

Board to hear I-73 options

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By SHAWN HOPKINS - Bulletin Staff Writer

The Henry County Board of Supervisors will get two different viewpoints on Interstate 73 at its meeting Tuesday.

The board has asked Rob Cary, a Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) engineer, to appear at the meeting to discuss the project.

It will also hear from Max Kendall of Axton. He has proposed an alternate route for I-73 in Henry County, west of the one VDOT currently plans. VDOT officials have said changing the route now would delay the project.

Supervisors Chairman H.G. Vaughn has said the board asked VDOT to send an official to the meeting to help determine what impact Kendall's proposed change would have, and what the next steps for the project are now that a federal Record of Decision has been given allowing design work to proceed.

Also at its meeting at 3 p.m. Tuesday at the Henry County Administration Building, the board plans to:

- Appropriate the 2007-2008 fiscal year budget. The board adopted the budget in April, but no county funds can be expended until the appropriation is made.
- Consider approving an updated consortium agreement for the Workforce Investment Act. Proposed changes include language in the agreement, the way Workforce Investment Board members are appointed and extending the terms of board members and officers from one year to two.
- Approve an extension of the Transition Day Program. The board will consider allowing ANCHOR to continue running the program, which is designed to serve certain special education students. The budget for the program will be \$103,449, which is included in the county's Community Policy and Management Team budget for the upcoming fiscal year.
- Consider an additional appropriation and transfer request from the Henry County School Board. That board is complying with a request from the county's accounting department to correctly place revenue from interest on bonds from a number of school renovation projects. The school board is asking that future interest revenue automatically be placed in the appropriate account for the school whose bond issuance generated the revenue. It also is asking for approval of a transfer of funds generated by the bond

transactions to reflect the actual breakdown, again as requested by the county's accounting department.

- Consider approving a grant and an additional appropriation for the Henry County Sheriff's Office. The grant provides \$2,994 to buy replacement bullet-proof vests. It requires a 50 percent match, which Sheriff Lane Perry has said is available in the sheriff's office "matching grants" budget line item.
- Consider approving a refund of \$1,350.10 improperly assessed on a 9-acre tract in the names of Reed L. Oliver, Russell Stone and John Harold Stone Jr. between 1972 and 2003. If approved the refund will be sent to John Harold Stone Jr.
- Consider awarding a contract for \$35,350 through 2011 for actuarial services to Stanley, Hunt, Dupree and Rhine Inc. of Greensboro, N.C. The money is to pay for the county's share of complying with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 45 standards, new financial reporting rules for post-employment benefit plans other than pension plans. The cost will be shared by Social Services, Public Service Authority and the Henry County School System, with as much as 80 percent being the school system's share because of its number of employees.
- Consider an additional appropriation of \$24,760 to buy eight touch screen voting machines for the registrar's office to use as a backup.
- Consider awarding a contract for \$651,342.95 to low bidder Adams Paving for paving at the Patriot Centre industrial park. VDOT has approved \$328,000 in industrial access funding as part of a five-year bonded project, and the rest of the funds will be received through the Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corp. as part of a grant reimbursement.
- Consider awarding a \$22,850 contract to Virginia Trane to replace an HVAC (heating, ventilation and air conditioning) system in the county's computer room.
- Consider approving awarding a \$16,797.50 contract to Petroleum Tech Service Group Inc. to replace the Henry County Sheriff's Office fuel accounting system.
- Consider meeting in closed session to consider board appointees, pending legal matters, acquisition/disposal of real estate and as-yet unannounced industries.

At its 6 p.m. meeting, the board will:

- Consider various projects as part of the process of applying for Community Development Block Grant funds.

The planning department has identified Riverside Drive and South Street in Bassett, Villa Heights and Gaynor Heights in Collinsville and Pine Street and Eighth Street in Fieldale

as potential sites where the grant money could be used for improvements to housing, streets, drainage and sewer systems.

The planning department identified the Bassett locations as having the greatest need, according to board documents. It has recommended a letter be sent to the Department of Housing and Community Development requesting two planning grants for projects there.

- Hear an update on Roanoke River Basin Association activities from John Lindsey, a member of its board of directors.
- Hold a public hearing on a courthouse security fee increase. The courthouse security assessment fee is added to court costs and is used to provide security for the courthouse. After the public hearing the board will consider raising it from \$5 to \$10.
- Hold a public hearing on a rezoning application from Ronnie E. and Debra M. Lawless. They have asked the board to approve the rezoning of about 1.35 acres near 3951 Daniels Creek Road in the Reed Creek District from Suburban Residential District S-R to Mixed Residential District M-R so they can place a double-wide manufactured home on a permanent foundation there.
- Consider asking VDOT to install a “Children Playing” sign in the 300 block of Reed Creek Drive.