At a reconvened meeting of the Buckingham County Board of Supervisors held on Monday, May 17, 2021 at 6:00 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.; Joe N. Chambers, Jr.; and Danny R. Allen. Also present were Rebecca S. Carter, County Administrator and E.M. Wright, Jr., County Attorney.

Re: Call to Order

Chairman Matthews called the meeting to order.

Re: Establishment of a Quorum

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

Re: Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

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

Re: Executive Closed Session

Bryan: Mr. Chairman, I move that we go into executive closed session under Discussion, consideration, interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees or employees of any public body; and evaluation of performance of departments. §2.2-3711.A.1 Code of Virginia.

Miles: Second, Mr. Chairman.

Matthews: We have a motion and a second. Call for the vote by raise of hands. Seven yes.

*Supervisor Bryan moved, Vice-Chairman Miles seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to enter into executive closed session under the above stated Code.*
Re: Return to Regular Session

Bryan: I move that we return to open session and certification that to the best of each Board members knowledge only business matters related to the Codes of Virginia of which the executive meeting was convened was discussed or considered in the closed session.

Allen: Second.

Matthews: We have a motion and a second. Call for the vote. Unanimous. Seven of seven.

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

Re: Other Board Matters; DMV Select Services in the County

Carter: There’s been some discussions and conversations with...you know the DMV select in Dillwyn is closing the end of June. I think Supervisor Allen and Vice Chairman Miles has talked to the DMV and I’ve talked with them one time. But I guess yall need to discuss what yall want to do. The Treasurer is not interested in doing it at this time. She said she’s not saying no but she’s not interested at this time and DMV needs an obligation now.

Allen: She’s saying six months which will be October or November before she would make up her mind.

Carter: I believe Supervisor Allen went to Cumberland with our Commissioner of the Revenue and looked at the way Cumberland is doing it and I don’t think that she is interested either.

Miles: Mr. Chairman, I haven’t had any discussions with DMV since that one time we met so I’m out the loop.

Carter: The only other I’ve had is through email now.

Miles: So I guess, what is the options, the option is preferred Commissioner or Treasurer, what other options do we have right now? I know we met at the community center but...

Allen: The only thing he said was, which is Charles Browning, he didn’t really give me an idea of why they are closing other than there is not enough room, no public bathrooms, that looked like the main idea. Anyway, he wants to shut it down and wants the Treasurer to take it over or the Commissioner of Revenue. At this time, neither one of them want to take it over. So we looked at the Community Center at the library and he was okay with where to put it. I thought it would be a good location but we’d have to hire somebody to do it. Some of it comes to the county as far as revenue...
Carter: If you did outside of here, you’d be operating a whole new department so you’d have to have a full time person and a part time person.

Allen: At least two people.

Carter: Then you’d have retirement, the benefit package all of that for at least 1 to 2 people. Office equipment. DMV link. They will give you 4 1/2 % of their sales which I think would be about $42,000.

Allen: $42,000 up to $900,000 they give you 4 ½%, anything over $900,000 they give you 5%. On average, Dillwyn’s been getting $42,000. $42,000 won’t pay 2 people to work. It’s going to cost the county in my opinion to do it. But the people that run it right now, the Fosters, said they’d be glad to take all their equipment and move it to wherever. But DMV will not let them operate on their own. They’ve got to go through Buckingham County.

Carter: I don’t know if the county can sub it out to them or not.

Allen: Yeah, we’d have to pay for it.

Matthews: For $42,000 a year, you are not going to make it. I mean, $42,000, it’s labor intensive but if you’d have to do a renovation and you have to take that into account. You’d never get your money back.

Allen: I didn’t say you were going to get your money back. I’m just saying, all we are doing is looking out for the people in the county. It’s going to cost us a little money if we hire two people to do the job.

Davis: To me, you are going to have to hire two people. People need to be off sometimes and if you are running the DMV, it’s got to be open.

Allen: Right now, if they go on vacation, they shut the place down. It doesn’t bother the people. I think it bothers DMV. They think it should be open all the time. One more thing, we are going to meet again on Friday, do you want to invite Charles Browning up here and ask him all the questions and see what he wants to do?

Carter: He’s pretty much spelled it out in his email.

Bryan: He’s adamant. It’s the county or nowhere. I don’t think its fiscally sound for the county to take it.

Davis: If it was 10% I could see it even being at the breakeven point, but 4½% that doesn’t pay the salary.
Allen: I already told you, up to $900,000 makes it $42,000. You don’t get but $42,000 for $900,000. He said they want everybody to go buy a car. Channel 12 I think the other night they had a big DMV thing on there and they said they’ve got at least 8 places close by

Davis: Thomas’ in Palmyra, they take the first 80 people. They give you a number. That’s how it works.

Allen: All they’ve got is a port-a-pottie.

Davis: They do. You stand outside. You can’t go in until they call your number.

Allen: So I mean, it don’t match why they are closing Dillwyn down. The parking lot isn’t worth a hoot either.

Bryan: It’s only been there forever.

Allen: It’s been there since 1970 I think is what I was told. If yall want to and yall think you can get anymore answers out of Mr. Browning, maybe we can ask Mrs. Carter to call him or I’ll call him myself.

Bryan: 4 1/2 % is not going to work.

Matthews: It’s not cost recovery. You’re going in the hole just by hiring 2 people and you are never going to get out of that hole. I can see if it’s something advantageous financially.

Davis: Only thing I could see to it, and they don’t want it, if you had it here, you can tie in some kind of way licenses with county tags.

Allen: If you can do it without hiring anybody maybe you could make a dollar or two.

Matthews: But she doesn’t want to do that.

Davis: You will put more responsibility on them. They are going to have to have somebody else just to handle the DMV stuff. It’s not…

Allen: They require everyone in the office to be trained.

Davis: Right, so now it’s costing you money for training.

Allen: It’s free training.

Carter: They will provide the forms, the DMV forms and the training.

Davis: It looks like the State of Virginia is making all the money on this deal.
Bryan: Absolutely.

Miles: DMV’s not looking after the people of Buckingham.

Davis: If they put in education or the roads, how much goes to education and roads, nothing.

Matthews: We’ve got one other item we need to discuss.

Bryant: It costs the citizens to go somewhere else to get their license.

Miles: I think Scottsville is opening one up.

Allen: Scottsville is opening one up. Cumberland and Farmville.

Bryant: Farmville, Cumberland and Scottsville.

Allen: I know in Cumberland the other day they are running eight days behind. You have to make an appointment. 15 minute appointments. If you call today it will be eight days before you got in there.

Bryant: If you put all of Buckingham on the list, then…

Allen: That’s what I’m saying. Keep adding on to it, it will be 20 days.

Bryant: That’s exactly right.

Allen: Then if somebody wants a driver’s license, it’s 3 months. It’s a lot to think about. I just want to let you all think about it.

Matthews: Of that $42,000, how many customers does that take care of?

Allen: Over 11,000 actual transactions is what we found out. It doesn’t mean that many people. One person could have done 5.

Davis: It’s 11,000 transaction so you are averaging $4 a transaction. I just don’t see the math.

Allen: What I’m getting at, I don’t think our neighbors will get as much as Foster.

Bryant: They may get more. Every tractor and trailer is $500.

Davis: I just don’t see the benefit.

Carter: You don’t have to take any action tonight.

Bryant: We going to stay here all night I reckon.
Miles: Mr. Chairman, I think we’ve exhausted all opportunities at this point. I think DMV needs to look out for Buckingham County. I’ve said that three times. We are looking out for Buckingham County by exploring these options, Supervisor Allen. That’s what I think.

Allen: Well, do you want to bring them up here so yall can fuss at them a little bit?

Bryan: I don’t think that will change his mind.

Re: Solar Committee Appointments

Matthews: The next item is to revisit the committee appointments to the Solar Committee that was appointed last week. Mr. Davis and I were appointed to. We forgot to add the administrative staff. I’d like to make sure we include the County Administrator, Assistant County Administrator, the Planning and Zoning Director, and County Attorney and Commissioner of Revenue to that.

Chambers: I so move.

Miles: Second, Mr. Chairman.

Allen: I thought we did that.

Carter: We did but EM said it wasn’t in the motion.

Matthews: It was my bad. So we’ve got County Administrator, Asst. County Administrator, Planning and Zoning Director, and County Attorney and Commissioner of Revenue. So we are good to go. So can I call for the vote? Unanimous.

Supervisor Chambers moved, Vice Chairman Miles seconded and was unanimously carried by the Board to appoint staff to the Solar Committee along with Supervisor Davis and Chairman Matthews of County Administrator, Asst. County Administrator, Planning and Zoning Administrator, County Attorney and Commissioner of the Revenue.

Re: Recess

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Matthews recessed the meeting to reconvene on Friday, May 21, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Rebecca S. Carter                Don Matthews
County Administrator             Chairman