-70s employer portion for all tiers, employee through family. The same percentages regardless of what tier you fall on the plans.

Bryan: So you’re paying 70% for a dependent that doesn’t work in the school system?

Oliver: The same premiums throughout the plan. Yes.

Chambers: Same as we do.

Carter: I’m gonna pull it up now.
Bryan: I already know. Our portion is at 80/20.

Carter: It’s the same. It’s 80% of the plan. So say, that me and my husband is $1,000, then it's the same percentage 80/20.

Bryan: Yeah, it's actually well, then let's take the single, it's 80% for the single person, then we voted an extra $85. The employee plus one is 80% for the employee, and 20% for the dependent. And the family is same thing. It's 80/20. 80% for the employee and 20% for the family. But you're saying that you're paying 80% for the employee, and the family?

Carter: Ours is 80% is the county.


Oliver: We're playing 80%. We're playing not 80%. We're paying 70% for all tiers, regardless of what if you have an employee only or if it’s family, the total premium.

Bryan: You're paying 70% as well for the family? Okay. What are your numbers based on? As far as increase?

Ragland: Let me ask the question, I'm sorry.

Bryan: Hold on one second,

Ragland: The whole thing about the plan, though, is I mean, if you as a family member, have a family, your rate will be based on that family rate. So that's, I mean, am I understanding that? You'll be paying 80% on that rate. So if it's a $2,000 family plan, we'll be paying 80% on that, there'll be paying the 20%. If you are a single individual at $500, we will be paying 80% on that, and they'll pay the 20%. Okay, that's pretty much how insurance works. That's how you’re going to do it. That's how insurance is paid.

Matthews: I thought she said 70%.

Ragland: I'm…

Matthews: Is it 70 or 80?

Ragland: just talking hypothetically. Actually, it depends on the plan, because we have more than 10 employees, they can pick from one to three plans. They can have a lower deductible or a higher deductible.

Matthews: So what's the highest gonna be 70 or 80%?

Oliver: I thought one of them was 73, and one is 85%. Employer. That’s the range.
Matthews: Gotcha.

Ragland: And again, people select that based on whether they want to…if somebody goes to the doctor all the time, they probably want one that would have a lower, you know, I don't know how that will lower, but whichever one is based on how they spend it out of their what their portion they have to pay.

Miles: Can I ask a question, Mr. Chairman?

Matthews: Yes, sir. Go ahead.

Miles: On page, I guess it's 3 of 3, if that helps. Dr. Hicks in terms of the state revenues. It's the end of the 3 page budget summary. There is a huge loss in terms of this lottery funds in terms of school breakfasts. It's down at 6.7%. That that caught my eyes. You know?

Oliver: Yes the lottery funds for the breakfast program are being reduced by that much.

Miles: Can you say that again? I'm sorry.

Hicks: The lottery funds have been reduced by that amount in the new proposed budget.

Miles: And that's not going to hinder the school divisions efforts to provide a hot breakfast, I assume?

Hicks: Not at all.

Miles: I didn't think so. But I thought I’d ask.

Bryan: Back to my question. I'm sorry. I got a call from Virginia Department of Health. What numbers, Wendy, do you base your figures on when you do the health increase?

Oliver: So as Dr. Hicks said we have an insurance consultant, the Pierce Group, and when they gave us the 31% renewal increase, they told us that based on our current employees where they fall, increasing those plans by 31% would be an additional cost to the employee and employer total of $896,000 that we stated. When we asked them to go back and negotiate those plans down, when they reduced the plans down to close to 10% increase, but changing all the deductibles, the total increase for the premiums will be the 236 that we're projecting. We’re still negotiating with them to get exact figures of how that will look employee versus employer. But the employer is budgeting 236 to put towards those that increase.

Carter: That’s based on 10%. I thought was 21% last time when we spoke but they was 21. Y’all got it down to10.

Hicks: We went from 31 to 10.
Bryan: That's only the people that have insurance, correct?

Oliver: It's based on current enrollment. Yes.

Bryan: Okay. Because she's under the what? What?

Miles: There's only 31% health insurance increase, just for clarity, has been negotiated down to 10. Okay, that's good news.

Carter: Is that all local?

Oliver: No. 10% is the 236 that we're asking for. And when we spoke with you, we were at 21. But we were still negotiating. So we used to 10%. So currently, we have three plans. There's a 2000 deductible right now and we have 84 enrollments, a 4000 deductible with 145 enrollments and a 2000 deductible with 9 enrollments.

Matthews: You've got two 2000 deductibles?

Oliver: Yes, we do. One of the 2000 deductibles is considered an international plan where they can cover the United States like a rich plan they consider. That's why it's only nine people.

Matthews: And how many people have the 4000?

Oliver: 145.

Matthews: Added all together, what is that total, you know?


Oliver: And we have approximately 300 eligible employees.

Bryan: I'm sorry, 238. And you got how many?

Oliver: A little over 300 that are eligible to enroll.

Bryan: You got 62 people that are not enrolled or have other health care.

Davis: Can I ask the question, Mr. Chairman?

Matthews: Yes, sir. Mr. Davis, you're recognized.

Davis: Did the insurance company give you all any reason for wanting to go up 31% on your premiums? Is it because of your workforce is getting older? Or what was the purpose of it?
Hicks: We had four claimants that drove that cost up.

Davis: It was like a big jump to me that one pop.

T. Bryant: (mic not on. Did not pick up so not verbatim) It is, but they only look at the previous year.

Ragland: So I'm very appreciative that we've been able to have them negotiate on our behalf. I mean, like I said, from the third ones down to 10%. I mean, it's not like we need to provide our employees with insurance. And you know, so I don’t know how you can cut that much more.

Matthews: How much does it cost to have Pierce to do your negotiating? The question is, how much did it cost? The company that negotiates it, how much does it cost for them to do that?

Oliver: I believe it's under $5,000. But I do not know the exact number.

Ragland: That comes from operations for the board.

Bryan: And you said the total cost for insurance is 236?

Oliver: That's the increase.

Miles: Mr. Chairman, I've got a question.

Matthews: Yes, sir.

Miles: On page, on the first page of your regular operations funds, Dr. Hicks, under lottery funding programs foster children’s going from 11,906 to 5,033. I assume that's and that's over…Oh, I'm sorry, page one of three. And, you know, that's a pretty big drop. And I would assume that's the way the lottery funds grind out, right. I mean?

Oliver: Those funds are actually based on how many children we submit to the state that we currently have. So that's what that number is based on. If we submit to them, we have more than those funds would go up.

Miles: Understood. And just for clarification, also, Mr. Chairman, so y'all are adding in your budget to 800 and some odd thousand dollars for capital improvements. Is that…

Hicks: That's what the board is requesting. Carry over funds and go back to that account.

Miles: And is there, if I could continue., Mr. Chairman, is there a plan with that in terms of what you know, I mean, obviously, there are some projects that need to be made, but priority and that kind of thing.
Hicks: Yes.

Ragland: That whole project plan is at the back here in your packet. And the whole idea is hoping to get a line item for our money to be put into a capital line item. So that we cannot have to wait till the end of the year, like after the audit, to request any, you know, last year money to put towards projects. If we have it in the budget, then we can start during the summer and go through the whole year, and have it already. And we've already met with the capital projects plan. I mean, that was why we came up with that several years ago, is to show above and beyond the maintenance that we have to cover these projects.

Bryan: But you have a maintenance budget. Right. I understand. Sherry, I know at one time that we had talked, the painting fell on the maintenance budget, and not on the capital improvements budget.

Ragland: Well, we put it in the capital left it in there.

Bryan: Part of the maintenance budget,

Ragland: But it is above and beyond the routine painting like exterior painting. That's not something that is done every year. It's done every like 5 or 10 years. And that would be a large number. And that was why we didn't put it in here.

Bryan: Okay. Have you ever looked at maybe grants for some of the security?

Ragland: Yeah, we got several grants already in place we just waiting to get them. And that means not only here, but other things as well.

Miles: What Supervisor Bryan, Mr. Chairman, if I may, reminded me of something I forget where it is in here. But it appears that there's no money for this resource officer that was federally, I mean, that was grant funded.

Oliver: We only remove that because we have to reapply. But we will fund the position every year. He was still, is funded in the budget, we just had to remove the revenue because we have to reapply every year. Once we get that grant, we'll put that money back in.

Miles: I see.

Ragland: That's kind of where you get some of this extra money at the end of the year. We have to budget that not knowing if we are going to get it.

Matthews: That $800,000. That is taxpayer money. And that is actually given back to the Board of Supervisors by the school division for us to give back to you when you come up with a plan or a RFP or a bid for an item that is a large ticket item. And that's the way that was developed. So that being said, do you have your bid for your roof, which is one of those items and some of the other stuff, we would be glad to listen to that.
Morris: In looking at your budget,

Matthews: I'm sorry, I can't hear you.

Morris: In looking at your budget, you have a space in there for capital projects. It would only make sense that our schools would have one in there as well. And this is the kind of money that we need to have, in order to make sure that our children are in a safe environment.

Matthews: We're gonna give it to you.

Bryan: But I'm not in the habit of giving a blank check.

Morris: We are not asking for a blank check.

Bryan: Yes, you are. You're asking us to transfer $800,000 into an account, and you can't tell me where it's going? How much it's going to cost? I mean, that's the only thing we're asking is do you have prices for some of the capital improvements that you want to make? That's the only thing we're asking you.

Ragland: And it takes, as far as the roof is concerned, and I think we've kind of discussed this at one time or another. It's not a normal roof. We have to have an architect that has to come back and design and tell us what the specifications will be for us to even get put it out for bid. And that's taking time. And then we've got like a month or two to get this done. We have to come back to our board, then we have to come back to your board. And then guess what, here we are in July. And we're going to have to that money's gonna have to go over. And that's what we're trying to avoid from happening. If that money was in this account, we can take care of it.

Matthews: Exactly. Exactly. Exactly. And that roof didn't happen yesterday, or last month. So you should have looked at that last year. And associated that with the cost of a roof. Yes, ma'am.

Morris: Please address our board with respect.

Matthews: I'm trying to, but it's hard to get over Mrs. Ragland sometimes and I'm speaking. First thing is ma'am, you don't need to address me in that manner and tell me what I need to do or I don't need to do. Okay, I'm 63 years old. And I'm going to do it the way I'd like to do it. Thank you.

Chambers: I call point of order.

Matthews: Yes, sir.

Goodman: If I could just say one thing. You know, I understand it, guess what it's, you know, emotion on both sides. But I think if you look at the big picture, I don't think that necessarily what it is that we're asking for is completely unreasonable when you take a look at the numbers, I mean, you know, the
numbers are pretty solid, the instructional pieces over 60%, which is in the norms of other school divisions. So really, all we're basically saying is, is that we're going to try to put money back into our teachers, and also put money back into the infrastructure of the school in order to ensure that children have a safe and productive environment. Thank you so much, Mr. Chairman, Madam Chairman,

Bryan: The money can't go towards teachers, it has to go towards capital improvement.

Goodman: Yes, sir. Yes, sir. I can understand that, you know, maybe, you know, we're having some difficulty in terms of understanding the processes by which it is that we need to do it. Perhaps maybe this means that this could be an opportunity for us to take a completely different look at how we've been doing the process in the past. Maybe we should think about, you know, getting together on the front end and learning some of what the things that our Board of Supervisors wants some of their imperatives and some of their goals and some of their vision for the schools, and of course, working in conjunction with the school board. I don't think that that's unreasonable. Thank you so much, Mr. Chairman, Chairwoman.

Miles: Mr. Chairman, can I ask a question regarding that 800 and some odd thousand dollars?

Matthews: Yes, sir.

Miles: And this is just me brainstorming a little bit. So hold on, I apologize. But the...so how long has that, I wasn't around, I was around, but I wouldn't sitting here, when did that begin? And I'll kind of throw that out to Dr. Hicks and Mrs. Carter, the collecting of the money at the end of your balance?

Carter: I think it's accumulated over the last two, the last two is two years of carryover money.

Miles: Two years.

Carter: You all did grant, and maybe three, because you all did grant the money for three?

Hicks: Two.

Carter: You all did grant the money for the bonuses. And maybe a special ed bus. A few things like that y'all did release money for and because this has grown to 800 and some thousand dollars, I did move it out of our General Fund and put it in a school capital fund because I don't want it to get by next year be a million dollars and whoever's in charge might think that we have that money in The General Fund. So it is separated at this time for the school. It’s just not yet been transferred to the school budget. So I think that's where you are with that.

Miles: So just following up on that, Mr. Chairman, maybe the allocation of that money, and of course, we'd have to vote on this and discuss it, maybe that can be some sort of a phased approach using the committee that we set up, or maybe that committee needs to be reorganized with regards to capital improvements. I know Donnie has been on that committee for some time. I don't know who was from the school board is.
Matthews: Mr. Chambers is on there, too.

Miles: Okay. Just an idea from…

T. Bryant: What you're wanting to (mic not on, did not pick up)

Miles: No, ma'am. No, so what I was saying, Chairman Bryant, would be maybe a compromise would be to maybe you know, instead of $800,000 all at once, maybe do two, three at one year, and then see how that goes. And then obviously, follow your plan. But also use the Facilities Committee. I think as a way to…

Matthews: Let’s think about this for a little bit. There are checks and balances, and accounting. Okay. And there's 800 and some thousand dollars in an account. And Mrs. Carter has to check and balance those things. We paid the money for those school buildings from our budget, not school's budget, our budget. So we want to make sure, I do, and I want to make sure the taxpayers are getting their fair share. So there's a check and balance. When they get a bid on a roof and I'm just using that as an example. They come to us, we need to check for this amount, or this is what the bid is. Mrs. Carter writes them a check. That money is appropriated. If they go out there, and they want to build onto the building as a capital project. The same scenario happens. It is put out to bid, we signed a check. That's the checks and balances. She's responsible.

Ragland: I mean, we still do that now, when we come up here every month requesting for our payments. And that will end. It's just an easier path for us to get bids and to get projects. And then we will continue to be working off of the project plan that we have. And we do, we have a large committee of the Facilities Committee that takes the priorities to the school board, and we are trying to work off it. We never had a list before, Mr. Miles, we have not. And then last four years, we have this great plan. But it's like we started off with 800,000, I'm just saying because I don't have in front of me, $800,000 worth of capital projects need to get done. Well, we only got maybe $200,000. So the 600,000 left years will be moving over to the year when we've got another 500,000. It just keeps rolling over and we're never catching up.

Miles: I understand your point.

Chambers: Mr. Chairman.

Matthews: Yes, sir.

Chambers: First of all, I've been here for 30 years, I've never seen two boards so disrespectful. We always address people by their title for the last 30 years. Secondly, we got to trust one another to do the right thing. We can't expect the school to do their job and put handcuffs on him. They got to have a vision. I don't see no problem with putting in money and transferring money over. The county has visions. We got capital projects. If we don't have the money in place, how we know what we could do. I don't think the school…we got to trust one another. That's our problem up here now. You got your
guns loaded. You need to unload them. This is not helping our school system, and not helping the students at all. You need to come to some common ground and use some common sense up here. This stuff with disrespecting one another. It's the worst I've ever seen. You should stop it. If it's a Doctor, whoever. The Chairman should be addressed as the Chairman and not no Mr. or Mrs. Thank you.

Matthews: Are there any other questions?

Davis: I'd like to address, Mr. Chairman.

Matthews: Yes, sir.

Davis: I saw your school board meeting in February. That was my month to go but I had to go online and watch it because I had to work but something was addressed that was a misunderstanding as far as I'm concerned about the school roof. The Board of Supervisors never said that we didn't want to fix the roof on the school. We said we didn't want to keep throwing good money after bad money fixing a roof that's gonna be bad again in five years on that flat roof. That needs to be fixed right. Fix the leaks. But we want to take care of it where it's not a reoccurring problem every time we turn around. So, that's what we wanted to do. That's what we asked about the bid for, but take care of the leaks for God's sake. We don't want the children in the school that's leaking with mold or nothing else. But it's no sense throwing $80,000 at it, and then you got to spend $500,000 to fix it the right way. So if you can patch it for $50,000, or $30,000, that's 30, more thousand we can put towards the 500,000 to put the right kind of roof on it. An A-roof or whatever needs to take care of it. It'd be a permanent fix, then you don't have to worry about it anymore.

H. Bryant: That's right. No need putting a Band-Aid on it.

Davis: That's what we were addressing. And I'm thinking, maybe it got misunderstood what we were trying to put out there, but we want to fix it the right way. That is what I wanted everybody to know.

Ragland: Chairman Bryant, may I speak? Supervisor Davis, I just wanted to let you know that we do have that roof issue. It wasn't an issue until it ran out of warranty. And we have it on our capital plan to have done itself. If we had been able to go ahead and get some of that done. I mean, you are right. And as Chairman Bryant said that we are consulted with architects so they can give us some specs on what we put out for the RFP.

Carter: An architect generally can give you an estimate. It's not gonna be probably exact as a bid, but they generally can give you an estimate. That's what we do. We get...they give us an estimated cost. And then we bid it and we get the actual cost.

Ragland: Will the board be willing to take an estimated cost from an architect?

Miles: Would you say...

Matthews: Not as not as a bid proposal.
**Davis:** We would take it as budgetary type that the architect gives us the idea that what it's going to cost and we know what the bids should be in the ballpark. I mean, don't you think?

**Matthews:** Yes, sir. Any other questions, fellas?

**Bryan:** 236 for insurance. What was the amount requested for the raises?

**Oliver:** 236 is the total. That's not the amount we're asking from the county to contribute. I want to be clear on the…

**Bryan:** You are asking the county for the 236 and

**Matthews:** 161.

**Miles:** Mr. Chairman, Dr. Hicks on, I don't know what page it is. But its proposed operating budget 21/22 expenditures, regular operations funds. In terms of technology, it's a pretty big jump, I assume that that's because of some of the remote aspects of what COVID-19 has done.

**Hicks:** Yes. And it also includes some of the CARES Act funding that we received so that we can utilize that money as well for technology devices.

**Matthews:** I do have questions. You know, you came up with $200,000 that you somehow saved from somewhere. Some of it was staff that is retiring, some of it is something else. And we've been asking for probably eight months on additional savings in other departments like electricity since the school was not fully staffed and should have been some savings on electricity. Of course, transportation, there should have been some savings on that. Because you're not running the buses on the same route every day, to the same spots. And of course, I know that we purchased hotspots for the school division. And those were, I assume, were put on those buses that I saw parked at certain places. And though I know there was a minimal amount of fuel or maintenance on a bus for that particular reason. Being this is a pandemic year and this board happened to pass a tax reduction for the citizens of Buckingham County. And with that being said, you know, we typically give you three buses a year now without the miles being put on all those buses that typically are, you know, that would help us a lot and saving some money. And not to say that we wouldn't get back on schedule next year but and I know we've done this in the past. We've used the money somewhere else but this is an unusual year. So other than the 200,000, where were there any other savings? That's never been brought to our attention.

**Ragland:** Chairman, Bryant, can I speak? Board, I just wanted to let you know that regardless of whether or not there was…the schools were full, the air conditioning and the heat still had to run. We have air conditioners. The buses. The buses are set up to where…the gas has to be paid for in advance. We pay for that, regardless if we use it or not, there's not technically a savings there. And as far as we were just talking about the security officer, if we put in our budget to have a security officer, and that person that we got the grant for would that money was part of that 200,000 or that savings? So it's those little things that just add up? That I mean, we've been budget right down to the dime, if you'd like.
Chambers: Mr. Chairman?

Matthews: Yes, sir.

Chambers: What you have to look at now, look at the fuel cost, Mr. Palmore can tell you, that fuel probably has jumped close to 9% in the last two months. That’s a cost right there.

Matthews: I understand. But they contract, they sign a contract for that fuel, is what Mrs. Ragland is trying to say. And that's paid for ahead of time. But she did not use the fuel. I mean, it's no way you can use the fuel that you normally use. It's not possible. So where did you store, I mean, where did you store all the fuel that you use that you typically use? If you paid for it, where do you put it?

T. Bryant: Can I answer that? (mic not on, could not hear) And we still had to go take classes to different locations. You may not have been the same person each day. And now we're actually finished several buses.

Chambers: It'd be foolish to not do the buses this year. We ran into this problem years back. We tried to get caught up. Now is a good time to get the rotation that we need to get new buses.

Goodman: If I could say just one thing. Thank you, Mrs. Chair. Thank you, Mr. Chair. You know, of course, you know, we're having a discussion, we said this, you know, checks and balances of, you know, of course, we know that we need to be fiscally responsible with the taxpayers money. So if we talk in the context of checks and balances, we got to remember that yeah, there may have been, you know, some total decrease due to the pandemic. But guess what there were also costs that were associated with the pandemic. And I'll give you an example. Say, for instance, something happens with a child's laptop at home, and they have to call to get someone to help them. That is a cost associated because somebody has got to get on the phone. Somebody got to help them after hours. I know for a reality that there were people that work in over their hours, they were working over their time in order to get the laptops and get all the equipment ready for the students. So you know, just because on one side, you know, there wasn't necessarily cost, but there was still cost associated with the pandemic, that we can't necessarily qualify quantify. Thank you so much.

Matthews: There were also CARES Act money to, that stimulus money that the school division got, and the county got to so.

Goodman: Yes, sir.

Matthews: You know, that works both ways. Mr. Goodman, not just one way.

Goodman: Yes, sir.

Matthews: Thank you.
Miles: Mr. Chairman. If I may.

Matthews: Yes, sir.

Miles: I think I saw it, but you all are asking for three new school buses. Is that right, Dr. Hicks, or is that two? Three? Okay.

Hicks: Yes, sir.

Ragland: Is that the three that you're asking for the carryover? Or is that the… that's the three is what we've always been told, it's been in your budget that you give to us. Now, it's not really I mean, it's not technically in our budget.

Matthews: It really should be in your budget.

Ragland: That we discussed this.

Carter: It is part of your budget. You do buy it out of your budget.

Bryan: But it's a separate line item in the budget. You can only use it for buses. And we did that it was a mutual agreement. We did, Sherry, three, four years ago. Because we were finding that the school system ran into tight times and they just they use that money elsewhere. And that's what put us in the in the spot that we were in. So we mutually agreed that it would be a separate line item that you could only use that money for buses.

Ragland: And also, to add on top of that, we had to cut buses many years ago.

Bryan: Right.

Ragland: Like 2008 or something like that.

Bryan: Separate question, Dr. Hicks. I've gotten three emails. And I'll read all three of them to you first and then I'll give you a chance to respond. Mr. Bryan, I have a question that I would need an answer that would justify why I was not notified of the fact that a child on my daughter's class was positive for COVID. I understand the child had no idea. And that is very understandable and in no way her fault. I received no letter of any sort to make me aware of this. I work in the public and it's my job to protect my children and my clients. I would like a response. I responded. I meet with the school board and the superintendent tonight and I will address your concern and I will get back to you tomorrow. Another, I am just inquiring as to why I was not notified about a child and my son's class, testing positive for Covid 19. I saw on Facebook that the family was positive, but I have received no notification from the school. I find it alarming and dangerous that the school can send out head lice letters, but no warnings are sent about a virus that that can potentially kill or hospitalized family members. The third one, Good Morning. As a mother of a fifth grade student, I want to inform you of my concerns with how the school is handling the COVID pandemic. I was notified by the parent of a positive COVID case. She told me the
individual had been to school, was in contact with my child and had tested positive. I was also made aware outside of school of another positive case in which my child could have been in contact with while attending school. Neither case was reported to me by the school administrators. Only when I contacted the school board and left a message with Dr. Hicks was it looked into. My husband received an email late that night, informing us of one positive case at the school. This pandemic is not to be taken lightly. Not being made aware of positive COVID cases in the school, put my child and others at risk. In addition, my child has told me how other kids are not wearing masks fully, or wearing them incorrectly, and how other kids are not socially distancing. As a result of all the above, I have decided to withdraw my child from in person learning and she is now fully virtual. My child is safe at home. But what about the others who are not made aware of these cases? Parents should be told as soon as the school is made aware so that all options can be exhausted. Thanks.

Hicks: Mr. Bryan, you are in the school system.

Bryan: I’m in the elementary school. So I get notifications.

Hicks: And that's the same letter they the principal sent home to parents.

Bryan: No, ma'am.

Hicks: Now that's the direction they're supposed to be happening.

Bryan: I'm sitting here right now telling you…

Hicks: They're supposed to be notifying parents.

Bryan: What they do or should do, and what they are doing is two separate things.

Hicks: Okay.

Bryan: These emails came to me because well, number one, I'm a fifth grade school teacher. And the letter did not go to these parents. They're all up in arms. Dr. Hicks, you know and I'm going to address it with you. You know, that way you…

Hicks: Can address it with them.

Bryan: Exactly. Their concern was just what just what I read to you. I guess the parent that I'm going to respond back to is with based on your approval is the administrators of the school should have contacted you. Dr. Hicks will take measures to ensure that this does not happen again.

Hicks: Correct.

Bryan: Okay. And my apologies from the school system, yada yada yada.
Chambers: how does that affect the budget?

Bryan: I said it wasn't budget related. Thank you

Chambers: You should do it after the budget work session.

Miles: Mr. Chairman.

Bryan: I also had other issues that I needed to address because of constituents.

Matthews: It could be related to the budget because CARES Act money does fund some of this stuff pandemically and if they were tested positive as a COVID-19 case, and it could be school related. Anyway,

Bryan: But on a separate note, Dr. Hicks, the school is looking very nice.

Hicks: Thank you.

Bryan: Okay. I commend Larry Lee and his crew. I gave him kudos. That's the cleanest I've seen that school here recently. So must be leaning on somebody.

Hicks: Appreciate that. Thank you.

Matthews: You have a question, Mr. Miles?

Miles: Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman. So I believe its more of a statement but I know the teachers and I know, you know, I talked to Donnie on a very regular basis. He's a school teacher and I know they've really done a fantastic job in responding to the all these different challenges in terms of COVID-19, so I want to applaud them and the students too. The students have been, you know, have done really well. Just my take on this. But the budget, I don't really have a huge problem with it. I do have some heartburn as to the $800,000. And I'll just and I'll just put that out there with us just throwing that into a line item. And, you know, the buses, I think that y'all need the buses. Maybe you said, you said three. Maybe we could cut that to two. So just some, just some thoughts on my end.

Ragland: Do you have this packet?

Miles: I can't see that far Sherry.

Ragland: That's the bus summary. That's in your packet. There's my writing is on the bottom.

Miles: Well, that's wrong. What page is it, Mrs. Ragland?

Carter: The one they gave you tonight.
Ragland: Page 6 of 10. Take a look at that dotted line right there. Have you found it?

Miles: Yes, ma'am. I've got it, Mrs. Ragland.

Ragland: Everything up above the fifth fiscal year 14/15. That's all above us. The dotted line below that what we're asking for was the fiscal year 19/20 of $357,965 that was balance remaining. That's what got put back over into the budget. And that was...the fiscal year 20 is the $445,245 balance remaining for this past year. And so that's where the 103 is coming from. We're just asking for that money that was given back in there for our projects. Our capital projects.

Miles: Yeah. Mr. Chairman, I understand Mrs. Ragland. But I do see where also where, you know, this checks and balances thing. I don't think it's a distrust issue. Not with me. But I mean, we, you know, we had that committee set up for a reason. And I do you think that committee could play a big role in, you know, having I think there were two supervisors, two school board members, and...

Ragland: Do you have a committee?

Miles: There was a Facilities Committee at one point.

Ragland: Was it both boards?

Carter: I think it was a point in discussion right before the pandemic. I don't think that ever had any meetings.

Miles: And I think that'd be a good vetting for some of the projects.

Ragland: I'm on the Facilities Committee at the school. So I'd be glad to sit on your committee.

Miles: But we don't have a committee.

Matthews: We thought that Mr. Bryan and Mr. Chambers were on it.

Miles: So that's the committee I'm talking about, Mrs. Ragland.

Matthews: Why do you have two?

Ragland: School Facilities Committee.

Miles: Okay, well, Mr. Chairman, maybe I'm using the wrong verbiage. And I apologize. Capital Improvements Committee. It's the one where Supervisor Chambers, Supervisor, Bryan...

Matthews: Who was on that? Is anybody from the school board?

Chambers: I thought it had school board members? I thought that...it was my understanding that...
Carter: They were supposed to choose, but we never had a meeting because pandemic hit but you all discussed it together. That might be a good ad to get to sit down and…

Ragland: I don't recall that. I would have jumped on that.

Chambers: I remember it, but like she said, there was never a meeting. It was supposed to be members of the school board and two from the Board of Supervisors.

Miles: That's what I was under the same impression.

T. Bryant: (couldn’t hear with mic off)

Matthews: Can you set that up, Mr. Heslip.

Heslip: Okay.

Matthews: Could you could you start emailing Mr. Bryan and Mr. Chambers to make sure they know about that? There are our representatives. They are representatives for the Board of Supervisors to be on that committee. They usually bring stuff back to us that is trying to get done. But since they hadn't been, you know, they didn't know but, you know, we had a meeting a couple of years ago, and you had you provide a list. I still have some of the things.

Miles: At the bus garage, Mr. Chairman, is that the meeting? I'm just trying to get what, which committee this is.

Matthews: It goes back to I said this a few years ago. We want to provide you everything that you need. And, you know, just like in our personal life, I have a budget, you have a budget, and you try to stay within that budget. And if you don't, that's when you get in problems. That's when you have problems. And we're so to speak more involved with the budget, as far as tax money is concerned, because that's our job, okay. And we're not trying to be hard to get along with or anything like that. I don't think any of us are, but we have questions and we have people we have to answer to just like you do. Okay, you should be answering to your constituents in your district. And of course, I get calls every week, in regards to the school division. I'm not talking, this is not budget related. And, but I'm gonna say it anyway. But there seems to be a lot of miscommunication. Not just to teachers. I have parents that call me that have children in the school. So with that being said, I try to direct them to my school board representative. Okay. And two, three days later, I get the same call from the same person that nobody has responded, either from the school board office, or from the District Board member. So I'm just letting you know what they're telling me. So that's all I can say. Now, communication starts not just with us, and you, but it starts with the people that you're working for, which are the students, okay. And I'd like to see a little bit better communication, number one, from you, your board, and administrative staff, to the student so we don't have to answer these questions. I don't really want to answer them. If there's anything involved in the school division. That's why I send them to the school board or to my representative. So you can take that for what it's worth. Use it for what it's worth. But I guarantee you,
each one of these people probably have had the same scenario. Now, am I, who has had that situation where someone in the community has called you about the school division?

**H. Bryant:** Right.

**Matthews:** Okay.

**Miles:** I've had some similar situations, just to be frank, that people who don't, people who can't, who say that they can get hold to their board member that are not in my district, they called me because I guess they got my number. And I always tell them, I said, have you called your school board member? No, but they won't get back to me. And again, I don't know which district it is. Because, you know, I don't know, because I don't know where all of them live, you know.

**Morris:** Mr. Chairman?

**Matthews:** Yes.

**Morris:** We're, since we're in the same district, please feel free. I have not gotten any calls, anything that I've had reach out to me, I'm quick to get back to people. So I'm not sure if they're not giving you all of the information. But I am more than available, willing, able to talk with anybody that has a concern.

**Matthews:** Is your phone number in the book because you know, some people just have cell phones.

**Morris:** I know you had it at one time. So I'll make sure that you have it.

**Matthews:** Okay, you can email me that now make sure I get it to anybody that calls. Because I don't want to violate your privacy or anything like that.

**Ragland:** And the information is also on the website for all of our email addresses and phone numbers.

**Matthews:** Well, you know, some people are not technology savvy, including myself. But anyway, I do the best I can. And some of these other people, I'm sure do the best they can to the best. That's why I kept the landline when I got elected as a public official, so that someone can contact me by looking at a phone book because there's no phone book for cell phones. So anyway.

**Ragland:** One other thing for all the negative things that people are talking about, I hear a lot of positive stuff too. I've got people that are excited about the kids being in school. The kids are thriving, the teachers are happy. I mean, take advantage of that. This is the first time that teachers probably have had less than 18 to 20 kids in a classroom since the 1900s. But I'm just saying, I do get phone call and Chairman Bryant, I mean, excuse me, Supervisor Bryant, again, direct them to me. I'm in the phonebook. I have a landline as well. But most people do, I get a lot of calls. I get a lot of calls from people outside of my district. So I do address my constituents. I also try to hear both sides of every story too. There's always two sides and I don't always agree with people. I like to hear him out.
Matthews: Not you. Not you.

Goodman: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, thank you so much. I just want to say, of course, we need to understand things within their proper context. Because when we understand things within their proper context, it doesn't lead to this sensationalism. And I'll give you an example. Just because someone may, quote unquote, be positive for COVID-19 doesn't necessarily mean that they've got an active case that can be transmitted for someone. So we've got to kind of let people understand in the proper context that guess what we do have a safe environment in our schools, and there are checks and balances and protocols in place? And just what I will say is, is that, you know, we've had some challenges in the pandemic, some people haven't been happy. But one thing I can say for sure, it is that Dr. Hicks, and Mrs. Oliver and all the staff and all the administrators have done everything they can, have gone above and beyond, has worked above and beyond to ensure quality product. And I think that's something that we can all get behind.

Matthews: The total, I got one other question, the total only combined raises and healthcare is $896,509. Is that correct? Okay, that's not correct.

Oliver: The 896,509 is just for the salary increase. And the 236 is just for the health insurance.

Matthews: Well, I'm gonna say this, also that my wife was an educator for 35 years. And this is the first time she ever remembers a 5% pay raise. That's pretty big. And, you know, I'm just asking you to look at not adding the step to this total. Number one, we're not, by any means carrying over a lot of reserve for contingency in our budget. So in years past, and I can remember it vividly her coming home and saying, you know, they frozen our step for this year. And, you know, I don't want anybody not to get what is coming to them. But 5% is large. And we also gave $1,000 raise back in December, or you guys did.

Chambers: That was a bonus.

Matthews: Well a bonus, whatever it is, we asked you to do a raise, you did not want to do it at that time.

Chambers: This is the first time they’ve ever done this to my knowledge.

Matthews: It is. Usually it’s 3%. And if they do 3% it as it comes down to about 2%, after it's all said and done. But you know, we're not a rich County, but we try to do the best we can with the school division, and I think the numbers speak for themselves over the last eight or 10 years on money that we've given above and beyond what level funding is, and, you know, I don't really want to go that route, but you know, we have to be very frugal with what we do. And, you know, we expect the school division to do the same. So I'm gonna get to you, Mrs. Ragland. Chill out. I'd like to speak okay. And, you know, moving forward, you know, it is a working relationship between everybody, but the buck stops here, unfortunately. And that's all I'm gonna have to say tonight.
**Ragland:** I’d just like to say that as a board, our responsibility and duty is to advocate for our employees, and our students, and to make a better person to be coming out of our division. I mean, I know that we've got teachers that are in the poverty level, you know, I'm saying. That they're, even though they make an X amount of money, they're still considered on the poverty level. And that’s sad, for a teacher who's got a four year college degree. So I understand your concerns. And I also know that if I don't say something to advocate for our students and our staff, then I just have to say that before we closed, and that's our responsibility.

**Goodman:** If I could say something. Thank you. And of course, you know, as I said, you know, understanding things within their proper context, it's kind of a syllogistic argument to say, well, you know, we're not going to, you know, give them the money. When you look at it in its proper context, as a whole. They have gradually since 2003, 2004, lost money that was to be allocated towards teacher pay. So really, we're not in you're asking for something that, you know, is something new. We're asking for them to simply to kind of recon to where they were before because it started to regress. So this idea that every single year, they receive something, just as you stated, you know, your wife knows the history that there were times when the when the pay was frozen, there was times when they didn't receive it. So because of that there's been a net negative instead of a net gain. So we're not, we're not trying to give them more we're simply trying to regain and catch up to where they should be. They've talked about this at length. And of course, this is research that's already cited, that eventually they're going to have to pay teachers coming out of school $70,000 a year. I mean, that's the reality because they understand the importance of it. So the idea of it is this is that, in general, in the future, there are going to be increases that are going to be affecting the teacher salary, because that is going to be the new cost of doing business. Thank you so much.

**Miles:** Mr. Chairman.

**Matthews:** Yes, Mr. Miles.

**Miles:** I've got three questions for Dr. Hicks, if I may. The first one was, and you may have already addressed this because I've been doing some reading in the insurance premium was that 31%, 21 now it's at 10. And in terms of those savings that were forecasted, how has that been handled? Is that already in the because I know y'all were looking for a right hot insurance premiums because of the 31, 21. So it's to 10%. But I know what we got from the staff is that it was budgeted at 21%. So I guess the question is, is that there? There will be some savings there. Right?

**Hicks:** (mic not on, not verbatim) The budget that you have in front of you is for the 10%

**Miles:** It is? Okay, so that's been incorporated them. Okay.

**Carter:** When we had our work session, they said it had been negotiated from 31 to 21. But still negotiating. But that is the number they gave me and I and I may have misquoted to you. Because I said it was the 21%.
Miles: Okay. My second question is when when's the last time that all the employees like what you're proposing now got a step increase?

Hicks: Two years.

Miles: Alright, so Okay. So for the last two years, they have, the employees who are in question now did not get a step increase?

Hicks: No.

Miles: So it was frozen for two years, essentially.

Hicks: (Could not hear)

Miles: Ma'am? Okay. So two years. And then the last question, Mr. Chairman, would be with regards to the non-contracted employees, non-salary people, you said that y'all are looking at their wages to try to bring them up. Is that right? Because they're the ones who are kind of being left out here.

Hicks: Right. And based on that, because as you all are aware, the state was proposing to do a $15 minimum wage. And so we looked at where our employees stood. And we wanted to at least bring them up to at least $11 an hour to compensate for moving forward in case that did happen, and, you know, I know that did get shut down to $15. But we thought it was the right thing to do to at least bring those people up to $11.

Miles: That's by January, is that right?

Hicks: It's gonna be $11…

Matthews: Then it is going to 13. Right?

Hicks: Right. So we want to at least be at $11 when that happened.

Miles: So if so doing that, that action is really about the school division is helping those 30 some odd people who are not part of the 5%. Okay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Matthews: Mrs. Morris?

Morris: Understanding about the freezing steps, and lack of pay raise, I taught for 34 years. I know how disheartening it is as a teacher, to not be given credit for lack of a better term, for your experience. I know how many teachers put out their own money for things for the students in their classroom. And I know it's a big pill to swallow. But our teachers, our teachers need it. Thank you.

Matthews: Is there anything else? Mr. Bryant, you got a question?
Bryant: Well, the only thing I have to say is it appears that the morale with the employees is pretty low. Is there a reason for that? A lot of them are not happy campers. I’ve talked to quite a few of them and a lot of them are not happy with the way things are going. We'll get to maybe y'all need to talk to some employee and find out what the problem is.

Hicks. (not verbatim. Mic was off.) And so what I've tried to incorporate and have met monthly, incorporated a Teacher Advisory Council, as well as a Staff Advisory Council. And we meet monthly. And we bring any concerns they may have concerning anything. And we just met yesterday, we had a list of glows. We have what’s called glows and grows. And we heard nothing negative.

Matthews: Mrs. Morris, did you have something to say?

Morris: Teacher morale has been low for a very long time. And after talking with teachers, recently, and from the whole time I was running, I'm not saying that if any worse. Of course we want it to be better but it also has to be done at a building level. Some of the buildings get along and are happier than others. Before our pandemic, I was in the schools and talking with people as much as possible to find out what the issues are, and hopefully we'll be able to get back to that. Morale is important. Money, salary goes a long way.

Bryant: Money is not the only thing that they need.

Bryan: Mrs. Morris. I hear it every day. A lot of people are afraid to say anything for fear of retribution. I guess people are going to complain no matter what. But we hear the same complaint time after time. And nothing being done. You know, I've spoken with you. I spoke with Mrs. Ragland, you know, just voicing concerns. And the concerns are still there.

Hicks: (not verbatim) I've heard that as well when I first came here about this retribution. I don't know.

Bryan: I've never seen it, Dr. Hicks.

Hicks: (not verbatim) I’ve had teachers reach out to me, before I left the office I had a teacher voice a concern. I follow up with the principal. And I never informed principles or anybody else who comes to me with any concern. And I will sit here and tell you that is not my reputation to retaliate or try to get somebody for being an honest and so I just want to make sure that we all understand that that is not the direction.

Bryan: I think hearing that from you, Dr. Hicks would probably, you know, I know you came to the elementary school the other day. Sorry, I missed you. But I think you know, if you or one of the you know, the school board members, when they make their rounds, just kind of reinforce that to people that you know, that's not that's not your m-o, that's not the game you play. I think it would ease some of their concerns. I know recently, we did a climate survey at the elementary school that was supposed to be you know, neutral where they wouldn't know who did the survey. That's not true. You asked if you're male or female.
Hicks: Oh, that’s the one from the state.

Bryan: And then you asked how many years you've been teaching. It kind of narrows me down you know, right well right in the forehead and I addressed my concern, you know, with the principal and I said you know, you told us this was neutral. I need to inform you it's not.

Hicks: If I'm correct that is the one that the state sends out. That wasn't one the principals done locally.

Bryan: It’s probably one he did locally.

Hicks: Okay, because I noticed they didn't want that. Right.

Bryan: Because that was neutral.

Hicks: Yeah. Because even with the state one we don't get the results. Right. They compile results and send them to us.

Bryan: Just a warm fuzzy from you and maybe the school board members. They would like to see school board members occasionally, you know, make their rounds in the school.

Ragland: Well, I will just say that with the COVID, we have actually stepped back. Yes, because of the fact that there was just so much going on in the school with us coming in. I intentionally didn't go because I didn't want people to not give it a chance to work.

Bryan: But I mean, you know, even an email Sherry, you know, even an email just telling people that hey, you know, I used to come see you because of COVID I've scaled myself back. I'm sorry that I haven't seen you in a while, you know, just…Well, I see you. I mean, I see you all time. You know,

Ragland: I see some teachers.

H. Bryant: Yeah, some communication will help.

Morris: Retribution or retaliation. People have a long history. And I was a victim of that many years ago. And I had it proven to me, that's exactly what it was. This is a different administration. When I have concerns all the teachers know that I will never tell who I talk to. I've been asked directly well, who did you hear it from? And I say, I will never tell you who it from. When I get out into the schools and I have concerns to take back the Dr. Hicks, I usually wait to identify at least more than one school to make sure there's no getting back. And she has welcomed any concerns that I’ve had. Unfortunately, old habits die hard. And it's difficult for teachers to say to reach out. Our times have been so unusual since Dr. Hicks have been here. But I do believe it's being worked on.

Davis: Mr. Chairman, can I ask a question real quick?

Matthews: Yes, sir. Mr. Davis. We'll get to you in a second. Mr. Goodman.
Goodman: Yes, sir.

Davis: My question is the non-contract employees, what's the average salary of those employees now? Roughly?

Oliver: Yeah, it really varies by position. Aids around $9.50. Car drivers can be 10. It really varies per the position.

Davis: That's what I was thinking about. You talking about, you got dysfunction in your employees, well if you raise it to $11, the man that is making $10.50 and we'll get 50 cents, but the man that is making $8 is getting $3 an hour raise. You see where I'm coming from?

Oliver: We're not doing just $11. We're adjusting them all.

Davis: You are going to adjust them all. That was my question. I was gonna say that man had been worked hard and started to make a little more money. He's gonna be mad. Well, why am I working and I get nothing.

Hicks: Right. The whole scale would be adjusted, but that’s the minimum

Davis: Okay. That works for me. I was just wondering on that.

Hicks: That's the minimum.

Matthews: Mr. Goodman.

Goodman: Yes, sir. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Madam Chair. I would just say, you know, if we lived in a perfect world, but we don't of course, we deal with people that have biases. There's, of course, racism, sexism, all the other isms. But when you think about Dr. Hicks, and you look at the actual facts, I mean, people can say whatever they want, they can be some conjectures. But the fact that the reality of it is that she's in here now fighting for the lifeblood, fighting for prosperity in the form of a 5% increase for the employees. She has continually gone to bat for the employees. She has continually tried to do, as well as her on the administrative staff to try to do everything that they can to try to mitigate whatever circumstances it is that the employees have. And that's just the fact. Thank you so much.

Bryan: Thank you, Dr. Hicks, School Board members, thank you for coming. I mean, me personally, before I vote on anything, I want to hear the budget from Becky, you know, to know how much money we have so that we don't pass on a tax increase to the people. Because that's one of the big things that that you know, we try not to do. If y'all don't mind, we would like to go hear, our budget portion of it, and then we'll certainly get back to you.

Hicks: Thank you.
Matthews: Thank you, fellas. Thank you so much, ladies.

T. Bryant: Thank you all. We'd like to thank you all for listening to us today. And we hope to have Better hopefully, meetings in the future. Thank you. And our meeting is adjourned.

Re: School Board Adjournment

There being no further business for the School Board, Chairperson Bryant declared the Buckingham County School Board adjourned.

Re: Recess

Matthews: We're gonna take a 10 minute recess.

Re: Return to Session for the County Portion of the 21/22 Operating Budget Work Session

Matthews: The March 17 2021 the Board of Supervisors budget session is back in session. Yes, we're ready for your presentation.

Carter: This is the 27th or 28th budget I've presented to you all, to the Boards. And last one so I hope it goes well. I did provide you all guidebook to assist you with the 21/22 recommended budget for y'all to consider for public hearing and also the tax rates. As always, the budget is contingent upon receipt of all anticipated state federal local revenue. Because this is your financial security in the event revenues do not come in as expected where we can put a hold on some of the budgets This statement also protects The General Fund from supplementing any shortage of state or federal funding that any department or agency has in the budget if it's not received. And I do respectively, submit a balanced budget within your annual revenues with a $643,018 reserve contingency. The tax rates are proposed to remain the same. Any changes you make in this recommended budget will change this reserve contingency as that is the difference between your annual revenues and annual expenditures. And as we navigate through each department and agency request, I will explain any differences. I am confident this budget with what I also have discussed when it got to the contingency has sufficient funds to meet the aggregate needs of the county. So we've had the school board.

This recommended budget is based on the current tax rates and therefore does include a tax rate of 52¢ on Real Estate, 52¢ on State Corporation Commission, $4.05 on Personal Property, $4.05 on State Corporation Commission Personal Property, $2.90 on Machinery and Tools, and $1 on Merchants Capital and 55¢ on Aircraft for total budget of $67,252,104. This budget is about $7,700,000 more than the present budget. We've added the CARES grant money to the present budget that we received that brought that to about $59,580,000. The major reasons for the increase is because the proposed budgets include several grants, such as $1.5 million grant from Dominion for EMS services, cost recovery, and additional EMS funding of $961,000 is the reserve contingency for the Emergency Services Fund. We're also scheduled to receive $3.3 million federal rescue funding for COVID related expenditures. And also this time, they are allowing you to use that money for any revenue loss due to the pandemic. $2,179,333 of that is a federal grant that the school will be getting with CARES. Just these grants total $7,940,333.
So and you know, we got a lot of things that's more in here and then less. But just those grants total $7,940,000. So with the budget being $7,700,000 more you do see some reductions.

So to talk about in a nutshell, are Beginning Year Balance for economic development, which is the sales of property, is $726,385. So that's the fund where we put any sale of property, any sell of timber, anything like that and it is increased $50,000 here, due to the payment plan of the sale of the Gold Hill school.

We have a Beginning Year Balance of capital projects fund of $800,000. Beginning Year Balance of a Solid Waste Fund of $200,000 and that's to complete the Dillwyn site. Beginning Year Balance of Animal Control of $730,000. $430,000 that is grant toward improving our building a new facility. $300,000 is reserved through the years. Reserved from the fund balance for Gene Dixon Park is also a $1.3 million being reserved for several, many years. So our total designated assigned reserves are $3,756,385. Our General Fund unassigned balance, Beginning Year Balance is $7 million. We have a school capital's projects reserves of $803,210. This is carryovers that I have separated from The General Fund, because it is accumulating to a large number. And I do not want it to cause us to misstate our General Fund unassigned balance. The school board has requested…the board has requested the school board to use these carryover funds for school capital improvement needs. So that brings our total Beginning Year Balance with all reserves at $11,559,595. Our total local revenue is $18,119,212. This is some increase that really has been pretty surprising. About $503,908 increase, and it's mostly due to $250,000 expected and these are all estimated and expected. The State Corporation Commission, they presented us with higher values. $150,000 in Personal Property Tax. $40,000 more Machinery and Tools. And here's the big surprise, $52,000 more in Sales Tax. And I was talking with Dr. Hicks, I think they're seeing some increase in the sales tax too. So people are still spending money in the county. So that's the $492,000. There are some other small, under $10,000 revenue increases and some decreases that have helped offset the end result. And we can talk about those if you want to as we go through each department. Our General Fund revenue from the federal government is predicted to be $3,788,002. This is a $3,313,000 increase. But this is mostly due to the revenue or rescue recovery fund. That will be a onetime fund that we'll get.

The General Fund state money is $3,480,048. And this is about a $42,000 increase. And while we gained about $80,000 in categorical aid, which is the salary increases that the state is allowing for state covered employees. We lost about 37,000 non-categorical aid and the main loss there was $50,000 in our communication tax. And then we had some other small increases that that gave us the end result of $42,000 difference. Our school state and federal revenue cafeteria and other locals they have gone over that. But that's a total of $22,807,021. Our state and federal Virginia Public Assistance which is our social services is $1,728,667. And that's about a $29,000 decrease. But that's coming from state and federal money. The state and federal Comprehensive Services is $1,274,544. The transfer from the Water Fund to The General Fund is $200,000. Our Water and our Sewer Fund is $1,834,015. That's about a $9,000 decrease. Emergency Services fund. This is a new fund. It is where we've taken over the rescue squad. The total of that is $2,461,000. $1.5 million is the grant from Dominion for Emergency Services. $250,000 is a carryover from this fiscal year of the amount that's awarded to the rescue squad, and also a $50,000 savings there that wasn’t awarded. Also a state grant of $61,000 which is pretty much our Emergency Managers salary. And $650,000 is what we anticipate to be the cost recovery. This
does leave a reserve after expenditures of $987,336. That would have to be approved from you all to be spent and how it's spent, if not be carried over to help operate that rescue squad the next year. So this is a new operation a new fund and something we're just gonna have to watch and try to manage as well as possible. There are total revenues reserve balances, reserve a contingency Ending Year Balance brings us back to what I said before $67,252,104. Our General Fund expenditures are $9,675,885. It is an increase of $32,426. This also has variations of increases from state raises for state employees of about $80,000. Increase in General Properties of $47,143 due to hiring a new custodial position, new health insurance position, and additional electrical and heating services for the new community center. Part of the E911 budget was transferred to the Emergency Management Fund. So this had an additional $80,000 in fixed charges. Let me explain that. We had a 911 fund that had Cody’s salary in it, and some of the other expenses that we took out of there and put into the Emergency Management Fund so that that lowered that whole budget. We also have an additional $80,000 in fixed charges. And that is to provide the 5% raise to all employees in the County with the exception of school and social services. Social Services says they are getting all of their positions are state funded. So we do not have to put any money into their pay increase. But this is to provide this 5% raise to all employees not covered under the state pay increase. So we did have some reductions, and we brought the overall increase down to only $32,426, in order to try to work this $80,000 in there. So the school expenditures, $30,005,313. This does not include any additional local money funding at this time, because I wanted you all to have this work session to get some of your answers, your questions answered. $7,198,272 is local money. This again does not include the $404,024 requested for the matching 5% pay increase and the health insurance increase. Your Reserve for Contingency, that you consider this request from, is $643,018. Comprehensive, VPN Comprehensive, under expenditures, that's the same as what we have with the revenue. With the Social Services, $530,867 is local. And that's the same amount as this year. The Comprehensive Services, $317,917 is local and that’s the same as this year, but that does vary. It's mandated that we have a matching, and we would have to come back to you all if we need more money. Our Industrial Development Authority, this also is a new item, because the auditors recommended this debt service for the library of $194,616. And the debt service for the sewer facility of $181,176 upgrade be moved from a regular debt service, because these two debts are due our Industrial Development Authority. So that also is a new fund. Our debt service is a total of $3,500,492. The courthouse $503,666. This is a decrease of $24,254. The middle and elementary school debt service is $2,996,826. It is a $14,999 decrease. So but that's the two different debt service, the $3.5 and then the $375. So the local increase really in debt service because you all pay it all, is the library debt service which is $194,616. The Federal Rescue Recovery Fund, also is a new fund we set up to where we will need to put that $3.3 million and more or less CARES money because that definitely has to be set aside and invoices and treated away from the General Fund. Our Emergency Services fund again $1,473,664. We've discussed where that money comes from. And our Emergency Service Reserve from Dominion would then leave from that grant at $987,336. Our Water and Sewer fund expenses are $1,834,015 is a $9,000 decrease. And I'm happy to say that's all funded through their fees. That's no General Fund money. So that's in balancing the budget, I gave you all the total revenues, fund balances, Ending Year Balance of $67,252,104. Our total expenditures $55,004,491. So that brings your balance down to $12,247,613. We have assigned county revenues and the amount of reserves and the amount of $3,801,385. That brings your balance down to $8,446,228. We have school capital improvements fund of $803,210, which then brings your balance down to $7,643,018. To be balanced, we start the Beginning Year
Balance with one amount, and we need to end the balance in the year at the same amount. So that's $7 million unassigned General Fund money.

So and that, that still keeps you in the a safe percentage of your total budget, because so much of our budgets one time grant money, that we don't really have to count that but still keeps us of them very safe, very safe percentage. So your reserve for contingency again is $643,018. And again, it doesn't have the funding you will be considering for the school. If you do provide that funding, it will bring your reserves down to $215,632. And I believe that it's a little more than what we are at right now with this year. Now, the next page, page eight of the book is where I address every item. Do you want me to go through that? If you have any questions on any of it, it shouldn't take too long.

Chambers: I don’t think we need to.

Matthews: Let's go ahead and go through it.

Carter: Okay, and it's gonna sound like a broken record. But I'd like you all to know every little detail.

PROPOSED REVENUES

PAGE 1. REAL ESTATE: Anticipated $8,600,000.00. $12,000.00 decrease based on collection history.

PAGE 2. PUBLIC SERVICE TAX: Anticipated $3,400,000.00. Increase of $249,962.00 based on the values submitted by the State Corporation Commission.

PAGE 3. PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX: Anticipated $3,150,000.00. Increase of $50,000.00. Perhaps that is because in order to get into the waste sites, they have to have their personal property tax paid.

PAGE 4. MOBILE HOME TAXES: $50,000.00. Unchanged.

PAGE 5. MACHINERY AND TOOLS TAX: $260,000.00. Increase of $40,000.00.

PAGE 6. MERCHANT'S CAPITAL TAXES: $200,000.00. $10,000.00 increase.

PAGE 7. AIRCRAFT TAX: $900.00. $1,100 decrease. I don't know why. This is from what is being collected and what is being taxed.

PAGE 8. PENALITIES AND INTEREST: $350,000.00. Unchanged.

PAGE 9. LOCAL SALES TAX AND USE TAX: $902,747.00. Increase mostly in the sales tax area of $48,747.00

PAGE 10: COMSUMER UTILITY TAX: $360,000.00. Increase of $4,000.00
PAGE 11: FRANCHISE LICENSE TAXES: $45,000.00. Reduction of $5,000.00.

PAGE 12: MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE TAXES: $345,000.00. Increase of $5,000.00. Better known as the county tag and I believe it is due to the solid waste sites needing the decals to open.

Matthews: Whatever happened to the bill that was proposed by Mark Peake?

Carter: That bill was passed. You all can and will need to go back to talking about that. I think what you all have in mind is because so many people that don’t live in the county but own property are getting free decals to get into the sites. It’s several thousand dollars, $7,000 or something like that last year actually got them free. So with this new bill you can charge a fee for that permit for solid waste. So I think what we all discussed was instead of using the decal, you would possible lower the decal from $25 to $15 and charge a $10 fee for decal to get into the site. That way everybody is paying for it that is using it. But you all will need to work on that. That’s not going to make a big difference in the revenue. That’s not required. The new law does not require you to do it. But that is what we told them that we would like to do. That way we will not be taxing the people more money.

PAGE 13: BANK STOCK TAXES: $55,000.00. $5,000.00 Increase.

PAGE 14: TAXES ON RECORDATION AND WILLS: $84,000.00 Increase of $9,000.00

PAGE 15: ANIMAL LICENSE: $4,000.00. Unchanged.

PAGE 16: PERMITS AND OTHER LICENSE: $72,100.00. $400.00 decrease

PAGE 17: FINES & FORFEITURES: $34,200.00. $1,500.00 increase

PAGE 18: REVENUE FROM USE OF MONEY: $50,000.00. This may have to be supplemented with Pandemic Revenue Recovery Money. We know with the reports we’ve been giving you this has dropped right now. But this is an item that you may have to supplement with the CARES revenue recovery. The budget here is not budgeting any of that but this is one that you may have to. Right now it’s at $8,500 maybe. So we might have to balance that with that.

PAGE 19: REVENUE FROM USE OF PROPERTY: $79,849.00 Unchanged.

PAGE 20: COURT COST: $13,716.00. $500.00 decrease

PAGE 21: COMMONWEALTH’S ATTORNEY FEES: $1,200.00. $800.00 decrease.

PAGE 22: WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL: $15,000.00. Unchanged.

PAGE 23: MISCELLANEOUS: $15,550.00. Decrease of $5,450.00 Grants and things like that.

Beginning year balance: General Fund: $7,000,000.00, Unchanged. If you might remember, the auditors said that we exceeded by about $700,000 but we have to remember, that was the end of last.
year, that in that balance we had school carryover money. So we don’t want to mislead ourselves into thinking we gained that kind of money in a year.

PAGE 24: NON-CATEGORICAL AID: $1,585,914.00. $37,000.00 decrease mostly in communication taxes. This is through various small increases in title tax, forest product sales and Heath Department.

PAGE 25: CATEGORICAL AID- STATE COMMONWEALTH ATTORNEY: $320,187.00 $12,922 increase in state funds for salary increases.

PAGE 26: CATEGORICAL AID- STATE SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT: $936,262.00. Increase of $47,432.00 due to state funds for salary increases.

PAGE 27: CATEGORICAL AID- STATE- COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE: $96,041.00. Increase of $4,097.00 state funds for salary increases.

PAGE 28: CATEGORICAL AID- STATE- TREASURER: $101,683.00. $4,642.00 due to state salary increases.

PAGE 29: CATEGORICAL AID- STATE- REGISTRAR/ELECTORAL BOARD: $57,084.00. Increase of $1,190.00 due to states portion of salary increase.

Matthews: I’ve got a question on that one too. They extended the voting time last fall to 45 days, how was that figured in this situation or was it?

Carter: We had to appropriate money last year to do that. The State gave us some too.

K. Carter: The State gave us some money.

Matthews: Okay. How did they come up with it? Was it a formula or something? Only $1190?

Carter: That was the salaries. The county pays all the Electoral Board budget. The county pays all of that. Part of that salary they pay is on the registrar’s salary. That’s $1190 increase due to the raise for that position.

PAGE 30: CATEGORICAL AID- STATE- CLERK OF COURT: $254,904.00. $34,327.00 due to state salary increase.

PAGE 31 OTHER CATEGORICAL STATE AIDS: $84,767.00. This is a decrease of $41,000.00 mostly due transferring the state portion of the E911 Coordinator’s salary over to the EMS fund.

Page 32. Federal Funds: Victim Witness Grant and Rescue Recovery Grant: $3,353,000.00. This is an increase of $3,300,000.00 due to this grant. The $53,000 is the grant for Victim Witness.

PAGE 33: Sale of Property: $50,000.00. This is the annual payment of the Gold Hill School
PAGE 34. Transfers to General Fund from the water fund: $200,000.00. This is unchanged.

PAGE 35. Courthouse Security Fund: $31,000.00. Increase of $6,000.00

PAGE 36-39: VPA FUND: Virginia Public Assistance- Social Services: This demonstrates a total amount of funding resources to the Social Services (VPA) of $2,259,534.00 $1,728,667.00 is state and federal funds and $530,867.00 is local revenue. This is level local funding.

Page 40: Selective Enforcement Grant $5,000.00. Unchanged.

PAGE 41: Comprehensive Services: Total Budget $1,592,461.00. $317,917.00 is local mandated money. The expenditures are balanced with the revenues.

Page 42: Emergency Services Fund: $2,461,000.00. This is a new fund. $1,500,000.00 is a Dominion Grant, $61,000.00 is a state grant, $650,000.00 is projected cost recovery and $250,000.00 is carry over from the 2020/21 FY. It is expected that $987,336.00 will be carry over money for the $2022/23 Fiscal Year.

Pages 43-52: SCHOOL FUND: This was addressed at the beginning of this guidebook.

Page 53: is where the School Debt Service is transferred from the general fund into a debt service fund. $3,500,492.00

PAGE 54: SEWER FUND REVENUE: $465,962.00 This is an increase of $15,678.00 and the expenditures are balanced within the revenues. This is good because there was a day when the sewer wasn’t holding it’s own. So we are glad to see that. Their budget is balanced between the revenues and expenditures.

PAGE 55: WATER FUND REVENUE: $1,368,053.00. This is a decrease of $25,471.00. The Expenditures are balanced with the revenues.

Bryan: Why did the water fund go down Becky?

Carter: Karl, you worked with Mike on the budget. I’m not sure exactly where he had that transferred out of. I know that the water bills haven’t changed.

K. Carter: (speaking from audience with no mic, did not pick up on tape)

Carter: Licensed people got their raises.
Carter: The next page is proposed Expenditures.

Proposed Expenditures:

PAGE 1. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS: $106,991.00. Decrease of $189.00 due to reduction in health insurance.

We did have a very small percentage reduction in our health insurance. It’s only a couple dollars to the people but it is a reduction. Thank goodness.

PAGE 2. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR: $269,225.00. $190.00 decrease mostly due to health insurance.

PAGE 3. INDEPENDENT AUDITOR AND COST ALLOCATION CONTRACT: $49,000.00. Unchanged.

PAGE 4. COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE: $279,188.00. $8,726.00 mostly due to state funded salary and benefits. $183,147 is Local Funds and $96,041.00 is State Funds. There is no local increase.

The money I’m proposing to give the non-state people the raise is in Fixed Costs. If you all approve it we will transfer it over to the departments but we wanted to wait until you approve it. That amount by the way includes all the benefits that go with it, not just the salary. It includes everything.

PAGE 5. TREASURER: Total Budget $333,133.00. $101,683.00 is State and $231,450.00 is local. There is about a $1,100.00 local increase due to additional funding for tax tickets of $500.00 and Travel Education of $1,156.00. Some other reductions offset the end result of about $1,100.00 more local funding.

PAGE 6. FINANCE/DATA PROCESSING: $265,813.00. $173.00 decrease due to Health Insurance. This is all local money.

PAGE 7. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: $145,416.00. This is a decrease of $125.00 due to health insurance. This is all local money.

PAGE 8. ELECTORAL BOARD AND OFFICIALS: $103,966.00 is the electoral board. This is a local decrease of $228.00. This is all local money.

PAGE 9. REGISTRAR: $137,642.00. This is an increase of $9,305.00. $57,084.00 is State money and $80,558.00 is local money. This is a state increase of $1,190.00 and local increase at this time of $9,305.00. This is subject to change because according to the Registrar she is to get more state money for salary adjustment so we will update when we get that information. If we do not get the additional funding her salary will be adjusted to reflect that.

PAGE 10. CIRCUIT COURT: $19,277.00. This is all local money and remains unchanged.

PAGE 11: GENERAL DISTRICT COURT: $9,242.00. All local level funding.

PAGE 12: SPECIAL MAGISTRATES: $2,500.00. Unchanged and is all local funding.
PAGE 13: CLERK OF COURT: Total budget is $431,720.00. This is a $20,538.00 total increase. The State is providing $34,427.00 additional money for state funded salary increase and benefits in total budget. $254,904.00 is state and $176,816.00.00 is local. This is an actually about $13,889.00 less in local money due to a reduction in county repairs and maintenance.

PAGE 14: Victim Witness Assistance Program: $70,669.00. This is state and federal grant and does not represent an increase.

PAGE 15: COMMONWEALTH’S ATTORNEY: Total budget is $540,834.00. $220,647.00 is local money and $320,187.00. The increase is in the state salaries and benefits.

PAGE 16: LAW ENFORCEMENT: Total Budget $2,388,140.00. $936,262.00 is state and the local cost is $1,451,878.00. This has the state salary and benefit supplements and about $30,000.00 more in local to assist with salary adjustments for new officers and some that are not meeting the market survey pay scale. However, the Courthouse Security Fee was doubled last year and this funding is approximately $30,000.00 and will be transferred to the Sheriff’s Budget at the end of the year. This does not have the local money to assist with the 5% raise for those not funded by the state. Again, it is in that fixed costs. If you all approve it we will transfer it to the departments. I think we’ve met the needs. We’ve provided for 5% for everyone. Brent, what do you call it, the 1% contingency that helps to get salaries on that level for starting positions where we have trouble hiring anyone.

Bryan: Are you requesting money for vehicles?

Carter: Yes.

Uzdanovics: (did not pick up on tape speaking from the audience)

Carter: Going down through there, some things are some increased, some decreased to try to come up with not needing as much local money to try to come up with that. I think they have it balanced out to where it needs to be if you all agree with that.

PAGE 17: EMERGENCY SERVICES: $127,100.00. This is a reduction of $99,335.00 because I transfer a lot of the money and costs to the Emergency Management fund. This is local money and what is left in this department is to pay for the E-911 telephone bill at the sheriff’s office. I have also left funding in this department for maintenance and service contracts on the E-911 system.

PAGE 18: VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS: $517,777.00. This represent a decrease of $5000.00 due to reduction in the Fire Training Facility Upkeep. We’ve accomplished all the things the state said we had to do. We were able to take that down a little bit. The State Fire Programs money of $57,800.00 is distributed to the fire departments. $57,800.00 is state and $459,977.00 is local. This is level funding per request of $108,520.00 local money to each fire department except Dillwyn gets an additional amount of $9,680.00.

PAGE 19: AMBULANCE & RESCUE SERVICES: This funding was transferred to the Emergency Management Fund.
PAGE 20:  FOREST FIRE PREVENTIONS: $27,601.00. This is local funding and is $601.00 more.

PAGE 21:  Piedmont Regional Jail: $499,980.00. This is an item that we have no control over as it depends on the number of inmates from Buckingham County that are housed in the jail. This is an expense that the county didn’t every have to start sharing until 2012 because the jail ran sufficiently enough that the counties didn’t have to pay but that certainly has changed. So this is a large financially responsibility the county has had to absorb. This is a $12,000 increase. This is subject to change.

Matthews: Do you know how many inmates this is? Roughly.

Carter: We generally put the report when they get it to us in the packet. I’d have to calculate it but they give us a report of the number of inmates every month. Of course participating localities are charged less than others and they have a new superintendent at the jail and he is bringing some things inline. If they take prisoners from other places and get more revenue from it. They don’t get as many federal inmates as they did because they ended up causing a lot more problems. So they do take some. They are doing some changes there and we are hoping to see it come around. Right now we are having to put more money in because like everything else that’s dealing in law enforcement or corrections, it’s hard to attract people because of salaries. I can say that probably a few months before the new superintendent took over we had 32 vacancies at the jail and I think we are down to 8. So it’s moving along as of today. I had a jail meeting.

PAGE 22:  BUILDING INSPECTION: $150,683.00. This is a $3,741.00 increase mostly due to an employee change in the health insurance plan. Someone in that department changed plans and added someone on.

PAGE 23:  ANIMAL CONTROL: $173,961.00. This is an increase of $1,980.00 due to increased part time hours.

PAGE 24:  MEDICAL EXAMINER: This is level spending of $200.00

PAGE 25:  STREET LIGHTS: $4,300.00. Increase of $100.00

PAGE 26:  REFUSE COLLECTION: $782,005.00. This is an increase of $46,912.00.00. This is a difficult one. We’ve had to look back a couple years to see what good you have done. We haven’t gotten all the sites online as quickly as we had thought. Gravel Hill is closed in. We still have the Dillwyn site open where when no one is there people are going in. We had expected more savings but it appears the rolls offs are still proving to be expensive. During the pandemic this year, people were cleaning up everything. So our roll offs, costs went up. However, since we started the beginning of the gated sites we have seen a savings of about $280,000.00. We are getting there. It was heading up from $900,000 to $1 million. Now it’s $782,000. We do expect more savings when the Dillwyn site becomes a gated site. I believe we budgeted too low for this fiscal year thinking the Gravel Hill and Dillwyn Sites would be converted earlier as gated site.

Bryan: An update on that. We met today about the Dillwyn site and approved the Dillwyn drawings. We are moving forward. We are hoping to fully complete that site, what would you say, Harry, by October? The site will be open during renovations. It may have to close for like one day.

Bryant: Closing will be a minimum.
Carter: This will make every site gated. Not even talk about saving money because you see the trash along the road. But the sites look so nice. People are respecting what you’ve done.

Matthews: A week doesn’t go by that I don’t get at least one phone call saying how nice they are.

PAGE 27: ANTI-LITTER: State Grant in the amount of $2,600.00. This is all state.

PAGE 28: GENERAL PROPERTIES: $760,912.00. This represents an increase of $47,143.00 due to adding another custodial position and additional cost for operation of the community center.

PAGE 29: HEALTH DEPARTMENT: $127,627.00. This is all local funding and is an increase of $1,275.00 as the county’s share of the state pay increase. This agency does return to the county any unused county money.

PAGE 30: REGIONAL JUVENILE DETENTION: $30,000.00. This does not represent an increase. This is the per diem that the county pays when a child is sent by the courts to the Regional Juvenile Detention Center. This is a cost that is difficult to budget for because it depends on the number of Juveniles from Buckingham that are housed at the Regional Juvenile Detention. This is an anticipated $10,000.00 decrease. We don’t know how many it’s going to be but we go by history and estimation. We do appear to have a decrease. It may be due to the pandemic. I’m on the board and we do not have as many children coming in.

PAGE 31: CONTRIBUTIONS TO COLLEGES AND AGENCIES: $208,102.00. Decrease of $1,037.00

1. Crossroads: $40,000.00 All Local funding and no increase was requested.
2. Piedmont Senior Resource: $15,760.00. The agency did request $18,018.00. The county has provided about $5,000.00 additional money in the past two years. Since we are encouraging agencies to stay within their same budgeted amount I did not recommend an additional $2,258.00. I leave this to your discretion should you wish to fund the full request.
3. Payment to CADRE: $2,500.00 (level requested)
4. Peter Francisco Soil and Water Conservation: $11,880.00. Level requested funding.
5. VA Retreat: $4,500.00 (level requested).
6. Ellis Acres Memorial Park: $5,000.00 (level requested).
7. Buckingham Active Seniors: $5,000.00. The same level funding. This request was for $8,000.00, as with the other agencies I have recommended level funding. I leave his to your discretion should you wish to consider the additional requested money.

Matthews: I have a question for Mr. Miles on that.

Miles: On the Buckingham Active Seniors?

Matthews: Why aren’t they participating in Piedmont Senior Resources or are they?

Miles: So a lot of them before the pandemic, right many of those folks who were getting together with Buckingham Active Seniors and that’s more of an in person social kind of thing. I’ve only been once or twice. What we do is more direct care services but we do work with them a lot. So Piedmont Senior Resources has partnered with them and spoken at their events and that sort of thing. So we do share clients.
**Carter:** They do a lot and it’s something for the Seniors to do. They go on tours and have dinners and have a lot of things. In the cases of the trips and things they do pay themselves. Sometimes they need the money upfront to book the buses and things. It has really brought a lot of people together. With the pandemic of course it has not and I think they have a Thanksgiving dinner every year which this past year they did not.

**Matthews:** I do want to brag on the Board, for I think level funding or right at it for several, since I’ve been on the board which will be 6 years, with Piedmont Senior Resources, I know Mr. Miles has been instrumental in some of the things that has happened with the Seniors around the county because he works for Piedmont Senior Resources but they’ve had something come up here recently for COVID vaccinations for people who are homebound, so they will register you if you go through Piedmont Senior Resources and also transport you for Buckingham citizens. So if you know someone who is a shut in or need help, reach out to Mr. Jordan Miles with Piedmont Senior Resources and they will schedule that for you and get you there and back in a safe manner. So anyway, another thing, last week at our monthly Board meeting, I think our Board took a big step in vaccinations in the State of Virginia and I’m not going to offer Mr. Davis to speak on it, but our new community center has impressed the people at the state level so much that they asked that they use our facility to do that. I just want to say that I’m really proud of you individuals to take that step to help individuals of other localities in that manner. Buckingham has always done a good job toward that and Mr. Davis, Mrs. Carter and Karl also. Thank you.

8. **Christian Outreach:** $3,000.00. (Level requested)
9. **Southside Community College:** $7,940.00. (Requested decrease of $223.00 based on number of county students).
10. **Buckingham after Prom:** $3,000.00. No increase requested

**Bryan:** Did we get any money back from them last year?

**Carter:** From who?

**Bryan:** Buckingham After Prom. There wasn’t a prom last year.

**Carter:** We didn’t cut the check.

**Bryan:** Oh so they didn’t use the funds. Okay.

**Miles:** Mr. Chairman, the same question for Mrs. Carter, were there any savings for Buckingham Active Seniors because they didn’t get together either?

**Carter:** I don’t think so. They haven’t used their budget. They have their own checking account too that’s not part of this money. We haven’t transferred any money to them.

11. **Piedmont Community College:** $1,197.00 (requested $1.00 based number of county students and is an increase of $24.00)
12. **Piedmont Community College Building Fund:** This project is complete.
14. **Piedmont Area Transit:** $10,000.00 (requested level)
15. **STEPS:** $28,165.00. Level requested funding. This is all local
16. **VA Legal Aid:** $7,310.00 This is an additional request of $284.00 due to the number of county citizens assisted.
17. Piedmont Area Veterans Council: $2,000.00 level funding. They requested $10,000.00.

Chambers: We have them the money we used to give Hatton’s Ferry.

Miles: That’s right.

Carter: You took the money from Hatton’s Ferry and gave it to them. You gave them the $2000 you used to give Hatton’s Ferry. Now they are asking for $10,000 but I left it at $2,000.

18. Longwood Small Business: $5,849.00 (requested level)
19. Longwood Center for Visual Arts: $1,063.00.
20. Southside Center for Violence: $5,000.00. Requested $16,600.00. The $5,000.00 is level funding.
21. Pregnancy Support Center: $3,000.00 level funding.
22. Triad: $2,500.00. Level Funding
23. Foothill Child Advocacy Center: $3,000.00, level funding. They requested $4,000.00. This also can be discussed by the board if you care to discuss. Year before last they requested $4,000 then they requested $3,000 and now they are back to $4,000. I recommended level funding so that is up to your discretion.
24. Habitat for Humanity: NEW REQUEST: The Habitat for Humanity is requesting $5,000.00, this is a new request and as when new agencies I do leave this for the board to discuss. Habitat has been doing a lot of good things in our community for a very long time and have never asked for any county funding.

PAGE 32: PARKS AND RECREATION: $210,262.00. This is an increase of $3,249.00 due to more agricultural supplies to treat the weeds around the pond at the park and a change in an employee health insurance plan. Todd did ask for additional money to treat this since there are so many children down around the pond.

PAGE 33: BUCKINGHAM ARTS COUNCIL: $9,000.00. This is a local match of $4,500.00 for the Arts Council to receive a $4,500.00 Grant. $4,500.00 is local and $4,500.00 is state.

PAGE 34: BUCKINGHAM COUNTY LIBRARY: $260,923.00. All local level funding.

PAGE 35: PLANNING AND ZONING: $108,089.00. Decrease of $17,146.00 due to the elimination of participation in the VGA.

PAGE 36: COMMONWEALTH REGIONAL COUNCIL: $19,000.00. Level Local Funding. This is their request.

PAGE 37: EXTENSION SERVICE: $95,309.00. Increase of $953.00. This is the county’s portion of the expenses.

PAGE 38: FIXED CHARGES: $417,000.00. Increase of $75,000.00. There is a decrease of $5,000.00 in general liability insurance and an increase of $80,000.00 to provide a 5% raise to all employees of the county including any of the constitutional officer’s staff that do not fall under the state raises. This includes funding to take care of any benefits that accompany the pay increase. The County has always provided to the state funded employees the same raise as the county employees when the
state does not provide a salary increase. It is unusual for the State to provide a 5% pay increase and
I would like for the county to take advantage of this to benefit all employees with about $80,000.00
assistance from the State. Percentage pay increases was not provided last year, instead the
following recommendation of made and approved: ("There is not a percentage salary increase
established for the county employees under the Board of Supervisors. The personnel committee
wishes to use the $80,000.00 to establish a salary scale for the employees under the Board of
Supervisors. As you know recent hires have had to have larger start salaries in order to get
qualified personnel and some of the other staff are not in line with what they should be making
pursuant to their job responsibilities and years of service. In the last few years the Board has
provided additional money for salaries increases to schools, Sheriff's Department, Treasurer and
Commissioner of Revenue and Social Services so they may bring their employees in line with
competitive salaries. I recommend it is time to do the same for your staff").

Carter: I can’t remember when the state handed down a 5% pay increase. So you don’t want to turn down
that money. We have an opportunity to do that.

Matthews: 1986 someone had said. 1986. I was just a kid at the time.

PAGE 39: UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE: $7,000,000.00 ending year balance and $3,300,000.00
Rescue Recovery Federal Funds (Covid 19) Beginning Year Balance: The $7,000,000.00 does keep
you within a safe percentage of balance vs budget.

PAGE 40: TRANSFERS OUT: This is the sheet that is used to show transfers from the General Fund to
other agencies and funds. These numbers have been or will be addressed in the appropriate
departments.

PAGE 41: COMMITMENTS/ASSIGNMENTS TO FUND BALANCE: $4,604,595.00
RESERVE FOR CONTINGENCY: $400,000.00
1. Courthouse General Properties Project: $400,000.00
2. Reserve for Fire and Rescue Training and Incentive: 20,000.00
3. Reserve Gene Dixon Park Expansion 1,300,000.00
4. Reserve for Solid Waste Sites 200,000.00
3. Economic Dev Reserve: Self-Supportive (increase of $50,000.00 due to payment on Gold Hill
   School) 726,385.00
4. County Vehicles: 25,000.00
5. County Capital Project: 400,000.00
7. Animal Control Facility Upgrade: 730,000.00
   ($430,000.00 is grant and $300,000.00 is local funds)
8. School Accumulated Capital Projects Fund: 803,210.00

Reserve for Contingency: (Unassigned Funds) 643,018.00
Increase of $427,386.00
Pages 42-45: VIRGINIA PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND THE COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES: This was discussed in the revenue side of the budget.

Page 46: Emergency Management Fund: $2,461,000.00. This is a new department. The Expenditures are $1,473,664.00 and a Reserve for contingency of $987,336.00.

Pages 47-54: School Budget (This was addressed at the beginning of the work session)

PAGE 55: Debt Service: The total Debt Service payments due will be $3,500,492.00. This was discussed earlier in the transfer fund.

PAGES 56: -61 IS THE WATER AND SEWER FUND: OPERATIONAL EXPENSES: Both the Water and Sewer budgets are balanced within their revenues. This was addressed earlier in this process.

Page 62. Industrial Authority: $375,791.00. Payments for the Library and Wastewater Facility Upgrade. Library Payment is $194,615.00 and the Wastewater Debt Payment is $181,176.00.

That concludes my presentation Mr. Chairman.

Matthews: I think there’s some things we want to discuss. I’m going to open it up to the Board before I ask what I need to ask.

Miles: Yeah. Could I ask a question, Mr. Chairman?

Matthews: Yes, Mr. Miles.

Miles: Mrs. Carter, with regards to the and I’m just making sure I’ve got my figures straight. But the school board is asking for in terms of local money, $400,024. And that excludes the 800, obviously, $800,000 of the capital improvement. And does that include school buses or not?

Carter: It does.

Miles: Okay. And if we did that, just another question, Mr. Chairman, if we did that it would take are reserve for contingency down. I think it was down to about 200,000 some odd dollars.

Carter: But take it down about 400,024.

Miles: Right.

Carter: But bring it down to 215 something.

Miles: And in terms of, you know, comfort…

Bryan: It would bring it down to 238,994.
Carter: The Beginning Year Balance this year right now is 215,000.

Miles: So we would be totally good.

Carter: As we discussed so many times, tonight is estimates but that's your that's Yeah.

Miles: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Carter: That we project.

Matthews: Yes, Mr. Chambers.

Chambers: I think when the state gives you something, you should take advantage of it.

Matthews: Well, yeah, we're gonna take advantage of that. But we're trying to get to a spot that's comfortable for the county too. We want to take advantage of the 5%. But I'm gonna ask Mrs. Carter's opinion, since she's the one that's developed this. I mean, you know, we've had a couple scenarios of how we need to get to the total, that we need to get to, you know, we give the school division a sum of money, and this, we're not cutting the raise, but they have nine categories that they can find the additional money that they need to do the raise. We're going to give our local match. That's not that's not in question. What we're concerned about, what I'm concerned about is the amount of local money that is in the step, which we've already talked about, if we reduce that, which they say it's $100,000 then you know, that puts our local match and our reserve for contingency in a lot better shape. Am I right or wrong?

Carter: It's my understanding and we've been going over this to try to come to, I think when we met with Dr. Hicks and Wendy, what Karl and I wanted to try to recommend to you all is that everybody got a 5% and now we understand they will, accept those that are the hourly then they will get increased based on the thing. I did not know, I missed it, maybe but I did not think we discussed a step increase. So it's my understanding though that's within your budget that you can do the step increase without any local money. And what they are, after we got it all straight today, I think your last email helped to get that straight, was that the state required match of 230 some thousand dollars will meet that but it also that they have the $100,000 to give a step increase. Yes. If you reduce their request by $100,000, they could do, they still have to use that money they have in the budget to match that state requirement but they would not get the step increase. Am I understanding that right?

Matthews: Well, a 5% is a big raise, and that's what I'm looking at that something had been done since 1986. And if you can forego a step for one year, you know, that helps the county a lot. And I'm not trying to take anything away from the teachers, or anybody. But just like we've already given him $1,000 bonus

Carter: $800
Matthews: I mean, yeah. $1,000 bonus. So, you know, I have to think that has to carry some weight towards this step. They wouldn't get $1,000 I bet you in a step would they. That's what I'm saying. So, you know, we need a little wiggle room ourselves. So

Bryan: Mr. Chairman, maybe wiggle room. We could probably, we could probably accommodate that. Becky, you had mentioned something about reserve for contingency. It's at what right now?

Carter: 630?

Bryan: No, no, no. Right now.

Carter: Right now. What is budgeted right now is $215,000.

Bryan: Okay. Well, I mean, just doing the figures just sitting here. I see the Piedmont Senior Resources was requesting …

Matthews: $2200

Bryan: Yeah. And, I do like the way that they're helping the seniors get, you know, for their COVID shots. If we gave them $2,000. We gave the Veterans, the Piedmont Vets, they requested 10, if we gave them 5, and Habitat, another wonderful service. They've requested 5 if we gave them 3. And I guess now I have to address the school issue.

Carter: Can I, let me, can I please get that again? Okay, you want to give the veterans …

Matthews: 5,000

Bryan: Give the vets 5,

Carter: That's an increase of 3,000. And I got to say, I've seen more actions from Piedmont Senior Resources in the last three years than we ever saw because they do our meals on wheels. And we used to give $10,000 to Meals on Wheels. What did you want to do for them?

Bryan: Okay, so we give the increase would be the vets of $3,000? Correct. Okay, so

Chambers: What did you say for Habitat for Humanity?

Carter: Give them the 5, I think you said.

Chambers: They have done a lot of houses in this county.

Carter: I think you said Piedmont Senior Resources and additional 2,000?
Bryan: Yeah. But if you know with them doing Meals on Wheels and everything else if we were to bump them...

Carter: Yeah. And you bumped them last year or the year before last year because of Meals on Wheels. But what's recommended is the same thing they're getting this year. They asked for an increase.

Matthews: I know for a fact they've done some medical transports in Buckingham County, so just that alone. I mean, is carrying a lot of weight. Number 1, $2,000 I know they spent that much. They actually are going to have to add a vehicle because we've got so many people making appointments to get them to their doctors, the shut ins, in Buckingham, Nottoway, Amelia, Prince Edward Cumberland, Charlotte. So you know, they're forcing these other counties to come up to come up to speed with their funding other localities too, so.

Bryan: Okay, so if we gave Piedmont Senior Resources 3,000 additional...

Carter: They are asking for 2,000.

Bryan: But if we gave them 3,000 additional, just a round figure, you know, just humor me for a second. Piedmont Vets 3,000 and Habitat 3,000 that would take our reserve and then Wendy, I guess this is a question for you. The insurance. Do you see it coming down anymore?

Oliver: (did not pick up on tape from audience so not verbatim) Mrs. Oliver did not think it would go down any more.

Bryan: Oh, it's pretty much you love the one you're with. Okay. You know, even if we gave the school the 404,024, that would take our reserve for contingency to 229,994. And we're budgeted for 215. So we're still ahead of the game. The school did ask for, for $803,210 for capital improvements, with the COVID times the way they are, you know, I agree with them on that. But you know, to err on the side of caution, Becky, since you have created a line item that is going to protect that money and not be spent. It's earmarked for the school, which I fully support, you know, we all have. We've been trying to do that for years and years. We released 400,000 to the school and keep 403,000 in that budget. In that reserve. And as the year goes on, if the expenditure, I mean, the revenue is the way it is and everything is in a perfect world, it stays at 229,994 are reserved for contingency. Maybe at the end of the year, we can release that 403 to the school to finish their capital improvements.

Carter: Maybe I need to be clear. That $803,000 doesn't affect your reserve contingency Right, right.

Bryan: No, not at all. Not at all. But I mean, you know, it's there for, I guess, it's there for a rainy day. You know? Yeah, but just... We need to get that roof fixed, roofs.

Chambers: That roof is going to cost more than $400,000.

Bryan: I don't think so. No.
Davis: Well, why don't we wait till we get to estimate back from the engineer's until we decide how much are we going to release of that money to school. We might end up having to release it all because it might cost that to fix the roof. So I mean.

Bryan: I mean, I honestly hope that it doesn't cost 803,000 to fix those two roofs. You know, because I did see down the line…but, you know, we've got some other projects that are that are just as important on there. As well looking at the capital improvement, the grandstands, looking at a boiler for the High School, which we should have done last year. High School roof, you know, and then down the road, you know, we've got some other stuff that we need to look at. The chiller at the middle school. We did replace one of those. And so right now, there's two chillers there. And that one is working.

Carter: Could I make a recommendation? Since you all have discussed the committee again. I believe Supervisor Chambers and Supervisor Bryan present you all. That we meet with the committee and look at all those things. We sit up here tonight and try to hash out everything when we don't know what any of them are gonna cost. Then this committee could come back to you or the your representatives can come back to you and tell you what you need to pass. And I mean, you're behind, we're behind now a year couple years because the County's been holding the money. So I wouldn't doubt that the committee you all come back with needing it but that would help get…you all could report to your board. And get it released. What do y'all think about that?

Board members: I like that idea.

Carter: I mean, well, it'll be left for the school capital improvements money and but they won't have to come back to you for every little thing because this committee can recommend y'all to release it. That's not going to affect your reserve.

Bryan: Sherry, we're meeting what…you are going to text me. The morning of the sixth. Thank you. And I'll make sure I put a reminder in my phone, so it reminds me as well. Thank you.

Chambers: What about the school buses?

Bryan: Now those are separate and apart, Joe. Those are already separate line item all by itself that's already in their budget.

Chambers: Okay. Thank you.

Bryan: Okay. So I mean that that covers the 803. So if we give them the money it takes us down to 229,994. I mean, I guess we can live with that we budgeted 215. Right? We can live with that.

Carter: And the good part of that with this year with being able to use a rescue recovery money for anything you come up short on will help. Because I mean, these capital improvements things are not annual expenditures you got to have in your budget every time. So they're not fixed costs there.

Bryan: Okay. You want that in the motion?
Carter: I think you all need to do that. And then so that it can be incorporated into what you want us to advertise as your tax rate and your proposed now and so now it becomes the Board of Supervisors proposed budget that we'll put in the newspaper.

Bryan: Yeah. So to give Piedmont Senior Resources, you ready Becky, the $3,000.

Carter: That's a total three.

Bryan: No, that's an increase of 3,000.

Carter: Okay to give them $5,000?

Bryan: Yes, ma'am. Okay.

Matthews: They were asking you for 2,200.

Carter: I'm thinking about Piedmont Senior Resources, you want to give them an increase of $3,000?

Bryan: Increase of 3,000 additional money.

Matthews: So level funding?

Bryan: Yeah.

Carter: So what they asked for? That's less than three but close. That will take… you want to fulfill that request.

Bryan: Yeah. So that would take them to $5,000. Right? No. Piedmont Senior Resources, that would take them to $18,760. Okay. The Piedmont Vets. They would become $5,000. Habitat for Humanity, the new line item number 24, page 24, $3,000

Davis: I’d say $5,000.

Bryan: You want to go with $5,000? Okay.

Davis: They do a lot of good in our community.

Bryan: Yes they do. Okay, I'll amend my motion for 5000 for them. That will take us down $227,994. Okay.

Carter: That is 400,000…

Bryan: 404,024.
Miles: Did you make a motion? Okay, you got in here

Bryan: And Joe seconded it.

Matthews: We have a motion and a second.

Carter: In that motion, please amend to advertise for public hearing.

Bryan: Yes. And also advertised for the public hearing.

*Supervisor Bryan moved, Supervisor Chambers seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to change the following budget items, Piedmont Senior Resources, an additional $3,000, Piedmont Veterans, an additional $3,000, fund Habitat for Humanity $5,000, fund the schools an additional $404,024 to bring the Reserve for Contingency to $227,994 and advertise for public hearing on April 12, 2021.*

Miles: Mr. Chairman, do we need to make a motion for the tax rates to because I can do that. Yes. Mr. Chairman, I would move that we advertise the tax rates as presented in the budget tonight. 52¢ real estate, 52¢ Public Service Corporation, $4.05 SCCPP, Personal Property $4.05, Machinery and Tools $2.90 $1 from MC that's Merchants Capital, and Aircraft 55¢. I would advertise for that to be part of a public hearing that we're going to hold on April the 12th. Is that right Mrs. Carter? That's what I've got in the book.

Carter: Second Monday of April. Yes.

Bryan: And I second.

Matthews: We have a motion and a second.

*Vice Chairman Miles moved, Supervisor Bryan seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to advertise for public hearing on April 12, 2021, the following tax rates for the 2021-22:*  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RE</th>
<th>PSC</th>
<th>SCC PP</th>
<th>PP</th>
<th>MT</th>
<th>MC</th>
<th>Air Craft</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>.52</td>
<td>.52</td>
<td>4.05</td>
<td>4.05</td>
<td>2.90</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>.55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Miles: Can I ask a quick question, Mr. Chairman, please? The Victim Witness Protection Program. is she, was that person a county employee, and would they be eligible for that 5%? Mrs. Carter.

Carter: She is not a county employee.

Miles: I didn't hear you. I'm sorry.
**Carter:** She's not a county employee, but she gets a certain amount from the federal mistake. One time, there was no increase for her and the county did give her the race. So that will be entirely up to you all.

**Miles:** Just a thought.

**Carter:** We refer to Mr. Wright on that. She works under him. I believe we can find that money for that. Yeah. I think the state may give it on her part. I'm not sure.

**Matthews:** Are there any other board matters at this time?

**Bryant:** Make a motion to adjourn.

**Carter** I have one thing. I have a letter to service Mr. Markley’s retirement effective April the 30th. He says he's enjoyed working for the county and appreciates the opportunity to be the Utility Director. He says as always offers his help in any way after his retirement. That's gonna be shoes hard to fill but I asked you to allow me to advertise for that position.

**Matthews:** Can I get a motion for that position?

**Davis:** So moved.

**Miles:** So moved, Mr. Chairman. I'm sorry. I second it then.

**Matthews:** Okay. We have motion to advertise for the solid, I mean, the Sewer and Water Director. Is that is he a director?

**Carter:** Utilities director, public utilities? Yeah.

**Matthews:** Yeah. Okay, we got a motion and a second call for the vote.

*Supervisor Davis moved, Vice Chairman Miles seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to advertise for Utilities Director position.*

**Carter:** I got one more little thing. It’s just an announcement. Something good that we just got today. Our report that we get for our snapshot on COVID. Our county has had a total of 2051 active cases. We have 9 active cases right now. And 2 of those are in a setting like the nursing home or the prison. So we are down to right now only 9 active cases in our public

**Miles:** Need to get vaccinated. That's good.

**Carter:** Vaccination hadn't had a chance to really work in yet, but I think it's a lot of that people wanted their kids to go to school and people we knew got it. And everybody just started being more careful, I think. Then again so many already had it. So that that's all I have.
Bryan: Mr. Chairman,

Matthews: Yes, sir.

Bryan: We had Mr. Moss pass away. Bill Lewis Moss. I would like to do a resolution of memoriam for Mr. Moss, you know. I do know that, you know, he was on the Dillwyn Town Council and community, 60 years fire department. Sad to see his passing. But, you know, I'd like to get him recognized by the county for everything that he's done for the county.

Carter: We'll bring it back to you a day from meeting in April.

Re: Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Matthews declared the meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:

___________________________________  __________________________________
Rebecca S. Carter                  Don Matthews
County Administrator             Chairman