

At the regular meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors on Wednesday, January 8, 2014, at 3:00 PM in the Giles County General District Courtroom, 120 North Main Street, Pearisburg, the following were present:

Barbara Hobbs	Chairman (Central District)
Scott Dunn	Vice Chair (Western District Supervisor)
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 offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

Mr. McKlarney, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, asked for nominations for chairman for 2014.

Mr. Baker moved to nominate Ms. Barbara Hobbs for Chair of the Board of Supervisors for 2014. Second by Mr. McCoy. There were no further nominations. Ms. Hobbs was confirmed as Chair by a 4-0 vote with Ms. Hobbs abstaining.

Mr. Williams moved to nominate Mr. Dunn as Vice Chair for the Board of Supervisors for 2014. Second by Mr. Baker. There were no other nominations. Mr. Dunn was confirmed as Vice Chair by 4-0 vote with Mr. Dunn abstaining.

Mr. McCoy moved that the regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors be held on the first Wednesday of each month at 3 PM; a recess meeting will be set for the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM if necessary. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

Mr. McCoy moved that in the event a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Supervisors has to be cancelled due to emergency situations, weather, etc. they will reschedule on the same day and time during the following week with proper notification. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

Mr. Baker moved that the Board of Supervisors would adopt and follow Roberts' Rules of Order. Second by Mr. McCoy. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Baker moved to approve the minutes of November 21, 2013. Second by Mr. McCoy. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

Mr. Baker moved to approve the minutes of December 4, 2013. Second by Mr. Williams. Approved (4-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Baker. Abstaining: Mr. McCoy.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Sheriff Morgan Millirons updated the Board regarding recent departmental activity. Sheriff Millirons reported numbers for December as well as total numbers for 2013 on activities such as felony arrests, DUI, misdemeanor arrests and civil papers served. He also reported numbers from the animal shelter as follows for the month of December: picked up by animal control were 18 cats and 21 dogs, 15 cats rescued, 3 cats picked up by owners, 8 dogs rescued, one dog picked up by owner, 6 dogs euthanized, and 8 animals seized due to animal cruelty, 3 horses and 4 pigs in rescue. Sheriff Millirons reported that several dogs were euthanized in the latter part of October and first part of November due to having no vaccinations for rabies as was mandated by the state veterinarian. He also reported that the water was frozen and was being hauled to the shelter until it can be thawed. Security cameras are to be installed at the shelter soon.

Sheriff Millirons related that the department continues to work on criminal investigations and narcotics are the top priority. He related that the inmate work crew had logged 1,022 hours in December. The inmates have been working on various projects including brush cutting along the roads. Ms. Hobbs requested that staff working with the brush cutting crew make a note of any brush in the power lines in order to get a call into AEP to get it cut out. Mr. Williams related he had gotten a lot of positive comments on the brush cutting that has taken place so far. Sheriff Millirons reported that all officers had been released to return to work following the recent shooting incident.

NARROWS REVITALIZATION RESOLUTION REQUEST

Mr. McKlarney reported that a request had been received by the Narrows Revitalization Partners, LLC to pass a resolution to designate the building located at 208 and 210 Main Street in Narrows, Virginia as a revitalization site with the Town of Narrows in support of the matter. Mr. Chidester drafted the presented resolution, and there was no indication of terms of taxes.

Mr. Williams moved to pass the resolution designating the building located at 208 and 210 Main Street in Narrows, Virginia as a revitalization site. Second by Mr. McCoy. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

VDOT REPORT – DAVID CLARKE

Mr. Clarke provided updates to members. Patching on Routes 460, 100 and 61 had been done as well as gravel placed on several dirt roads such as Darnell Mountain. In addition, Mr. Clarke reported that some drains were repaired on Route 616, pipe repair on Wilburn Valley Road and shoulder repair is still needed on Route 219. Mr. Clarke related that an advertisement for bids would be going out on the Route 219 Bridge in March, and bids will be due back on Hilltop around January 20, 2014, with an early summer completion date expected. Mr. Clarke reported that he had sent fund balances to Mr. McKlarney. In regard to the funding, the general maintenance funds are steady with \$1.5 million allocated; the secondary construction funds are more fluid, and allocations for this will begin to go up in 2015. The bridge office is funded separately, and funds are distributed on need throughout the district. Snow removal is funded in a separate account as well. The next project in the six-year plan for the county is Goodwin Ferry. Mr. Clarke related that general maintenance funds do not carry over to the following year, so he tries to allocate as much of the funding as possible. He felt the department had done a good job getting projects completed with limited funds.

Mr. Baker expressed his appreciation for the arrows painted on the road at the intersection of Route 100 and Wilburn Valley Road. In addition, he requested that the Route 460 ramp at Ripplemead be fixed. The ramp is very rough where the pavement is busting up. Mr. Williams requested some grading and stone on Elder Hollow, Henderson Mountain, Olean Road and Sexton Lane. Mr. Williams also request some work on Mill Road where the bank has been sliding off and asked Mr. Clarke to look at the bridge at Castle Rock to see if it could be widened. Mr. Dunn requested an update on Sky View. Mr. McKlarney related that the documents had been drawn up, and he expects to meet with owners next week. Mr. Dunn requested an update on the status of obtaining right of way to reopen the section of Old Wolf Creek Road that had been closed. Mr. Clarke responded that issue had been turned over to the appropriate staff to check on obtaining the right of way needed. Mr. Dunn also requested that alternate funding be sought for Penvir Bridge and requested grading work on Turner Road as well. In addition, Mr. Dunn restated the need for the paving of Route 61 from the traffic light through to the town limits and reported issues with potholes and crumbling shoulders on Route 219. Mr. Clark stated work was scheduled for Route 219. It is hoped the work will be completed next week. Mr. Dunn requested an update on the status of the drainage issues on Spring Street. Mr. Clarke related that staff was in process of completing some survey work and will design something that will work to resolve the issue.

Sheriff Millirons ask for clarification on the amount of right of way the crew had when cutting brush. Mr. Clarke stated it depends on the road; it will either be 15 or 20 feet from the center line. He stated there is an easement of 30 feet for unpaved roads and 40 feet for paved roads. Mr. Clarke suggested if the Sheriff wanted information on a specific road to let him know. Sheriff Millirons asked Mr. Clark to send him the right of way information for Old Church Road.

Ms. Hobbs reported a large pothole on Route 460 between Maybrook and Pembroke and asked that it be repaired. Mr. McKlarney reported he had received a call from Mr. Britt Stoudenmire regarding Broad Hollow requesting some guard rails in the area where some of

the brush had been cut. Several of the residents in that area felt there were some sections that would be unsafe without guard rails being installed. Mr. McKlarney also related a request made by Mr. John Hale for right of way information on Route 719.

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT – TERRY ARBOGAST

Dr. Arbogast reported that enrollment at the end of December was 2,442, a decrease of 8 since November and a decrease of 3 since the same time last year. He also shared a calendar of activities for January.

Dr. Arbogast reported on the success of the Giles High School Spartans' football team winning the state championship game. He also related additional activities such as a Martin Luther King Junior essay and poster contest and SOL testing. Ms. Hobbs asked if there was any movement toward revisiting SOL mandates. Dr. Arbogast stated there will probably be some conversation regarding SOL testing in the upcoming legislative session about the number of tests and changes in the lower grade levels as well.

Mr. McKlarney reported that the school system was seventeenth and eighteenth on the list for consideration for a literacy loan. Dr. Arbogast related that the Department of Education had sent documents to fill out if the school system is still interested in the loan program. The potential for savings is great if the literacy loan is approved. Mr. Williams asked if any energy savings had been seen from the new roof put on the school. Dr. Arbogast stated it was too early to tell about it right now.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Debra Adkins – Ms. Adkins addressed members regarding changes being made at the Giles County Animal Shelter and asked if members were aware of them. Ms. Hobbs replied that the sheriff operates the shelter and most of the changes being made are being mandated by the state. Ms. Hobbs related that the state did an inspection and the changes were made because of findings in the inspection report. Ms. Adkins asked if members knew what the changes will be. Mr. McKlarney stated that approximately ten copies of the letters were available at the meeting, and changes included extended hours, work hours being documented, additional training, policy development for volunteers, better documentation of veterinarian care, and maintenance and improvements on the facility. Ms. Adkins stated that she understood that a group of people that was asked to leave was going to be taking care of the shelter again. Sheriff Millirons stated that there were going to be individuals coming back to volunteer, but it would not be a group. He said that each person is going to have to come in and be screened as an individual, but it will not matter what group they are with. Ms. Adkins asked if the members knew of these changes. Ms. Hobbs stated that only two members knew about the changes. Mr. Williams stated that he, Mr. McKlarney and Ms. Hobbs had met with the sheriff to discuss the changes. Ms. Adkins stated that someone should be put in there that is transparent and has nothing to hide. She stated that she has asked for a financial report for over a year and has not received it from the group. There was some further discussion regarding the transparency of the group, but Ms. Hobbs stated that was not a problem the Board of Supervisors could address. Mr. Williams stated that anyone who comes to volunteer now will have to be screened by Sheriff Millirons. Ms. Adkins asked if they ever asked any of the people who work there about the changes. Mr. Williams stated he

did not talk to any of the employees. Ms. Hobbs indicated if the state comes in and mandates you have to be open so many hours and make certain changes then it has to be done. Ms. Adkins stated that the inspector was called in by the group of people that were told to leave. Ms. Adkins related some information about the people currently working at the shelter regarding their dedication to the animals and the personal cost to them to take care of the animals. She also stated concerns that these people would have to work with others that could cause issues. Mr. Williams suggested that the person go to the shelter at times when other individuals from the group are not there. He stated that the Board cannot referee the people helping at the shelter but have to operate it as mandated by the state. Sheriff Millirons stated that the whole idea is if anyone wants to come and help, let them come. He stated that anyone that comes in and cannot get along with others does not have to come back. Ms. Hobbs asked if he had drawn up rules for the volunteers. He related that he had not done those yet. Mr. McKlarney stated that he has asked for some samples from the state on other shelters but have not heard back from them. Deputy Spicer stated that he spoke with the inspector from the state, and she does not get involved in things of that nature. Sheriff Millirons stated that the shelter has some good volunteers and he is not going to allow anyone to come in and cause other people that are doing a good job grief. Mr. Dunn expressed concern that the issue had not been resolved after having complaints for over a year.

Ms. Helen Gillespie – Ms. Gillespie addressed the Board about volunteering at the shelter. She stated that she was at the meeting on her own as an individual not as a part of a group. Ms. Gillespie recognized the employees of the Sheriff's Department and shelter stating that it was a difficult job and she has nothing but respect for them. Ms. Gillespie stated that she thought others within the county appreciated the workers' efforts as well. She related that she appreciates the county partnering with individuals and groups and would be putting her name on the list to volunteer. Ms. Gillespie stated that she plans to continue to work with the shelter.

Ms. Chastity Perkins – Ms. Perkins addressed the Board regarding the shelter and her employment there as a contract employee. She stated that since she was there at 8:00 AM and did not leave until 11:00 or 12:00 she could not be in violation of her time. Mr. McKlarney related that the state inspector had not been happy with the documentation of Ms. Perkins' time. He stated that the whole issue comes down to personalities, and the Board would like anyone who wants to volunteer at the shelter to be able to volunteer. Mr. McKlarney also stated that neither the Board, the sheriff nor he can police the relationships of the people working at the shelter. He related that when the state comes in and mandates that certain changes have to be made then the changes will be made. Ms. Adkins asked how they were going to stop Ms. Perkins from being harassed and why they would let someone back in there that called the inspector. Mr. McCoy stated it did not matter who called the inspector. He related that the state had findings and they had to be addressed, and the inspector has a right to come at any time. Mr. Williams stated that the main goal is to adopt out as many animals as possible, and the more people you have involved the better your chances are of getting them adopted. He also stated that everyone has to work together and stay in line with the sheriff's rules and regulations. Mr. McKlarney stated that the sheriff would deal with the issue if he found something to be harassment and not just the inability to get along. There

was further discussion in regard to Ms. Perkins' time, the group that was banned from the shelter, and accusations Ms. Perkins felt were made against her. Mr. McKlarney stated that Ms. Perkins' hours and how she is to be paid is going to be up to the sheriff.

Ms. Marilyn Hollie – Ms. Hollie addressed the board regarding the animal shelter. She stated that the issues with the shelter for the past year have not been about the animals. Ms. Hollie related that her veterinarian had received an email bashing her and stated it was hard to continue to focus on the animals when that kind of stuff happens. She expressed concern that the employees were not consulted about letting the group back into the shelter and the alleged constant harassment of volunteers and employees. Ms. Hobbs stated that Sheriff Millirons was in charge of the shelter and asked if she or any employees had brought the issues to his attention so he can deal with it. Ms. Hollie stated it was just her against an organization, so what could she do about it. There was also some discussion regarding spay/neuter vouchers and all the work that Ms. Hollie had done to help the animals in the county. Sheriff Millirons and Mr. Williams expressed appreciation for all the hard work that Ms. Hollie had done for the shelter and the animals. Ms. Hobbs reiterated that the sheriff is in charge and would be authorizing individuals to come help at the shelter. Mr. Williams stated the sheriff would be setting the rules and there will be no problems if everyone follows them. Members encouraged Ms. Hollie to continue to volunteer at the shelter.

TERM ENGINEERING SERVICES RECOMMENDATION

Mr. Kevin Belcher presented a recommendation for engineering term services. He related that two proposals were submitted, one being Pentree/Thrasher Engineering and the other being Thompson & Litton. The recommendation from the interview committee was for further negotiations and contract development with Thompson & Litton.

Mr. Williams moved to approve the recommendation for engineering term services with Thompson and Litton as presented by Mr. Belcher. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

DRY HYDRANT LOCATIONS

Mr. Kevin Belcher related that there had been some conversation regarding the installation of more dry hydrants for emergency fire protection throughout the county. He stated that Mr. Williams had given him some locations and asked that other members provide locations as well. Mr. Belcher related that the application cost would be the same for multiple sites. Ms. Hobbs asked where the money comes from to pay for the hydrants. Mr. Belcher stated the hydrants cost \$200 to \$300 each and scrap materials were being used to keep the cost as low as possible. Mr. Williams stated he had received calls from residents where the others had been installed on Big Stony thanking the Board for the hydrants, which had reduced the cost of their homeowners insurance. There was some discussion regarding potential installation sites. Ms. Hobbs stated that each member submitting a location should get permission from the property owner(s) if needed.

Mr. Williams moved to move forward with the dry hydrant project with the utilization of public safety funds. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PERMIT

Ms. Hobbs asked if this permit pertains to the dry hydrants. Mr. Belcher stated it did. Ms. Hobbs stated that nothing would be done with this permit until all dry hydrant locations had been submitted and selected.

PROPOSED RATE INCREASES

Mr. McKlarney presented information to the members regarding the proposed rate increases. He related that there will need to be an advertisement and public hearing if members move forward with the changes.

Mr. Williams moved to advertise for a public hearing for rate increases for the January recess meeting. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS RESOLUTION

Mr. McKlarney presented a request from the Giles County Youth Adult Partnership for proclamation of healthy relationship awareness month.

Mr. McCoy moved to approve the proclamation of Healthy Relationship Awareness Month as presented. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

NARROWS ATHLETIC FUND REQUEST

Mr. Dunn had received a request from the Narrows Athletic Fund for surplus equipment from the Giles County Wellness Center. Ms. Hobbs thought the request should be put on hold until the rate increases were decided. Mr. McKlarney related that purchase of new equipment had been approved at a previous meeting and was on order. Mr. Dunn related that the group was mostly interested in the dumbbells.

Mr. Williams moved to approve the request of the Narrows Athletic Fund for surplus equipment from the Giles County Wellness Center. Second by Mr. McCoy. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Baker moved to appoint Mr. Richard Chidester to the New River Valley Regional Jail Authority. Second by Mr. Dunn. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

Mr. Williams moved to reappoint Mr. Claude Wimmer to the Giles County Social Services Board. Second by Mr. Dunn. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

Mr. Baker moved to reappoint Ms. Barbara Hobbs to the Giles County Social Services Board. Second by Mr. Dunn. Approved (4-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker. Abstaining: Ms. Hobbs.

Mr. Baker moved to reappoint Mr. Kevin Belcher to the Fairview Home Board. Second by Mr. Dunn. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

Mr. McCoy moved to reappoint Mr. Paul Baker to the New River-Highlands RC&D. Second by Mr. Dunn. Approved (4-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy. Abstaining: Mr. Baker.

PAYMENT OF WARRANTS

Mr. Baker moved to appropriate \$632,910.51 for payment of warrants dated December 19, 2013. Second by Mr. McCoy. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

Mr. Baker moved to appropriate \$541,154.25 for payment of warrants dated January 8, 2014. Second by Mr. McCoy. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

PEMBROKE CLEAN-UP

Mr. Williams related that the Town of Pembroke is having a clean-up in the dry creek bed where logs and debris has gotten left behind by previous storms. He requested that members consider helping with that clean-up. He stated that the sheriff could use the inmates for some of the brush cutting there and, if allowed, the county could do some backhoe work. He stated that a permit is required if a backhoe is going to be used but it could be applied for at the same time as the dry hydrants. He stated that part of it is where the old social services building is located and the county should at least do some cleanup at that spot. Mr. Williams also stated that the project needs to be done to try to help keep the culvert from stopping up again and water being in the road on Route 460. He asked to allow Mr. Belcher to look into a permit and cost. Mr. McKlarney related that he had met with Mayor Stump and work is in process to help alleviate the issue. There was some discussion regarding the work that needs to be done along that area, what work the town is doing on it, and what the requirements could be to perform the work. Mr. McKlarney suggested staff take a look at it. Members were in agreement to look into the work and cost.

ALPINE VILLAGE WATER

Mr. Williams related that he had three residents willing to hook up to the county water in the Alpine Village area, which are willing to pay to have it run. Mr. Belcher reported that it would take a two-inch line with no other connections to be allowed. He also reported that there

could be right of way issues and provided an estimated cost of \$14,200 for project completion including staff time. Ms. Hobbs stated that donating half the staff time would be comparable to what has been done in the past for other locations. Mr. McCoy related that would bring the price down to \$10,950. All members were in agreement to take the cost back to the residents.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. McCoy moved to go into Executive Session as permitted by Virginia Code 2.2-3711, A(7) Legal, and A(30) contracts. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

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 by roll call vote – Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

RATE INCREASE PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. McCoy moved change the public hearing for the rate increases to the recess meeting in February. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. McCoy moved to allow Mr. Richard Chidester to proceed with legal as discussed in executive session. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

Mr. Baker moved to advertise for a public hearing during the January recess meeting for the transfer of the Pembroke Convenience Center to the PSA. Second by Mr. McCoy. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Dunn, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker.

Ms. Hobbs asked members to complete the statement of economic interest form and get it to the administrative office within the next few days if they have not done so.

ROUTE 460 CORRIDOR WATER

Mr. Belcher related that bids had gone out for the section of water line on Route 460 between Wheatland and Patrick Enterprises for materials with the apparent low bidder being Consolidated Pipe at \$149,757. Mr. Williams stated replacement of the line was not needed since there had been no problems with it. Mr. Belcher stated the existing line is 30 years old but there has been no water loss that can be determined. He stated that this was the only section that could be completed next. Mr. Williams stated the county already has an agreement in place with the town so the town section could be done. Mr. McCoy stated they have not agreed to the cost. Mr. McCoy asked if the new ten-inch line is what the plans call

for. Mr. Belcher stated the plans do call for a ten-inch line. Mr. McCoy stated he did not understand why that should be removed from the plans. There was some discussion regarding needs now and in the future. Ms. Hobbs was concerned that the change would cause the project to have to go back to the Health Department for approval. Mr. Williams asked that Mr. Belcher go back to the engineers to see if leaving the existing eight-inch line would cause problems. Members were in agreement for Mr. Belcher to check on the change in design with the engineering firm and authorized Mr. McKlarney to approve the bids if needed.

No further business was introduced. Ms. Hobbs adjourned the meeting until the recess meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 23, 2014, in the General District Courtroom.

APPROVED:

Chairperson

ATTEST:

Clerk