

At the recess meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors held on Thursday, May 21, 2020, at 6:30 PM, in the Giles County Administration Office, 315 North Main Street, Pearisburg, the following were present unless noted absent:

Richard McCoy	Chair (At-Large Supervisor)
John C. Lawson, Jr.	Vice-Chair (Western District)
Jeff Morris	Central District
Perry Martin	Eastern 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. McCoy 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 May 6, 2020, minutes as presented. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Martin and Mr. Morris

OLD BUSINESS

BUDGET DISCUSSION

Mr. McKlarney reported there would need to be a work session for the county budget, and the School Board had sent two options; one for level funding and one with an approximate \$185,000 increase, neither of which include potential savings from retirements. He stated there are a lot of unknowns at this point and advised there will be an estimated 20 percent reduction in sales tax revenues. Mr. McKlarney noted a \$415,000 reduction in state funding and the awarding of \$385,000 in CARES Act funding for schools. Members discussed options. Mr. Lawson inquired about lottery funds. Mr. McCoy advised those are estimated at 85 percent, and he inquired if the \$415,000 reduction included where the student count was down by 62. Mr. McKlarney related it did not include reduced student numbers.

CARES ACT

Mr. McKlarney related the county was receiving \$1,458,000 in CARES Act funds, which must be equitably distributed between the county and towns. He advised the funds could not be used for lost revenues, and it could only be used for COVID response

items. Members discussed the possibility of broadband expansion to allow more students access to distance learning.

COVID PROGRAMS UPDATE

Mr. McKlarney reported there had been one additional COVID case in the county since the last meeting, and the school feeding program had served 129,990 meals. He advised voter registration was gearing up for early and absentee voting and applications had been submitted for the NRV Business Continuity Team to GOVA and DHCD. Mr. McKlarney reported there will be flooding threats for the next few days and provided numbers for the river and creeks. He indicated the main concern would be the crest height can vary a couple of feet from the predictions.

Mr. McKlarney related there had been 2,210 senior check calls made and related an incident where one of the seniors said she would like to have a home cooked meal. Ms. Anna Welch, from the Building Department, prepared a meal and took it to her and stayed to eat dinner with her. He reported the gift card program had 839 customers bringing in \$113,850 and outlined current unemployment numbers across the region.

OFFICE REOPENING

Mr. McKlarney requested authority to open up county offices to the public next Tuesday. He related the offices have been serving the public the entire time during the pandemic, but this would allow customers back into the buildings. Mr. McKlarney stated this would not impact constitutional offices, courts or voter registration.

Mr. Morris made a motion to reopen the county offices to the public beginning Tuesday, May 26, 2020. Mr. Baker seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris

EPA SCHOOL BUS GRANT

Mr. McKlarney related the EPA school bus grant received by the schools, which will match up to \$20,000 on a school bus with the requirement to crush the old bus that is being replaced. He advised match on the grant would be \$400,000, and the EPA will not extend the grant. Members discussed options with the consensus the county could not come up with the match at this time.

SURPLUS VEHICLES

Mr. McKlarney reported the Town of Pembroke and a fire department requested surplus vehicles from the Sheriff's Office and advised the Sheriff's Office has not yet told which vehicles they will surplus to fill the need.

Mr. Baker motioned to approve the surplus of vehicles as designated by the Sheriff's Office and subsequent donation to first responder agencies in the county. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris

PAYMENT OF WARRANTS

Mr. Baker motioned to approve warrants in the amount of \$867,151.19. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris

SCHOOL BOARD APPROPRIATIONS

Members discussed the appropriation request sent from the School Board with carryover request items previously approved.

Mr. Baker motioned to approve \$2,512,233.77 for June 2020 School Board Appropriations excluding the USDA grant refund, and Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris

SOCIAL SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. Morris motioned to approve \$140,000 for Social Services for June 2020. Mr. Baker seconded the motion. The motion approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris

APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Morris made a motion to reappoint Mr. Ricky McCoy to the New River Valley Criminal Justice Training Academy. Mr. Baker seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin and Mr. Morris; Abstaining: Mr. McCoy

Mr. Baker made a motion to appoint Mr. Colin Munsey to the Public Service Authority as a county representative to replace Mr. Butch Mullins. Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris

BUDGET WORK SESSION

Mr. Morris made a motion to hold a budget work session June 3, 2020, beginning at 1:00 PM. Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Morris motioned to go into executive session as permitted by Virginia Code 2.2-3711 A (30) Contracts. Mr. Baker seconded the motion. The motion was approved by rollcall vote approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris

Mr. Morris 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 by rollcall vote approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris

PUBLIC HEARINGS

SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

Mr. McCoy opened the public hearing. Mr. John Ross related the purpose of the public hearing was to approve the sale of property owned by the County situated at 309 N. Main Street, Pearisburg, Virginia, containing a Quonset hut building and 0.85 acres more or less, subject to a 40 foot wide ingress/egress easement to be retained by the county for access to the parking area. He advised the proposed sale will be pursuant to a lease purchase agreement for a term of one year with a total purchase price of \$130,000. Mr. Ross stated he had received no questions or comments regarding the sale.

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

PROPOSED 2020 TAX RATES

Mr. McCoy opened the public hearing. Mr. McKlarney related information on the reassessment and explained it had an average 4.05 percent increase county wide, with increases varying greatly between areas. He advised for the county to be at net zero, members would need to consider a two cent decrease in real estate taxes for 2020. Mr. McKlarney outlined the differences between districts in regard to the reassessment, adding it would be impossible to adjust rates for each district. Mr. McCoy clarified the two-cent decrease would only be on the real estate, and Mr. McKlarney related all others would stay the same. Mr. McCoy asked for any questions or comments. Hearing none, he closed the public hearing. A copy of the rates is attached at the end of these minutes.

Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the 2020 Tax Rate Ordinance with a two-cent decrease on real estate tax and all other rates remaining the same. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris

SET TAX DEADLINE

Mr. Baker made a motion to set the 2020 tax deadline to June 30, 2020, with a 10 percent penalty on any unpaid balance after the deadline and with a potential to extend the deadline in June. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris

SUPPLEMENTS

Ms. Catherine Ballard presented supplements to members, relating all have offsetting revenues. A copy of these supplements is attached at the end of these minutes.

Mr. Baker made a motion to approve FY 2020 supplements in the amount of \$34,284.10. Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris

MEETINGS

Mr. McCoy inquired if other meetings will start back in person with the office reopening on Tuesday. Mr. McKlarney stated committees will be notified and added employees do not count in the number of restrictions under the new Governor's Executive Order.

Mr. Chidester related Mr. Chris Neice had requested to set up a fire department meeting next week for training on the air packs they had received.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. McKlarney announced a \$70,000 grant had been received for the victim witness program, and the Treasurer's Office is now allowing the public in the office for DMV transactions.

ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 3, 2020, with a work session beginning at 1:00 PM and the regular meeting beginning at 3:00 PM. The meeting will be held at the Giles County Administration Office located at 315 North Main Street, Pearisburg.

APPROVED:

Chair

ATTEST:

Clerk

PROPOSED 2020 TAX RATES

TAX	TAX RATE
Real Estate	65¢ per \$100
Motor Vehicles	\$2.02 per \$100
Personal Property	\$2.02 per \$100
Machinery and Tools	\$2.02 per \$100
Transport Vehicles over 10,000 lbs. (Interstate Commerce)	\$1.12 per \$100
Merchants Capital	83¢ per \$100
Public Service Levy	65¢ per \$100
Mobile Home Levy	65¢ per \$100
Qualified Disabled Vet. Vehicle	.005¢ per \$100
Motor Vehicle Decal Fee	\$20 per Vehicle

**BUDGET SUPPLEMENTS
MAY 21, 2020 BOARD MEETING**

CODE	AMOUNT	OFF SETTING REVENUE	
100-31200-1600	\$10,463.13	Yes	Ball Game Security
100-21600-2510	\$10,934.50	Yes	Cir Court filing cabinets Grants
100-31200-3304	\$11,068.79	Yes	Sherif Dept Vehicle Insurance Reimb
100-31200-6020	\$1,817.68	yes	Drug Task Force
TOTAL	\$34,284.10		