

At the recess meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors on Thursday, August 15, 2013, at 6:30 PM in the Giles County General District Courtroom, 120 North Main Street, Pearisburg, the following were present:

Barbara Hobbs	Chair (Central District)
Scott Dunn	Vice Chair (Western District)
Richard McCoy	At-Large Supervisor
Larry Jay Williams	Eastern District
Paul "Chappy" Baker	At-Large Supervisor
Chris McKlarney	County Administrator
Richard Chidester	County Attorney
Missy Bray	Board Secretary

CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION

Ms. Hobbs called the meeting to order. Mr. McKlarney had the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Hobbs announced that citizens may sign up with the secretary to speak during the public comment section of the meeting.

NRCC OFFICE OF TRANSITIONAL PROGRAMS

Ms. Barbara Clark presented information to members regarding changes in the Adult Education Program as well as changes in GED testing and fees. Ms. Clark related that the program covers the five jurisdictions within the New River Valley. The program meets on Tuesday and Thursday night at the Pearisburg Community Center. She reported that many people do not have the skills needed to get a GED or high school diploma and lack soft skills needed to get and retain employment. The program is moving toward a workforce development phase. Some of the topics will include interest assessments, computer skills, conflict resolution, resume preparation, and interview skills. The program will also have 16 types of career clusters to choose from. Completion of the program will, not only lead to a GED or diploma, but will also lead to a Career Certificate.

Ms. Clark also related that GED testing would become more difficult to pass beginning in January. She stated that she encourages everyone to test before the changes go into effect. In addition to the difficulty, test fees for the GED will increase from \$35 to \$120. Ms. Hobbs asked who sets the rate for the testing. Ms. Clark indicated that the fee amount is up to the program administering the test. She also related that the program has had issues in the past with retention and feels that charging for the classes would make the students feel more invested and more likely to attend. Ms. Hobbs asked if there are funds available to help those who do not have the money to attend or pay for test fees. Ms. Clark related there are grants to assist in those instances as well as the On-Ramp program run through the college.

Ms. Clark reported that the college has a relatively new program, Plugged In. This program was developed for students with a lower skill set. The program also allows for students to obtain a GED while enrolled. The current curricula include HVAC, Medical Office and

Welding. Ms. Clark indicated that the students in this program are required to complete a capstone project. During this past graduation, the students provided a presentation in regard to the program and what they had been working on during their enrollment. Mr. Williams asked how many students were enrolled in Adult Education in the county. Ms. Clark did not have exact numbers but estimated 49 with a 50% GED attainment rate.

Mr. McKlarney stated that NRCC is in the process of pulling data for a baseline to look at the possibility of a CCAP program. This program is in force in other localities in the region and assists local citizens with the cost of attending community college. He will provide more information at a later date.

SOLAR EQUIPMENT EXEMPTION

Mr. McKlarney related that some requests had been made to tax exempt solar equipment at the local level. He reported that there are currently no solar array systems listed in the county tax assessment. Ms. Hobbs felt that there was not enough information to have a discussion at this point. Members recommended bringing the item back for discussion after reassessment was done.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH GRANT

Mr. McKlarney informed members of a planning grant available through the Virginia Department of Health to help fund the Eggleston Phase I water project in the amount of \$50,000. This grant may be used for the development and design phase of the project. The grant would need to be applied for no later than September, and no matching funds are required. Mr. McKlarney asked if members were in favor of applying for these funds.

Mr. Baker moved to move forward with application for the Virginia Department of Health planning grant. Second by Mr. McCoy. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

RURAL ADDITION ROADS

Mr. McKlarney reported that he had received a request to add another road to the rural addition list. At this point a list is not being maintained for rural additions. Mr. McKlarney related that the Code of Virginia has a protocol to be followed to decide how rankings are done. He asked members for their opinions on initiating that process. Members felt it would be a good idea for each jurisdiction to have a road on the list and waiting but that the protocol needed to be set in place before that could be done.

Mr. Williams moved to reappoint road viewers for each district. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

Mr. McKlarney reported that an estimate had been received on the Skyview Lane rural addition, and it was within the budget amount. After the estimate for relocating the utilities is completed, the next step would be to go to the members of the community about the acquisition of the right of way and the cost to relocate the utilities.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Mr. McKlarney reported that only one proposal had been received for the reassessment RFP. The submission was from Wampler-Eanes Appraisal Group. Ms. Hobbs suggested starting negotiations and getting the best price possible. All members were in agreement.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. McKlarney related that a work day was being scheduled for organized for Bailey's Gap, and the annual river clean up would be on September 14th. Mr. Williams suggested that they plan on getting equipment in to drain the mud holes one to two weeks prior to starting the work day at Bailey's Gap. In addition, Mr. Williams related that the Land Rover Club of North America would like to have their annual meeting in Giles County. They have expressed an interest in helping cut brush as well. The club expects 100-200 this fall and hopes to have more participation in following years.

Mr. Baker reported that the water issue had not been resolved at Mr. Dean Reed's property as discussed previously. He stated that the drain pipes were still stopped up and water was being diverted from the ditch to Mr. Reed's land causing damage. Mr. Baker suggested that all members get together and go take a look at it. Mr. Dunn felt that the work done there that caused the issue was done the easiest way possible and that it needs to be put back the other way. Mr. Baker stated that VDOT needs to fix the problem. He further stated that if VDOT did not correct the problem then the county needs to fix it. Ms. Hobbs expressed concern that could lead to legal issues for the county. Mr. Baker stated that Mr. Reed had been coming to the county for years trying to get the issue resolved. Mr. McKlarney stated the Board might be able to authorize the use of secondary construction money for the project and get the problem corrected. Members were in agreement to ask VDOT if secondary construction money could be used to correct this issue.

Mr. Williams related that the flooding in Pembroke last week was the worst thing he had ever seen. However, he also stated that all the help that came out on Saturday was the best thing he had ever seen happen in the county.

Mr. Dunn related that some "Watch for Children" signs had been requested on Old Wolf Creek Road and at Turner Road. Mr. McKlarney stated he would look into what needs to be done to get them ordered and installed.

SCHOOL BOARD APPROPRIATION

Mr. Williams moved to appropriate \$2,114,156 for the month of September, 2013. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Baker, Mr. McCoy.

SOCIAL SERVICES APPROPRIATION

Mr. Williams moved to appropriate \$175,000 for Social Services and \$100,000 for CSA for the month of September, 2013. Second by Mr. McCoy. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Baker, Mr. McCoy.

PAYMENT OF WARRANTS

Mr. McCoy moved to appropriate funds in the amount of \$443,309.08 for payment of warrants as presented. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Baker, Mr. McCoy.

APPOINTMENTS

Mr. McCoy moved to appoint Mr. David Epperly, Mr. Frank Cahoon and Mr. Greg Williams to the Building Code Board of Appeals. Second by Mr. Baker. The motion was approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

Mr. Dunn moved to appoint Mr. John Lovely to the New River Valley Airport Commission. Second by Mr. Baker. The motion was approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

BUDGET CARRYOVERS – FY 2013 TO FY 2014

Ms. Rhonda Tickle presented information regarding carryover funds from FY 2013 to the FY 2014 budget. She explained that the funds had either been approved by the Board in the past to be allowed to carryover or had been mandated by the state to be carryover to be used for specific items. There are no offsetting revenues once they are carried over. Unspent funds for specific items continually carryover from year to year. At the end of the year, any money that is left goes into reserves. It must then be determined what funding was left for these specific items and the funding moved back into those budget lines as required.

Mr. McCoy questioned why the DMV Stops had so much money left over. Ms. Tickle indicated that some positions had not been filled or part-time staff had been utilized, which caused a lot of that not to be used this past year. Ms. Tickle indicated that the Forest Service amount seemed to be dwindling some. Mr. McCoy asked for clarification on the concealed weapons line. Ms. Tickle responded that budget line comes from fees paid for concealed weapons permits and goes to the Sheriff's Office budget. It must be maintained in that line and has guidelines set forth regarding the use.

Mr. Williams moved to approve the FY 2013 Carryovers to FY 2014 Budget in the amount of \$173,495.40. Second by Mr. Dunn. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Baker, Mr. McCoy.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. McCoy moved to go into Executive Session as permitted by Virginia Code 2.2-3711A(30)Contracts. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0 by roll call vote). Voting YES: Mr. Baker, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Dunn, Mr. McCoy.

Mr. McCoy moved to certify that in the closed session just concluded, the Board discussed nothing except the matters specifically identified in the motion to convene and lawfully permitted to be discussed under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act cited in that motion. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0 by roll call vote). Voting YES: Mr. Baker, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Dunn, Mr. McCoy.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Williams asked if anyone knew why the lane was closed on Ripplemead Bridge but no one was working there. Mr. Dunn related he had heard there were problems with the beams and it could take up to a year to repair. Mr. Williams expressed concern that it is a safety issue.

Mr. William asked how the brush cutting project using inmate labor was progressing. Mr. McKlarney indicated that VDOT is getting final clearance and provided equipment. In addition, a person would have to be hired to oversee the crew. Mr. Williams also asked if there were going to be any issues getting them out on the jail side. Mr. McKlarney indicated the judge is willing to help in that regard. He will check with the judge to see if the meetings had taken place.

No further business was introduced. Ms. Hobbs adjourned the meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 4, 2013, 3 PM in the General District Courtroom, 120 North Main Street, Pearisburg, Virginia.

APPROVED:

Chairperson

ATTEST:

Clerk