

At the recess meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors held on Thursday, June 18, 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 - Absent
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. Morris motioned to approve the May 21, 2020, minutes as presented. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker***

***Mr. Morris motioned to approve the June 3, 2020, minutes as presented. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker***

### CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Ms. Angie Higginbotham stated there would be two more weeks until the end of the fiscal year and related approximately \$3 million in tax bills had been sent out. She advised \$1,516,000 had been collected, and \$881,000 would be coming from escrow accounts. Ms. Higginbotham provided information on personal property taxes and DMV stops not being as effective due to extensions on renewing tags. She indicated she held off on wage liens due to the pandemic situation, and communication is being made to set up payment arrangements. Ms. Higginbotham advised the DMV mobile unit would not come in on the bus due to pandemic limitations, but DMV would be using the Pearisburg Community Center for a DMV Connect site on July 13<sup>th</sup> and July 14<sup>th</sup>. She informed members of current DMV office openings and the availability of appointments, adding staff was helping those without computers to book needed appointments. Ms. Higginbotham related she hopes the DMV will see the need with the DMV Connect site and would return. She indicated her office would be open for the Juneteenth holiday declared by the Governor due to the short notice and the need to be open for payment of taxes, utility payments and DMV related items.

## OLD BUSINESS

### BOARD UPDATE

Mr. McKlarney reported he had received VDOT approval for the Rich Creek crossover, and there would be approximately 45 days before design review was complete. He related the school feeding program had served 185,000 meals to date, and he had been working with AEP, Gigabeam, and Verizon Mobile to determine broadband capabilities in the area for schools, adding he had gotten some good proposals. Mr. McKlarney related the Gigabeam broadband project was moving along, and some decisions would need to be made quickly. He reported 2,855 senior check calls, and related people miss getting the calls if one is missed. Mr. McKlarney stated the gift card program was up to \$136,560, which will be start being phased down soon. He outlined unemployment claims and indicated the claims continue to drop. Mr. McKlarney reported Mountain Lake is fully booked with a lot of people wanting to visit, and the final section of the Eggleston boat landing had been poured with paving to start soon.

## NEW BUSINESS

### SURPLUS VEHICLES

Mr. McKlarney requested to surplus a 2004 Ford Sport Trac, vehicle number 10702.

***Mr. Morris made a motion to approve the surplus of vehicle number 10702. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker***

### TAX RESOLUTION

Mr. McKlarney presented a resolution to push the penalties and interest out to June 28, 2020 on past due taxes. A copy of the resolution is attached at the end of these minutes.

***Mr. Lawson motioned to approve the resolution to provide relief to Giles County taxpayers as presented. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker***

### CHILDREN AT PLAY SIGNS

***Mr. Martin made a motion to approve two children at play signs installed on Hilltop Road. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker***

## PAYMENT OF WARRANTS

***Mr. Morris motioned to approve warrants in the amount of \$1,515,364.30. Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker***

## SCHOOL BOARD APPROPRIATIONS

Members discussed the appropriation request sent from the School Board for July 2020.

***Mr. Morris made a motion to table the request for July 2020 school appropriations until members receive more figures from the schools, and Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker***

## SOCIAL SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS

***Mr. Lawson motioned to approve \$140,000 for Social Services for July 2020. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. The motion approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker***

## APPOINTMENTS

***Mr. McCoy made a motion to appoint Ms. Kelly Patton to the New River Community Action Board. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker***

***Mr. Morris made a motion to reappoint Mr. Ricky McCoy to the Giles County PSA as the Board representative. Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was approved 3-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker; Abstaining: Mr. McCoy***

***Mr. Lawson made a motion to reappoint Mr. Jason Buckland and Ms. Kristie Williams to the New River Valley Community Service Board contingent upon acceptance. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker***

***Mr. Morris made a motion to reappoint Ms. Cora Gnegy to the Ninth District Development Financing Board. Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker***

***Mr. Morris made a motion to reappoint Mr. John Mills to the Total Action for Progress IPR Board. Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker***

***Mr. Lawson made a motion to reappoint Mr. Chris McKlarney to the Virginia's First Regional Industrial Authority. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker***

## **VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION**

Mr. McKlarney related Mr. Jay Williams had brought an idea to him requesting some volunteers in the county he honored and recognized. He asked if members would allow him to put together a proposal and bring it back for consideration. Mr. McCoy stated it would be good to bring the volunteers to a meeting to be recognized. Members concurred.

***Mr. Lawson made a motion to approve recognition of volunteers in the community. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker***

## **RECESS**

Mr. McCoy called a recess until the start of the public hearings.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### **DHCD GRANT FUNDING APPLICATION FOR COVID-19 RELIEF EFFORTS**

Mr. McCoy opened the public hearing. Mr. McKlarney stated the public hearing was being held for the application process of DHCD in relation to funding for COVID-19 relief efforts, for which the county would act as fiscal agent. He summarized the plans for a Business Continuity Team with various members to work with businesses in the New River Valley regarding COVID issues and questions. Mr. McKlarney advised the team would be available to the businesses for requested testing, questions and in other capacities. He indicated \$100,000 had already been received on a grant, and the DHCD funding would require no match. Mr. McKlarney reported he had received no questions or comments.

Mr. McKlarney announced the county would also be applying for a Small Business Recovery Assistance grant through DHCD, which would be a jump start type program with up to \$15,000 in assistance per business throughout four counties. He advised the grant would also be COVID response funding.

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

### **COURTHOUSE SECURITY FEE ORDINANCE**

Mr. McCoy opened the public hearing. Mr. McKlarney presented a proposed rate increase from \$10.00 to \$20.00 to the courthouse security fee. He outlined security expenditures and advised the county is not even coming close to covering the security costs.

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

### **FY 2021 BUDGET**

Mr. McCoy opened the public hearing. Mr. McKlarney outlined the proposed Fiscal Year 2021 budget. He related there would be no subsidies required from the general fund, and it is unclear when the state and federal numbers would come in. Mr. McKlarney advised the sales tax for Fiscal Year 2020 was \$138,000, and school funding will be level according to the state. He indicated anyone with questions could contact him.

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

### **COURTROOM SECURITY ORDINANCE**

***Mr. Morris made a motion to approve the increase of the courtroom security fee from \$10.00 to \$20.00. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker***

A copy of the ordinance is attached at the end of these minutes.

### **SUPPLEMENTS**

Ms. Catherine Ballard presented budget supplements to members and summarized the items and explained the Ag Lab item was the county contribution. A copy of these supplements is attached at the end of these minutes.

***Mr. Morris made a motion to approve FY 2020 supplements in the amount of \$502,661.80. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker***

**ADJOURN**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Monday, June 29, 2020, beginning at 5:00 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**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF GILES COUNTY, VIRGINIA  
PROVIDING RELIEF TO GILES COUNTY TAXPAYERS BY REDUCING TO ZERO THE  
INTEREST AND PENALTIES ASSESSED ON FIRST HALF 2020 REAL ESTATE  
TAXES PAID BETWEEN JUNE 30, 2020 AND SEPTEMBER 28, 2020, PURSUANT  
TO SECTION 58.1-3916 OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA, 1950, AS AMENDED**

**WHEREAS**, on March 12, 2020, Governor Ralph Northam (the "Governor") declared a state of emergency in the Commonwealth of Virginia in response to the spread of COVID-19 (the "COVID-19 Pandemic") in the Commonwealth and declared the anticipated effects of COVID-19 to be a "disaster" within the meaning of Section 44-146.16 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended; and,

**WHEREAS**, Section 44-146.21 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, a county's Director of Emergency Management Services is authorized to declare a local emergency in response to a disaster such as the spread of COVID-19; and,

**WHEREAS**, by Executive Order 55, entered on March 31, 2020, the Governor ordered all non-essential businesses in the Commonwealth of Virginia to close and further restricted individual citizens from leaving their homes except for certain limited purposes; and,

**WHEREAS**, cases of COVID-19 have now been confirmed in Giles County and neighboring counties; and,

**WHEREAS**, in light of these circumstances, it was necessary and appropriate for the County's Director of Emergency Management Services to declare, on March 21, 2020, a local emergency in Giles County, Virginia without action by the Board of Supervisors, but subject to confirmation by the Board of Supervisors as required by statute; and,

**WHEREAS**, by resolution adopted by the Board of Supervisors March 21, 2020, the Board of Supervisors ratified and confirmed the Declaration of Local Emergency; and,

**WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 Pandemic and the resulting restrictions on businesses and individuals have had a catastrophic impact on the economy of Giles County; and,

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the economic downturn, many individuals in the Giles County are currently unemployed and many businesses presently have no or reduced income; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors recognizes the importance and essentiality of real estate tax revenues to the continuance and delivery of county services, operations, functions, and mandates; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors also recognizes that real estate tax payments due June 30 place an additional financial strain on individuals and businesses in Giles County who are already severely stressed by the economic ramifications of the COVID-19 Pandemic; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors desires to provide some measure of temporary relief to the County's taxpayers; and,

**WHEREAS**, Section 58.1-3916 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, grants local governing bodies the authority to set the rates at which penalties and interest are assessed on taxes not paid on the date due.

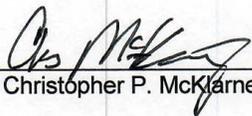
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Supervisors of Giles County, Virginia that the following Resolution is hereby adopted pursuant to Section 58.1-3916 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended:

1. Any person or business who fails to pay the installment of real estate taxes due on June 30, 2020, will incur a penalty of zero percent for that failure so long as such person or business pays such taxes on or before September 28, 2020. If real estate taxes first due on June 30, 2020 are not paid on or before September 28, 2020, such person or business shall, on September 29, 2020, incur a penalty of 10 percent of the tax past due, and such penalty will become part of the tax.
2. Interest shall be assessed at a rate of zero percent per year between June 30, 2020 and September 28, 2020, and ten percent thereafter, on past due real estate taxes that were due on September 29, 2020.

(nothing further on this page)

This Resolution shall take effect on June 18, 2020, the date of its adoption.

Member	Attendance	Vote
McCoy	PRESENT	YES
Lawson	PRESENT	YES
Baker	ABSENT	
Morris	PRESENT	YES
Martin	PRESENT	YES

Attest:   
Christopher P. McKarney, Clerk



**BUDGET SUPPLEMENTS  
JUNE 18, 2020 BOARD MEETING**

CODE	AMOUNT	OFF SETTING REVENUE	
100-32400-5658	\$170,451.08	Partial FEMA GRANT	Fire Dept Air Pack Grant
100-12410-5210	\$170.87	YES	
100-12310-5210	\$170.87	YES	
100-33201-6000	\$12,400.00	No	AG LAB
100-53600-5663	\$10,000.00	No	
100-81210-5681	\$9,468.98	Yes	Giles Thrive Program
100-43100-	\$300,000.00	Yes	1 of 4 for COVID Exp / CARES Money
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$502,661.80</b>		