



Botetourt County, Virginia  
*Office of the County Administrator*

The regular meeting of the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, August 19, 2003, in the County Board Meeting Room, Old General District Courthouse, Fincastle, Virginia, beginning at 9:00 A. M.

**PRESENT: Members:** Mr. Stephen P. Clinton, Chairman  
Mrs. Wanda C. Wingo, Vice-Chairman  
Mr. John W. Griffin  
Mr. Terry L. Austin  
Mr. William G. Loope

**ABSENT: Members:** None

After further discussion, on motion by Mr. Loope, and carried by the following recorded vote, the Board adopted the following resolution regarding rail alternatives to complement planned improvements to Interstate 81.

**AYES:** Mrs. Wingo, Mr. Loope, Mr. Griffin, Mr. Austin  
**NAYS:** None  
**ABSENT:** None                      **ABSTAINING:** Mr. Clinton

Resolution Number 03-08-09

**WHEREAS**, the I-81 corridor is increasingly the route of choice for trucks traveling between the northeast and the south and southwest because of congestion on I-95 and expanding shipments generated by the North American Free Trade Act, and

**WHEREAS**, two multi-national corporations—Halliburton and Fluor corporations—have submitted proposals to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to expand the number of lanes and other appurtenances on I-81, and

**WHEREAS**, minimal rail freight proposals in the Star Solutions and Fluor Public Private Transportation Act proposals do not adequately address rail freight potential in the whole I-81 corridor, and

**WHEREAS**, these same proposals provide no option for passenger rail, although upgrading the corridor's main rail line secures the passenger rail option, and

**WHEREAS**, proper inclusion of a freight/passenger rail component in a comprehensive surface transportation policy assures notable reduction in needed interstate lane capacity and associated design and construction costs, and

1 West Main Street, No. 1  
Fincastle, Virginia 24030  
Phone (540) 173-8223  
Fax (540) 121-8225

Board of Supervisors

S.P. Clinton  
Chairman  
Wanda C. Wingo  
Vice Chairman  
T.L. Austin  
J.W. Griffin  
W.G. Loope

**WHEREAS**, the Commonwealth of Virginia is planning the future of the I-81 corridor, those decisions containing dramatic impacts for the future of western Virginia, and

**WHEREAS**, the Commonwealth of Virginia's decisions on this corridor will determine whether I-81 and connecting interstates will become a multi-state "East Coast Truck By-Pass", and

**WHEREAS**, the increased use of railroads to move freight will improve safety by reducing dangerous vehicular congestion on I-81, improve energy conservation by reducing the amount of diesel fuel consumed for freight transportation, improve the health of people and other living things in Southwest Virginia by lowering air pollution and toxic emissions along I-81, and improve the local economy by assuring time-competitive, low-cost rail shipping options for local businesses and industrial prospects and eliminating the necessity for placing tolls on I-81,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Supervisors of Botetourt County, Virginia, strongly petitions for the development and promotion of a "steel interstate", high-speed rail freight and passenger service parallel to I-81, to complement limited highway-widening, addressing future surface transportation needs in the I-81 corridor.

A Copy TESTE:



Mr. Gerald A. Burgess  
County Administrator