

At the recess meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors held on Thursday, August 20, 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. Morris motioned to approve the August 5, 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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Howard Nippert – Mr. Nippert stated he was following up on the request for the Board to declare Giles a constitutional sanctuary. He read and provided a copy of a sample resolution to members. Mr. Nippert indicated localities across the state are going through other declarations against unconstitutional gun laws, and added there is no one part of the constitution that is more important than another. He advised the resolution would cover unconstitutional gun laws and more, and it is largely a reaffirmation to the citizens of the county. Mr. Nippert reported there would be a muster call this month for the Giles County Community Guard in Eggleston and provided information for anyone interested.

Mr. McCoy stated members would look over the drafted resolution and bring it back up at a later date.

OLD BUSINESS

COVID FUNDING

Mr. McKlarney asked that members consider causes or organizations that might need help with some COVID funding. He advised more solid numbers on expenditures

should be known soon, and he is hoping the Senate will consider extending the December 30th spending deadline. Mr. McCoy related some other localities are setting up a type of recovery grant for nonprofits, which are suffering due to the pandemic. He asked that staff take a look at those applications and process. Mr. McKlarney advised Floyd and Pulaski counties had both started the process, and he will take a look at them. Mr. Martin suggested using funds for the fire departments as well as childcare depending on how school goes. Mr. McKlarney related one childcare agency will be having 180 new slots opening up this week. Mr. McCoy inquired about encumbering a portion of the funds for a grant program. Mr. McKlarney explained the funds have to be dispersed by the end of December, and the legislation with that change has not been passed.

Mr. McKlarney presented information on the Business Continuity Team and the testing capabilities, adding how important it is to get tests back quickly to enable people to get back into the workforce. He advised the team is looking at setting up a 24/7 call center, with testing available around the clock, and he will bring more information back to members at the first meeting in September. Mr. McKlarney stated the funding for the team is now set up for a 12-month period with a large portion going toward testing equipment, adding they are trying to stay consistent on what they are going to do. He advised they are planning on funding to pay for the Regional Commission's services for the entire fiscal year as well, adding the funds would need to be expended by the end of the calendar year.

NEW BUSINESS

PROCLAMATION FOR OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

Mr. McKlarney presented a proclamation to recognize August 31, 2020, as Overdose Awareness Day. He related there had been a number of overdoses in the county recently and recommended approval.

Mr. Lawson made a motion to approve the proclamation for Overdose Awareness Day on August 31, 2020. 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

POPLAR HILL FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mr. McKlarney presented a request from the Poplar Hill Fire Department for support of the department operating a first responder unit in the Whitegate and Poplar Hill areas of the county. He advised it is difficult to serve that area from Pearisburg, noting response times at 40 minutes. Mr. McKlarney stated it would be a great help to the community. Members discussed options.

Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the writing a letter of support for the Poplar Hill Fire Department to operate a first responder unit. 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

PAYMENT OF WARRANTS

Mr. Baker motioned to approve a set of warrants in the amount of \$943,289.16. 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

Mr. Morris made a two-part motion to allocate adequate funding to the school system to cover personnel costs for September 2020, and to allocate the remainder of the School Board request contingent upon receipt of financial information previously requested. 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 \$155,000 for Social Services for September 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

APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Lawson motioned to appoint Mr. Jeff Morris to the Fairview Homes Board. Mr. Baker seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, and Mr. McCoy; Abstaining: Mr. Morris

Mr. Morris motioned to reappoint Mr. Jonathan Kidd to the Agricultural Advisory Committee. 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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Morris motioned to go into executive session as permitted by Virginia Code 2.2-3711, A (1) Personnel. Mr. Baker seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 by rollcall vote 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 5-0 by rollcall vote as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris

PUBLIC HEARING

JOINT HEARING WITH VDOT: PROPOSED SECONDARY SIX-YEAR PLAN FOR FY2020-21 THROUGH 2025-26 AND PROPOSED SECONDARY SYSTEM CONSTRUCTION BUDGET FOR FY2020-21

Mr. McCoy opened the joint public hearing with the Virginia Department of Transportation regarding the proposed secondary six-year plan for fiscal year 2020-21 through 2025-26. Mr. David Clarke presented a draft plan for discussion and comments, and explained the comments will be reviewed and a resolution would be needed at a later date. Mr. Clarke outlined the priorities on the list and noted the purpose of the hearing is to allow the residents an opportunity to comment on the proposed plan. He also outlined the funding estimates for the upcoming year, adding five percent of the funds could go on rural additions if requested. Mr. Clarke noted the only priority on the plan that could not be changed is Penvir Road, but changes could be made to numbers three, four and five.

Mr. Tony Carbaugh – Mr. Carbaugh related he lives on Hiram Jones Road and advised it is pretty dangerous. He reported incidents of car wrecks on the road with two-foot drop offs due to water erosion, and how there have been several people flip or tear the axle off of vehicles in the ditches. Mr. Carbaugh stated the bus comes on the road and noted a lot of traffic. He advised all the residents along the road he has spoken with are willing to provide right of way for the road to be fixed, and he indicated he uses his tractor after a heavy rain to fix the road enough to get out. Mr. Carbaugh related he is trying to get the road advanced on the plan due to safety and environmental concerns and asked that members take a hard look at it.

Mr. Morris inquired about the source of the majority of water. Mr. Carbaugh explained the water was mostly coming from the Guinea Mountain end of the road. Mr. Martin related he had traveled most of the roads in his district when preparing to be on the Board, and had found Hiram Jones Road to be unsafe. Mr. McCoy inquired if there was something that could be done to improve the road. Mr. Clarke stated he would take a look at it on the maintenance side, and related a resolution would need to be passed at some point for the plan. He asked that members let him know their preference at a later date, so he could develop the resolution. Mr. McCoy asked for any other questions or comments. Hearing none, he closed the public hearing.

Mr. McCoy advised he thinks the matter bears some discussion. Members discussed the plan order and funding, and Mr. Morris explained the process of how the plan has worked in the past, with each district taking a road in turn. Members discussed options for improving Hiram Jones Road and the proposed Prospect Dale Road project.

SKELTON CENTER

Mr. McCoy inquired if any other information had been sent on the Skelton Center. Mr. McKlarney reported he had received nothing additional.

ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 2, 2020, 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

**PROCLAMATION IN SUPPORT OF INTERNATIONAL
OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY**

***WHEREAS**, the Giles County Board of Supervisors does affirm and acknowledge the harm and hardship caused by drug overdose; and*

***WHEREAS**, we recognize the purpose of International Overdose Awareness Day as remembering loved ones lost to overdose and ending the stigma of drug-related deaths; and*

***WHEREAS**, we resolve to play our part in reducing the toll of overdose in our community, which claimed the lives of nearly 72,000 Americans in 2019 - together with countless more affected forever; and*

***WHEREAS**, we affirm that the people affected by overdose are our sons and daughters, our mothers and fathers, our brothers and sisters, and deserving of our love, compassion and support; and*

***THEREFORE**, I, Richard K. McCoy, Board Chair, do hereby proclaim August 31st, 2020 as Overdose Awareness Day in Giles County, Virginia.*



Chair

Attest:


