



# U.S. Route 501 Coalition

[www.route501.org](http://www.route501.org)

Multipurpose Conference Room (Basement Level)  
Haberer Building (Building H)  
Campbell County Office Complex  
Rustburg, VA  
October 13, 2011  
2:00 pm

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Halifax County Administrator George Nester.

2. Invocation

A moment of silence was observed.

3. Attendance

Below is a list of those attending the meeting:

NAME	LOCALITY/ ORGANIZATION	EMAIL	TELEPHONE
Robert Love	Halifax County	<a href="mailto:rml@co.halifax.va.us">rml@co.halifax.va.us</a>	434-476-3300 X234
Bob Gallagher	JMT	<a href="mailto:rgallagher@jmt.com">rgallagher@jmt.com</a>	804-267-1250
Neil Beach	JMT	<a href="mailto:nbeach@jmt.com">nbeach@jmt.com</a>	804-323-9960
Paul Harvey	Campbell County	<a href="mailto:peharvey@co.campbell.va.us">peharvey@co.campbell.va.us</a>	434-332-9592
Renard Yeatts	VDOT - Lynchburg	<a href="mailto:renard.yeatts@vdot.virginia.gov">renard.yeatts@vdot.virginia.gov</a>	434-856-8258
Rick Youngblood	VDOT - Lynchburg	<a href="mailto:rick.youngblood@vdot.virginia.gov">rick.youngblood@vdot.virginia.gov</a>	434-856-8331
Michael Gray	VDOT - Salem	<a href="mailto:michael.gray@vdot.virginia.gov">michael.gray@vdot.virginia.gov</a>	540-375-3565
Brian Casto	VDOT - Lynchburg	<a href="mailto:brian.casto@vdot.virginia.gov">brian.casto@vdot.virginia.gov</a>	434-856-8276
Robert Guercia	VDOT - Lynchburg	<a href="mailto:robert.guercia@vdot.virginia.gov">robert.guercia@vdot.virginia.gov</a>	434-856-8174
Rob Cary	VDOT - Lynchburg	<a href="mailto:rob.cary@vdot.virginia.gov">rob.cary@vdot.virginia.gov</a>	434-856-8173
J. D. Puckett	Campbell County	<a href="mailto:jd/nonapuckett@hotmail.com">jd/nonapuckett@hotmail.com</a>	434-376-5780
Mike Davidson	Campbell County	<a href="mailto:jmdavidson@co.campbell.va.us">jmdavidson@co.campbell.va.us</a>	434-592-9595
Ronald L. Lovelace	Bedford County	<a href="mailto:rlovelace@lnmcpa.com">rlovelace@lnmcpa.com</a>	434-528-1520
Bob White	Region 2000	<a href="mailto:bwhite@region2000.org">bwhite@region2000.org</a>	434-845-3491
George Nester	Halifax County	<a href="mailto:gwn@co.halifax.va.us">gwn@co.halifax.va.us</a>	434-476-3300
Debby Forlines	Halifax County Staff		

4. Approval of Agenda

No additions or changes were suggested to the Agenda. On a motion made by Mr. Puckett, seconded by Mr. Davidson and unanimous vote the agenda was approved as presented.

5. Review of March 18, 2010 Meeting Minutes

No suggestions were made to correct or amend the March 18, 2010 Minutes. On a motion made by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Harvey and unanimous vote, the minutes of the March 18, 2010 meeting were approved.

**6. Financial Report**

Mr. Davidson presented the financial report explained the expenditures made since the March 2010 meeting. The current balance in the account is \$12,844.75.



<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Balance</u>
				\$11,017.78
9-Jul-09	WebUx, Inc (Aug to Oct.)		\$41.85	\$10,975.93
9-Jul-09	Town of Brookneal 2009 Dues	\$125.00		\$11,100.93
1-Jul-09	Campbell County Dues 2010	\$500.00		\$11,600.93
5-Oct-09	WebUX, Inc (11-09 to 01-10)		\$41.85	\$11,559.08
4-Jan-10	WebUX, Inc (1-10 to 4-10)		\$41.85	\$11,517.23
13-Jan-10	County of Halifax Dues 2010	\$500.00		\$12,017.23
13-Jan-10	County of Bedford Dues 2010	\$500.00		\$12,517.23
15-Jan-10	Town of South Boston Dues 2010	\$125.00		\$12,642.23
19-Jan-10	Town of Halifax Dues 2010	\$125.00		\$12,767.23
19-Jan-10	Town of Brookneal Dues 2010	\$125.00		\$12,892.23
20-Jan-10	Blair Marketing Domain Renewal		\$43.75	\$12,848.48
22-Apr-10	City of Lynchburg Dues 2010	\$500.00		\$13,348.48
19-May-10	Transfer Site to Blair server, 1-year of hosting		\$250.00	\$13,098.48
14-Jul-10	Blair marketing- Web hosting & set up		\$47.50	\$13,050.98
23-Mar-11	Blair Marketing- Web Domain registration		\$56.23	\$12,994.75
9-May-11	Blair Marketing Web Hosting		\$150.00	\$12,844.75

On a motion made by Mr. Lovelace, seconded by Mr. Love and unanimous vote, the financial report was accepted.

**7. Old Business**

- Review the Road Priority List

Mr. Puckett discussed the vertical curve improvement North of Gladys that was accomplished by using monies designated for an environmental study for a Brookneal bypass. When it was determined the bypass project did not qualify, the funds designated were reassigned to this alternate Campbell County project.

Mr. Love asked that the Committee to keep in mind the request made by Mr. J. T. Davis for improvements to the Route 501/Route 40 intersection.

8. New Business

- **VDOT- U.S. Rt. 501 funding**

Mr. Cary reported that the Governor had designed \$11 million to VDOT to use for Route 501 safety and operational improvements in Halifax and Campbell Counties. Mr. Cary envisioned that VDOT would use some of the funds on construction and some to prepare a shelf ready project in case federal funds from other projects become available. Each year VDOT applies for bonus obligation funds. If a project is ready to go, smaller projects have a chance to be funded.

According to Mr. Cary, the Route 501 Corridor is 40 miles long and VDOT is challenged to determine where to devote resources. To assist with the determination, a consultant has been hired to work with VDOT. A Road Safety Audit has been completed to help determine recommendations from a safety standpoint. Also a Transportation Plan has been approved that includes Route 501 thanks to the efforts of Cathy Byer. Using background information provided from the safety audit, suggestions from the Route 501 Coalition, and comments from citizens' made during public meetings which will be held in the near future, VDOT and the consultants will prioritize projects determining the most beneficial use of the \$11 million. The Route 501 Coalition has worked for a number of years on determining improvements needed and will be a source of input for the projects. He noted the projects may not be "ribbon cutting events" and may be safety projects such as turn lanes or shoulders. He also noted that a number of rear end accidents could be avoided if several feet of asphalt were available on road shoulders. If the safety audit indicated a number of accidents on a curve, VDOT could look at lighting the curve. Turn lanes keep people from sitting in traffic. He suggested finding projects that were cheap and effective and could be done with a portion of the \$11 million available.

In reply to a question from Mr. Lovelace about the Snowden River Bridge, Mr. Cary advised that the money has been designated for that project, and this \$11 million was designated to Halifax and Campbell Counties. The Bridge Project is undergoing the environmental process.

Mr. Gallagher stated his firm would work with VDOT to outline an approach to reinvest efforts to determine the good, the bad and the ugly potential projects including their scope and their cost impacts. Their goal is to identify projects that have a high priority to move forward to design and construction and to have a shelf project ready when more dollars are available. He noted that about 20% of the accidents in Halifax and Campbell Counties on Route 501 are caused by deer. About 25% are rear end accidents, and the remaining percentage is caused by a wide variety of causes. He introduced Neil Beach who is experienced with developing a plan from the sources available.

Mr. Puckett advised his priority would be safety improvements that would allow the public especially school children to travel to a destination and return home safely. He noted opening up the Brookneal corridor would be beneficial.

Mr. Love noted that providing more passing opportunities will not help some of the commuting problems because capacity is a problem. Spot improvements such as a third lane allowing passing will help.

Mr. Davidson agreed that capacity is a big issue. Sightseers and elderly slow down traffic and make other drivers take chances. He suggested reexamining the safety issues. A third lane

would work better than more passing zones. He suggested reexamining passing zones as some areas seem viable but over time have been shut down.

Mr. Lovelace noted that the possibly of having three lanes would help with the capacity problem. He also advised that at the intersection of Route 501 and Flynn Road a vacant building blocks the view to the North. Other concerns were at the Route 501 intersections with Windfall Road and with Marshall Mills Road.

Mr. Cary advised that the designated funds could be used to purchase and take down a building if it is a safety matter. Passing zones have very specific guidelines, and VDOT would need to be careful because of liability issues. On this project, it may be possible to study if areas can be widened for a third lane to allow passing. Speed limit data at certain spots has been looked at although he did not know the results. He noted strips to slow traffic are acceptable in business/industrial locations but are too loud for residential areas. Spacing lines can be used to give the impression of speed and have been used to help slow traffic. It would be helpful if any information about recent accidents could be passed through Mr. Cary to notify the consultants.

The consensus of the Committee was that Brookneal Elementary School would be a good location to hold a public meeting for both Campbell and Halifax Counties.

Mr. Gallagher asked if 911 addresses could be provided for residents along Route 501 in Campbell and Halifax Counties. Notices of the meeting could be mailed to citizens if the addresses were provided. It is easy to facilitate having information online for members to see what is happening.

- **Rotation of Administrative Duties**

Mr. Davidson **volunteered** to have Campbell County take over the administrative duties as the next rotation.

The consensus of the Committee was to schedule the next meeting on January 12, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. to receive an update on the VDOT progress in allocating the \$11 million to local projects.

9. Adjourn

On a motion made by Mr. Puckett, and seconded by Mr. Lovelace with unanimous vote, the meeting adjourned.