

At the regular meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors held on Wednesday, March 3, 2021, at 3:00 PM in the Giles County Administration Building located at 315 N. Main Street, Pearisburg, the following members were present unless noted absent.

Richard McCoy	Chair (At-Large Supervisor)
Paul "Chappy" Baker	Vice-Chair (At-Large Supervisor)
Jeff Morris	Central District
Perry Martin	Eastern District
John C. Lawson, Jr.	Western District
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 February 18, 2021, minutes as presented. 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

VDOT REPORT

Mr. David Clarke with VDOT gave an update on maintenance work in the county, which was mainly clean up from slides and weather issues and work done on gravel road and potholes. He noted the most recent slide on Route 460 and reported on a call between VDOT and towns as well as county staff to discuss traffic engineering and the processes. Mr. Clarke advised they talked about the issues at Pembroke. He indicated the problems with the fiber line installation was being looked at for problems and issues with procedures, and Steve Phillips was the person over the land use permits for the region. Mr. Clarke requested members set a date for the Six-Year Plan public hearing at the recess meeting in April.

Mr. Baker stated the issue on Penvir Road at the Albert residence had still not been fixed and reported potholes on Route 635, Route 460 East and West, as well as Cumberland Road. Mr. Morris reported an issue with Eaton's Chapel. Mr. Lawson expressed thanks for the work done with weather and the slides and inquired about a bus turn around that needs a sign. He also requested work done to the entrance of Penvir Road and inquired about the status of Skyview Lane. Mr. McKlarney related the environmental was in process and VDOT was supposed to be checking on the status.

Mr. Martin expressed thanks for the school bus stop sign at Mountain Lake Road and related students were crossing the road lower down on the road and would send the

address. He reported the flashing sign at Eastern Elementary was not working. Dr. Arbogast stated a work order had been put in to repair the sign. Mr. Martin inquired about Winding Way and the bridge in Newport. Mr. Clarke advised there was no update on Winding Way, but the foot bridge in Newport was close to being complete adding the structure is fine but a skid resistant coating needs put on the bridge. Mr. Martin related Brickyard Road needs worked and stone put down, and the end of Clover Hollow needs work as well. He expressed appreciation for the work done on Hiram Jones but advised the ditching is still going to be an issue. Mr. Martin inquired about trash pickup along the roads, and Mr. McKlarney advised him to contact Mr. Charlie Mullins with any areas of concern.

Mr. McCoy inquired if Route 460 at Newport is on the paving schedule, and Mr. Clarke stated he would have to check. Mr. McCoy expressed frustration with the fiber line installation contractor currently working in the county, advising they have no traffic control in place. He noted the county would not be allowed to work in that fashion, and the contractor had done a lot of damage since starting work in the county, noting four times the water line had been hit. Mr. McCoy advised VDOT needs to stay on the contractor until they are finished in the county. Mr. McKlarney expressed appreciation for VDOT staff for all their work in the county and related VDOT had put together some well-done GIS mapping on wrecks.

Mr. Bryan Reed advised he had recently received an inquiry about Route 799 off of Route 460 in Newport. He indicated VDOT is pushing to clean up their inventory and provided a map showing the area. Mr. Reed related VDOT would like to ask if members would be willing to abandon the existing of right of way along Route 799 and reported this item was brought to the Board in 2000 and was denied at that time. Mr. McCoy stated it was of no practical use to the county. Mr. Kevin Belcher indicated the area had a hydro tank located on the right-hand side. Members discussed the right of way, the process of abandoning and what occurs after as well as options and possible issues.

Mr. Baker made a motion to deny the abandonment of the Route 799 right of way. 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

Mr. Morris made a motion to schedule the VDOT Six Year Plan public hearing during the April recess meeting. 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

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

Dr. Arbogast updated the board on current enrollments. He stated there are currently 2,240 students, which an increase of 2 from last month and a decrease of 53 from the same time last year. He indicated there are 557 students attending school virtually full time and provided information on the recent spelling bee participants who placed and won. Dr. Arbogast recognized the girls' and boys' basketball teams from Narrows High School for a successful season, and the ability of some of the swim team to qualify for

the state meet, as well as other athletic teams for making through the condensed season. He advised a plan is being worked on for extended summer schooling and will release that information once it is available.

OLD BUSINESS

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

CONDITIONAL USE – B. CUMBEE

Mr. John Ross presented a recommendation from the Planning Commission to approve a request for the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit pursuant to Sections 802.04 and 610.03-22 of the Giles County Zoning Ordinance to allow for a “Commercial or Service Establishment” specifically to allow for an excavating/landscaping business with indoor and outdoor storage of materials and equipment. The parcels of land associated with this request are owned by Jessie Williams, are identified specifically as tax parcels 43A-1-33 and 43A-1-32, and are addressed as 115 Kow Camp Road, Pembroke, Virginia, between 6211 and 6235 Virginia Avenue, Pembroke, Virginia. The property is in the B-2 (General Business) Zoning District. The applicant for the permit is Brandon Cumbee. Mr. Ross related the conditions set forth on the permit were that all floodplain requirements and any additional applicable permits must be followed, and Mr. Cumbee would leave nothing in the flood plain long term that is not quickly movable.

Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the conditional use permit as recommended by the Planning Commission. 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

NEW BUSINESS

VACCINATION CLINIC

Mr. McKlarney related a COVID vaccination clinic had been held by Carilion the previous day, with another one to be held on Friday, for manufacturing facilities in the county.

FLAP GRANT

Mr. McKlarney reported the county had been awarded \$400,000 in a Federal Lands Access Program grant. The funds will be utilized to enhance the trail to Bald Knob and construct a trail center.

PAYMENT OF WARRANTS

Mr. Baker motioned to approve warrants in the amount of \$807,676.33, and 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

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 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

WHEATLAND BUILDING

Mr. Morris inquired about the status of the new building at Wheatland Eco Park. Mr. McKlarney reported the IDA had approved moving forward with procurement. He indicated it was important to get the program in queue with the New Market Tax Credit program, and estimates are through the roof at this time. Members discussed steel prices.

ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Thursday, March 18, 2021, at 6:30 PM. The meeting will be held at the Giles County Administration Office located at 315 North Main Street, Pearisburg.

APPROVED:

Vice Chair

ATTEST:

Clerk

March 3, 2021