

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ROANOKE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, HELD AT THE ROANOKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015

RESOLUTION 102715-2 ADOPTING A LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM FOR THE 2016 SESSION OF THE VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND PETITIONING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO FAVORABLY CONSIDER THE TOPICS AND ISSUES ADDRESSED HEREIN

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Roanoke County, Virginia, has identified major legislative issues of Statewide concern to be considered by the 2016 session of the Virginia General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the Board adopts this resolution as its Legislative Program for the 2016 session of the Virginia General Assembly.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Roanoke County, Virginia, that the following legislative initiatives are submitted for its legislative program for the 2016 session of the Virginia General Assembly for its favorable consideration and adoption.

(1) The Board continues to be concerned about funding for public highways, including:

a. Restoring funds for the Revenue Sharing Program, so that local governments have a source of funds to address local road projects (as they did previously) in partnership with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). The Commonwealth Transportation Board has adopted a policy to reduce this funding source from \$185 Million in fiscal year 2016 to \$50 Million in fiscal year 2020.

b. Supporting Commonwealth Transportation Board funding for specific highway projects: widening I-81, improvements to S.R. 419, improvements to S.R. 220 and funding for I-73.

c. Supporting legislative direction to VDOT to maintain primary roads and urbanized entry corridors in Metropolitan Planning Organizations to the same standard required by local ordinances for the cutting of grass and weeds. This initiative would promote urban development areas for economic development and growth.

(2) Workforce Training.

a. State funding in the form of performance incentives for the completion of industry recognized credentials should be invested to lower the cost of training and instruction for students and enable community colleges to expand their capacity to meet this vital need of business, industry, and Virginia's economy. Using a performance-based funding model, community colleges should receive state funds for each student who successfully completes training at a community college through noncredit workforce training and then obtains – through a third-party validation process – an industry recognized-credential identified regionally as high demand by business and industry.

b. Career and Technical Education (CTE) funding should be increased and better aligned with the needs of private employers; develop standard performance measures to ensure that the funding of programs support workforce development priorities; and evaluate which workforce development programs emphasize training and education opportunities that align with the needs of private employers.

(3) Funding for replacing WINvote touchscreen voting machines. The State Board of Elections decertified these voting machines after the 2015 General Assembly session adjourned. This action compelled Roanoke County to appropriate \$384,000 to replace one hundred and thirty six (136) voting machines. Request State funding to assist localities in acquiring new, certified voting machines.

(4) Aid to the Commonwealth. It appears that the State generated a surplus of \$427 Million for fiscal year 2015. However the State took in \$30 Million from local governments in “aid to the Commonwealth”, including \$300,000 from Roanoke County. Before spending this surplus on other programs the General Assembly should return \$30 Million to its local governments.

(5) Eliminate the requirement for publishing legal notices in newspapers. Roanoke County spent over \$18,000 in legal notice publication costs last year. Paid circulation of newspapers is dropping. More citizens are getting their information from the internet.

(6) Amend Sec. 56-49.01 to require the natural gas company to hold an advertised public hearing in each county, city and town that it intends to seek permission to inspect or survey property prior to mailing any notice of intent to enter said property.

(7) Direct the Department of Environmental Quality to make available and to allocate sufficient resources to monitor and inspect the construction of any interstate natural gas pipelines and to enforce the Commonwealth’s and federal government’s water quality and erosion and sediment control statutes and regulations during the construction of interstate pipeline projects.

(8) Local taxation authority. Provide Roanoke County with greater flexibility to address local control over local taxes, including authority to impose tobacco taxes like cities and towns, and to address inconsistency in the application of local sales taxes.

(9) Police body cameras. Revise the Freedom of Information Act to include personal privacy protections for juveniles and individuals captured in these video recordings, to address storage and retention obligations of local governments, and to limit the access to these recordings to appropriate parties.

(10) Amend the Stormwater Act to eliminate the inconsistency between it and the Erosion & Sediment Control Act. Read together these statutes require expensive stormwater compliance for the construction of an individual single-family, residential home.

(11) Provide sufficient support for judicial administrative functions by funding existing deputy clerk positions. The General Assembly has failed to provide sufficient support for the staffing operations of the general district courts and juvenile and domestic relations courts.

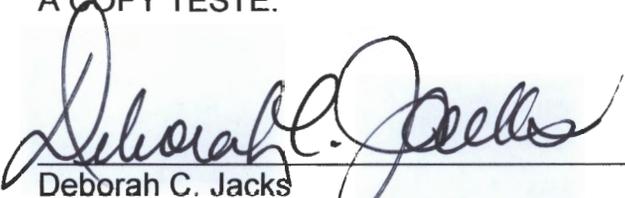
That the Clerk to the Board of Supervisors is directed to send an attested copy of this resolution to Governor McAuliffe, Senator John S. Edwards, Senator Ralph Smith, Delegate Greg Habeeb, Delegate Sam Rasoul, Delegate Chris Head, Stephanie Moon, Roanoke City Clerk; Members of the Roanoke City Council; Kevin S. Boggess, Clerk for Salem City Council; Members of the Salem City Council; Clerk for the Town of Vinton; Members of the Vinton Town Council and the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission, and the Virginia Association of Counties.

On motion of Supervisor McNamara to adopt the resolution, and carried
by the following recorded vote:

AYES: Supervisors Moore, Bedrosian, Church, McNamara, Peters

NAYS: None

A COPY TESTE:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deborah C. Jacks", written over a horizontal line.

Deborah C. Jacks
Chief Deputy Clerk to the Board of Supervisors

cc: Paul Mahoney, County Attorney
Governor Terry McAuliffe
Senator John S. Edwards
Senator Ralph Smith
Delegate Greg Habeeb
Delegate Sam Rasoul
Delegate Chris Head
Stephanie Moon, Roanoke City Clerk
Roanoke City Council
Kevin S. Boggess, Clerk for Salem City Council
Salem City Council
Clerk for the Town of Vinton
Vinton Town Council
Roanoke Valley Alleghany Regional Commission
Virginia Association of Counties