

“Schools”

(Cont. from front)

school, Brodhead Elementary and Roundstone Elementary to be eliminated. The original plan called for four positions at the high school and two positions at the middle school to be eliminated.

Pensol also proposed cutting two more positions at RCHS that was already “over and above” the SBDM allotment. He noted the school district would not be receiving the federal funded “Teacher Quality Grant” next year. The grant was originally provided by the federal government for class size reduction but Pensol said it will be “completely depleted” next year and as a result three more positions, one each at the middle school, Brodhead Elementary and Roundstone Elementary, will have to be cut.

After thorough discussion, the board unanimously approved the proposed 2013-2014 SBDM allocations.

Pensol also presented the district’s proposed 2013-2014 salary schedule with numerous changes from the 2012-2013 salary schedule.

Pensol proposed to change the Mt. Vernon elementary school assistant principal position from 20 extended days to 30 extended days because additional duties have been assigned to the position that are special education district duties, in addition to the original assistant principal duties.

“These duties have been assigned to this position for years and has been paid through an hourly stipend,” Pensol said. “It gets messy because that individual leaves during the school day to perform these duties and we are paying them a stipend for after school hours when they aren’t really staying after school. The extended days proposal only clarifies everything.”

The alternative school principal position was also eliminated from the salary schedule. Pensol said they have successfully operated this year without a principal and believe it’s in their best interest not to re-hire one.

Director of Student Services Becky Isaacs said that a principal is not needed at the alternative school as there are only 25 students currently enrolled with only 21 students in class as the others receive homebound services.

“Myself or other central office staff are just seconds or minutes away and can be there quickly to tend to any serious issues,” Isaacs said. “There hasn’t been a time this year where this process hasn’t worked.”

Pensol went on to say that they are currently meeting with the health department and trying to renegotiate an arrangement with school nurses.

The health department announced last month that they were having to cut back their funding for school nurses. Pensol said they went ahead and created a job classification that would allow LPNs or other certified nursing assistants to be able to use their degrees while being employed in the schools. The new school nurse position will have an hourly salary schedule.

Pensol said that if negotiations go well with the health department in the next few weeks, they will have a full time nursing unit at all schools in the future. The board approved the 2013-2014 annual salary schedule in preparation of the terms of agreement with the health department.

In the final item of business, Pensol told the board that the Mt. Vernon Elementary Site-Based Council is currently reviewing applications for the principal vacancy and have set up interviews for Thursday night and Monday night. He said there were 16 total applicants, six in-district and 10 outside the district.

“Clinic”

(Cont. from front)

House balked at the increase.

Monday, RCIDA Chairman Robert Lawson recounted a meeting with board member Corey Craig where they discussed the issue and Craig told board he felt that allowing White House to have the site for \$75,000 would not “set a precedence” in the board’s dealings with other potential buyers. “Approximately a half acre of the site is not usable/of no value, and we need to put this issue to bed.”

On a motion by Craig, the board voted to sell the property to White House for the \$75,000 figure.

The next phase will involve White House submitting their plans for the planned 9,000 sq. ft. facility and signage.

During the meeting, CSEPP Director Hal Holbrook reported to the board that expectations were that the local emergency services building would be bid out the last of April or the first of May with the contract being awarded probably in June with construction taking 11-12 months.

Holbrook said the delay had been caused by a \$750,000 overage on the first bids submitted for the same facility in Powell County which caused Homeland Security to come up with much pared down specifications for the building. The bid for Powell County facility eventually came in at \$300,000 over estimate for a total of \$1.9 million.

The CSEPP director said bids for the local building were expected to come in in the \$1.5 million range.

Craig told the board that there was about \$214,000 remaining on a Dept. of Transportation \$1.3 million

grant and these funds would be used to extend the road to the emergency facility, for signage, lighting and the parking lot. “Using these funds will make the federal grant go further and will improve and enhance the park which is the point of the grant,” Craig said.

Final plans for the facility are expected to be submitted to the board April 16th.

RCIDA Executive Director Holly Hopkins told the board that there are presently 350 employees at SourceHOV, with that number expected to rise to 520 at capacity. However, she said that the Veterans Administration was interested in amending their contract with SourceHOV which could bring an additional 200 jobs to the county. Besides those jobs, SourceHOV has bid on another contract which would involve leasing the old sewing factory to accommodate those jobs, if acquired.

“Court”

(Cont. from front)

McKinney, the motion passed unanimously. The additional funding will go into effect immediately.

Reynolds’ currently has seven employees, which includes Rowe.

Monday’s action will bring the total supplement to Reynolds’ office to \$40,700 a year.

The court also heard another request from Constable Richard Dean for funding for constables when they assist the sheriff’s office by serving legal documents.

Dean’s request, for \$400 a month, for gas expenses, was backed up by Carl Swanigan who told the court that the constables provided a needed service but that, to be fair, any money given to constables would also have to be given to the sheriff’s department for their expenses

in serving warrants, child support papers, summons, etc. However, Carloftis reminded the court that the sheriff’s department was already supplemented by the fiscal court and anything given to the constables would not also have to be given to the sheriff’s department.

Reynolds agreed that Dean was a “lifesaver” to his office since there was such a backlog of legal papers to be served in the county.

One suggestion was that the constables be treated as individual contractors and paid in that manner but Magistrate Bill McKinney quickly reminded everyone that elected officials cannot be contracted to the county. “I can’t so I’m sure constables can’t be,” McKinney said.

Another solution was that additional funds be provided the county attorney’s office and funneled to constables for their service.

However, Wednesday, Reynolds told the Signal that extensive research had not shown any way that constables could be paid by the court without the court being liable for their actions i.e., breaking the county’s solemn immunity.

Reynolds said the idea of additional program support for his office to be used for payments to the constables would no doubt be considered an “end-around” to the statutes. “As good as Richard has been to my office, I can’t recommend to the court that the funding be made available,” the county attorney said.

The court also approved \$6,500 for a trailer to transport urban search and rescue equipment for the Brodhead Fire Department. The equipment was obtained with a \$60,000 grant from Homeland Security and one of the requirements is that the equipment be mobile when needed.

On the request of Katha Carpenter, Livingston City Commissioner, the court also approved a \$1,000 donation for expenses associated with the upcoming Founder’s Day Celebration scheduled for May 10 and 11.

The court was also informed that needed repairs to the jail’s shower section, and the replacement of all vents in the jail (46), will cost approximately \$20,000.

As a last item of business, the court approved the transfer of \$25,000 from the general fund to the jail fund and \$150,000 from the occupational tax fund to the general fund.

“Lake”

(Cont. from front)

ter, picked them up and transported them by boat to the Lake Linville Boat Dock.

After arriving at Lake Linville Boat Dock, officers observed McGuire and another 14-year-old juvenile attempting to get into a white vehicle parked in the parking lot.

While performing field sobriety tests, officers noticed McGuire appeared intoxicated. He also told officers that he had smoked marijuana prior to running off the roadway and into the lake.

McGuire was charged with DUI and was later released from the Rockcastle County Detention Center on a \$2,000 surety bond. The juvenile was released to his parents at the scene.

Mt. Vernon Fire and Rescue and Rockcastle EMS had to respond to the scene of the accident and local divers Carl Swanigan and Nathan Swartz hooked up the wrecked vehicle that was submerged in 12 feet of water. CSEPP Director Hal Holbrook also dispatched crews to clean up oil and debris left in the lake by the car.



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April is PRIDE Spring Clean-Up Month

Together, we can beautify our entire region and surpass last year's outstanding turnout of Spring Clean-up Volunteers!



Free t-shirts (while supplies last), trash bags and gloves for PRIDE volunteers

Rockcastle County PRIDE Coordinator, James Renner, will provide trash pick-up and disposal, safety vests and signs for safety.

If you can help with Roadside Clean-up at any time in April, please call
James Renner at 606-256-1902; in the City of Livingston call Sandi Singleton at 606-453-3659; in the City of Mt. Vernon call Jill Medley at 606-256-3437; in the City of Brodhead call Mark Burress at 758-8635.

(A schedule must be turned in to the PRIDE office by March 27th)
If you plan to help, please call ASAP!
Exact dates and times for clean-up can be set at a later date if necessary.

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