

At the recess meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors held on Thursday, June 21, 2018, at 6:30 PM, in the Giles County Administration Office, 315 North Main Street, Pearisburg, the following were present unless noted absent:

Jeff Morris	Chair (Central District)
Richard McCoy	Vice-Chair (At-Large Supervisor)
Larry Jay Williams	Eastern District
John C. Lawson, Jr.	Western District
Paul "Chappy" Baker	At-Large Supervisor
Chris McKlarney	County Administrator
Catherine Ballard	Finance Director
Richard Chidester	County Attorney
Missy Bray	Board Secretary

CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION

Mr. Morris called the meeting to order, and Mr. McKlarney offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Baker motioned to approve the June 6, 2018, minutes as presented. Mr. McCoy seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Morris, and Mr. Williams

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Lester Sears - Mr. Sears expressed concern regarding the proposed rate increase for water and sewer by the Town of Rich Creek for out of town customers. He related he uses a minimum amount and pays \$74.00 per month and the town is going to raise the rates again due to the PSA increase. Mr. Sears inquired why that cost is always passed off to residents and related there are many in the Midway area on a fixed income. He requested the county take over the water and sewer in the Midway area and indicated the citizens would write a letter or get a petition if needed.

Mr. Williams explained the PSA had increased rates by 30 cents, which would be less than one dollar for a minimum bill. He related it seems all towns want to pass the cost on to the out of town customers and there was not a lot the Board could do when the town owns the lines.

Mr. Sears related the town had paid off the bond for the water lines too early and questioned the legality of ownership. He indicated water rates raised in town \$5.00 but raised \$25.00 for the out of town customers. Mr. Williams stated the Board could write a letter asking the town to justify the increase.

Mr. Baker made a motion to send a letter from the Board to the Town of Rich Creek on behalf of the Wayside residents. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Morris, and Mr. Williams

Mr. Robert Mullins – Mr. Mullins gave the background history of the water system in the Wayside area, including information on negotiations with Peterstown and a pumping station versus a flow meter. He indicated the town staff would not answer any questions he asked of them. Mr. Mullins requested the county take over the water and sewer service in the Midway area.

NEW BUSINESS

VDOT BRUSH CUTTING

Mr. McCoy requested Mr. Reed check on brush cutting on Routes 669, 667 and 670.

PAYMENT OF WARRANTS

Mr. Baker motioned to approve warrants in the amount of \$1,099,954.30. Mr. McCoy seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Morris and Mr. Williams

SCHOOL BOARD APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. Baker motioned to approve \$2,369,951.67 for July 2018 School Board Appropriations, and Mr. McCoy seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Morris and Mr. Williams

SOCIAL SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS

Members discussed the no appropriations being requested from Social Services for the second consecutive month. Mr. McCoy related he would like to see what has actually been expended.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. McKlarney announced notice had been received from the USDA for approval of a grant for the Ag Lab in the amount of \$57,157. He also related a victim-witness grant had been received in the amount of \$200,000.

APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Baker made a motion to reappoint Mr. Ricky McCoy to the Giles County Public Service Authority. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Morris, and Mr. Williams; Abstaining: Mr. McCoy

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. McCoy motioned to go into executive session as permitted by Virginia Code 2.2-3711 A (1) Personnel and (7) Legal Counsel. Mr. Baker seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows:

Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Morris and Mr. Williams

Mr. McCoy motioned to return to open session and he certified that in the closed session just concluded, nothing was discussed except the matter or matters (1) specifically identified in the motion to convene in closed session and (2) lawfully permitted to be discussed under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information act cited in that motion. Mr. Baker seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows:

Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Morris and Mr. Williams

PUBLIC HEARINGS

GILES COUNTY FY 2018-19 BUDGET

Mr. Morris opened the public hearing. Mr. McKlarney related the public hearing was being held pursuant to Section 15.2-2506 of the Code of Virginia and invited the public to make comments or questions during the presentation. He presented information on the advertised Fiscal Year 2018-2019 budget. Mr. McKlarney outlined revenues and expenditures and a budget change summary. He noted a decrease in PILT funding to the schools.

Ms. Kristen Corboy questioned the reason behind the reduction in PILT funding. Mr. McKlarney explained it was a congressional decision but was unsure of the exact date of the change. Members related the Forest Service continues to cut and sell the timber but are no longer taking care of the forest service access roads. Ms. Corboy inquired what could be done to increase the funds. Members suggested citizens contact their Congressmen and Senators.

Mr. McKlarney indicated the general fund transfer would be \$534,443 with a level funded budget and the budget did not include any pay increases to employees. He provided information regarding the existing tax rates and outlined the change made to the machinery and tool tax as well as a tax rate comparison with other area jurisdictions. Mr. McKlarney explained counties use various types of assessment methods and related Giles County uses a percentage of valuation on machinery and tools compared to a depreciation method. He showed the history of school funding from 2009 to 2017 noting a \$2.3 million decrease in state funding and an increase for this coming year

from the county in the amount of \$127,000 for a funding match. Mr. McKlarney provided information on the funding of various area school systems as well as the impacts of increases in costs to the county. He related the average natural growth for county revenue is 1.24 percent, which equates to approximately \$196,000 in new revenue. He also noted a one percent pay increase for employees costs the county approximately \$180,000.

Mr. McKlarney indicated the state budget had been carefully worded with stipulations regarding a three percent pay increase in 2019 and related the state increase does not cover all employees at the schools with the county left to cover the other employees. He provided information on the number of county and school employees as well as average salaries. Mr. McKlarney closed by relating what is being done to cut costs and save money throughout the county.

Public Comments

Ms. Crystal Ramos-McCall – Ms. McCall expressed concerns regarding teacher pay and insurance relating the schools had lost teachers including one that day. She related teachers spend their own money of items for the students and classrooms and indicated teachers work on average 50 to 60 hours a week between school time and working on school items at home. Ms. McCall stated teacher pay is no longer meeting the need of the teacher to put food on the table and related that many are unable to insure their spouse or children. She indicated, although teachers are hurting, the support workers such as aids, cafeteria workers and bus drivers are hurting even more.

Ms. Kristen Corboy - Ms. Corboy expressed concerns with inadequate funding of schools, health insurance costs, and losing teachers to other localities. She shared part of her family history and how she came to teaching and related the importance of education to the economic success of the area.

Ms. Tracy Ferguson – Ms. Ferguson expressed concern regarding teacher pay and insurance cost and conveyed information regarding teacher sacrifice to the school system and community. She related the school system is losing teachers due to these issues and indicated the county would begin to incur the loss and feel the effects. Ms. Ferguson stated the schools should be held in high esteem and teachers should be shown how they are valued for all their sacrifice.

Ms. Corboy inquired about the state insurance option. Mr. McKlarney explained the legislation to allow for localities to be included in the state insurance plan had died in committee. Ms. Corboy inquired which part of the state the members of the committee represented, and Mr. Chidester related he did not think they were exclusively from northern Virginia. Ms. Corboy related information regarding the needs of the teachers. Discussion surrounded what could be done at the local level by educators and localities to get the message to the state that something needed to change. Conversation included the state rainy day fund and the need to use those funds for teacher pay. Mr. McKlarney provided information on the compensation committee indicating the committee was working on a plan to try to fix some of the issues, but it could not be

fixed with local tax money alone. He also related the county is a member of the Virginia Association of Counties, which makes efforts on behalf of the localities in the legislative arena.

Mr. McCoy indicated every place where education has been successful had a massive outcry at the state level. He related educators could not strike but could come together to make their voices heard. Ms. Corboy requested a statement be made to media outlets. There was discussion regarding a regional GEA group being headed by Alleghany County as well as a meal tax to increase revenue, where the state requires a referendum from smaller counties. Mr. Baker related the county had attempted to put in a meal tax in the past, but it was voted down.

Mr. Williams thanked the school staff for attending the meeting and expressed his support and appreciation of their hard work. Mr. Morris asked for any other questions or comments. Hearing none, he closed the budget public hearing.

GILES COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE - 2018

Mr. Morris opened the public hearing. Mr. John Ross related the Planning Commission had held a public hearing regarding the comprehensive plan update and had recommended approval. He related he had received a comment back from VDOT indicating the plan was consistent with their VTrans submission. He had received no additional comments.

Mr. Morris asked for any further questions or comments. Hearing none, he closed the public hearing.

Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the Giles County Comprehensive Plan Update. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Morris and Mr. Williams

BUDGET SUPPLEMENTS

Ms. Catherine Ballard presented budget supplements for Fiscal Year 2018 in the amount of \$302,007. A copy of the supplements is attached at the end of these minutes.

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the budget supplements as presented in the amount of \$302,007. Mr. Baker seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Morris and Mr. Williams

FISCAL YEAR CLOSE OUT SESSION

Mr. McCoy made a motion to hold a fiscal year close out session on Friday, June 29, 2018, beginning at 6:00 PM. Mr. Baker seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Morris, and Mr. Williams

EATON WELLNESS TRAILS

Mr. Williams noted letters received from ACCE students who were in attendance at the dedication ceremony for the Giles Wellness Trail System in honor of Gary Eaton.

ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Friday, June 29, 2018, at 6:00 PM. The session will be held at the Giles County Administration Office located at 315 North Main Street, Pearisburg.

APPROVED:

Chair**ATTEST:**

Clerk

JUNE 21, 2018 BOARD MEETING

BUDGET SUPPLEMENTS

ACCOUNT CODE	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION	OFF SETTING REVENUE
310-94014-8901	200,000.00	Gov Opt - INTERSTATE	Yes
100-11010-3000	3,750.00	Actuarial Report	No
100-31721-1137	950.00	TDO Transport	Yes
100-33100-3850	80,559.00	Regional Jail	No
100-91200-5900	16,748.00	Delta Dental	Yes

TOTAL SUPP 6/21 Meeting 302,007.00

TOTAL SUPPLEMENTS 5302,007

TOTAL OFF SETTING REVENUE 5217,698

GENERAL FUND TRANSFER 584,309