

At the recess meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors held on Thursday, May 16, 2019, 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)
Larry Jay Williams	Vice-Chair (Eastern District)
Paul "Chappy" Baker	At-Large Supervisor - Absent
John C. Lawson, Jr.	Western District
Richard McCoy	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. Williams motioned to approve the May 1, 2019, minutes as presented. Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Morris, and Mr. Williams; Absent: Mr. Baker***

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Ms. Linda Fisher** – Ms. Fisher stated she had lived her entire life in Giles County and worked at Poly Scientific for 35 years. She indicated her son also lives in Giles County and worked at Volvo until an accident where he broke his leg in three places and almost cut off his foot resulting in multiple surgeries. He has since been in and out of rehab, and his apartment burned while in rehab. Ms. Fisher stated she and others have been working since March to find suitable housing for him, noting his income had made him ineligible for housing assistance. She indicated the county had offered to place him at the Hope House, but he had refused due to being told it was a place for people with addiction issues. Ms. Fisher asked that the county look at obtaining accessible, affordable, available housing for the working people, and requested members meet with Delegate Chris Hurst to find a solution and funding for the housing crisis.

**Ms. Tina King** - Ms. King presented information on the aging population of Giles County, noting preparation is needed in order to make our communities places where the aging can live well. She noted the number of people aged 65 and older would double by the year 2030, with disabled individuals under the age of 65 at an estimated 13 percent in Giles County. Ms. King reported that communities supporting the needs of its aging population would reap the benefits including less demand on social and

community services. She advised homes will need significant upgrades and repairs to remain habitable for the aging population, adding the Regional Commission is working on a housing study in which Giles County is participating. Ms. King noted Giles County has been proactive by working with developers to find new and repurposed housing, some that are fully accessible and commended the county for its efforts.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **DHCD BROADBAND GRANT**

Mr. John Ross presented an agreement with the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) for Virginia Telecommunication Initiative grant in the amount of \$589,444 for the increase of broadband services to underserved portions of the county. He related the language of the agreement had been reviewed and approved by both DHCD and Mr. Chidester.

***Mr. Williams motioned to approve the DHCD grant agreement as presented. Mr. McCoy seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Morris, and Mr. Williams; Absent: Mr. Baker***

Mr. Ross presented an agreement between Giles County and Gigabeam, which was selected as the broadband provider for the service expansion during the RFP process. He indicated the agreement had been reviewed and approved by DHCD and Mr. Chidester. Mr. Williams inquired if staff had met with Pembroke Telephone. Mr. Ross advised he is still working on the ARC grant.

***Mr. Williams motioned to approve the Gigabeam agreement as presented. Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Morris, and Mr. Williams; Absent: Mr. Baker***

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **RAVE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM**

Mr. McKlarney informed members of a new emergency alert system to be implemented with Rave to replace Code Red. He indicated the change was made upon recommendation from the 911 system operations and allows for updates from multiple platforms, and alerts will be automatically posted to social media sites. Mr. McKlarney reported a cost savings with the new system; however, there could be some complaints when people are asked to sign up for alerts again. He stated there were several ACCE students working on keying in as much data as possible.

## **PAYMENT OF WARRANTS**

***Mr. McCoy motioned to approve warrants in the amount of \$1,261,792.31. Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Morris, and Mr. Williams; Absent: Mr. Baker***

## **SCHOOL BOARD APPROPRIATIONS**

***Mr. Lawson motioned to approve \$2,369,951.67 for June 2019 School Board Appropriations, and Mr. McCoy seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Morris, and Mr. Williams; Absent: Mr. Baker***

## **SOCIAL SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS**

***Mr. Williams motioned to approve \$100,000 for Social Services for June 2019. Mr. McCoy seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Morris, and Mr. Williams; Absent: Mr. Baker***

## **FOSTER FAMILIES**

Mr. Williams reported there were ten Giles County families to start training in May to become foster families. Members noted a vast improvement in that number.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

***Mr. McCoy motioned to go into executive session as permitted by Virginia Code 2.2-3711 A (7) Legal Counsel, and (30) Contracts. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 by roll call vote as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Morris and Mr. Williams; Absent: Mr. Baker***

***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. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 by roll call vote as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Morris and Mr. Williams; Absent: Mr. Baker***

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### **CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT – K. ST. CLAIR-NIPPERT**

Mr. Morris opened the public hearing, and Mr. Pitzer called the Planning Commission to order. The following Planning Commission members were in attendance: Mr. Pitzer, Mr. R. Browning, Mr. Snider, Mr. Berkman and Mr. Taylor.

Mr. Ross stated the purpose of the public hearing is for a request for the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit pursuant to Sections 802.04 and 604.03-4 of the Giles County Zoning Ordinance to allow for a private storage building, specifically to allow the conversion of an existing church building into a single family dwelling and private storage building. The parcels of land associated with this request are owned by the Blacksburg Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses, is identified specifically as tax parcel 24-72A1, and is located at 700 Old Virginia Avenue in Narrows, Virginia. The property is in the R-1 (Residential Limited) Zoning District. He noted he had received no comments regarding the request.

Mr. Lawson inquired if the dwelling would be for rental or for sale. Ms. Nippert informed members it would be a rental.

With no further questions or comments, Mr. Morris closed the public hearing and sent the item back to the Planning Commission for recommendation. Mr. Pitzer adjourned the Commission.

### **BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING**

Mr. McKlarney advised members the public hearing for the tax rates and budget had been set for May 23, 2019, with the with the meeting starting at 6:30 PM and public hearing to begin at 7:00 PM.

### **VDOT ISSUES**

Mr. Williams reported AEP had put down gravel on Hoot Owl Church Road when they were installing the new substation there and asked if the chip and tar could be put back. He inquired if the county had received notice of a railroad crossing closure on Gravely Hill Road. Mr. McKlarney stated the county had received no notice. Mr. Williams stated the old Staffordsville bridge had been taken down to the beams and inquired if it could be made into a pedestrian bridge. He also inquired about the status of the bridge at Glen Alton. Mr. McKlarney reported there had been one meeting between the forest service and VDOT and another scheduled, but he had not heard anything additional about the issue.

**SAM MOORE**

Mr. McKlarney informed members Mr. Sam Moore had passed away earlier in the week.

**ADJOURN**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Thursday, May 23, 2019, at 6:30 PM. The meeting will be held at the Giles County Administration Office located at 315 North Main Street, Pearisburg.

**APPROVED:**

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**Chair**

**ATTEST:**

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**Clerk**