At the recess meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors held on Thursday, May 20, 2021, at 6:30 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 - Absent
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 5, 2021 and May 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

OLD BUSINESS

DAVENPORT PRESENTATION

Mr. David Rose, with Davenport & Company, presented potential funding opportunities to members for consideration. He noted historically low interest rates, trends and a dual track for refunding. Mr. Rose outlined current loans and explained procedures and options. He advised there are $14-15 million in refunding opportunities, and five bids were received. Mr. Rose summarized the options on the bids, with savings at approximately $124,000, and the rates would be good through the maturity of the loans. He also summarized the VRA pool option, with approximately $495,000 in savings, as well as providing a summary of results. Mr. Rose presented the timeline for the refunding with the VRA pool closing in early August and the bank loan closing mid-June.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Ms. Angie Higginbotham, Giles County Treasurer, reported tax ticket information would be going out to the printers next week, and 159 letters went out for personal property taxes. She related there are 460 tickets on a payment plan, and sale proceedings are being done on 64 real estate parcels. Ms. Higginbotham indicated dog tag letters had been generated two weeks ago, which are trigged by information received from the veterinary offices. Ms. Higginbotham reported the DMV offices are scheduled to open
more windows soon at the full-service offices, and her office had processed 2,657 DMV transactions. She indicated the DMV Connect would be coming to the county June 9th through June 11th. Mr. McCoy inquired when the DMV office would be going back to accepting walk in customers. Ms. Higginbotham predicted the offices would continue with scheduled appointments only and stated the DMV select in Russell County is closing, which leave only five select offices in southwest Virginia. She requested maintenance on the air flow issue on the customer side of the counter due to air flow issues since the plexiglass was installed due to COVID.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

JOINT HEARING WITH VDOT: PROPOSED SECONDARY SIX-YEAR PLAN FOR FY 2021-22 THROUGH 2026-27 AND PROPOSED SECONDARY SYSTEM CONSTRUCTION BUDGET FOR FY 2021-22

Mr. McCoy opened the joint public hearing with the Virginia Department of Transportation regarding the proposed secondary six-year plan for year 2021/22 through year 2026/27. Mr. David Clarke presented a draft plan for discussion and comments and advised any comments will be reviewed. He outlined some changes in the previous draft and explained guidelines for funding. Mr. Clarke listed the roads on the plan in order and asked for any questions or comments.

Mr. McCoy asked for any questions or comments. Hearing none, he closed the public hearing. A copy of the resolution is attached at the end of these minutes.

Mr. Baker made a motion to approve VDOT Secondary Six-Year Plan resolution for FY21/22 to FY 26/27 as presented. 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

Mr. McKlarney inquired what the potential was for the county handling the environmental as previously discussed. Mr. Clarke indicated it will work. Mr. McKlarney will contact the VDOT office to get the process started.

Mr. Martin inquired about the schedule for secondary road mowing. Mr. Clarke advised mowing had already started and crews should be working their way through the county.

FY 2022 TAX RATES AND BUDGET

Mr. McCoy opened the public hearing. Mr. McKlarney outlined the proposed Fiscal Year 2022 budget and advised tax rates would remain the same. He related the proposed budget is a balanced budget.

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

NEWPORT ZONING MAP AND PUBLIC UTILITIES DEFINITIONS AND USES

Mr. John Ross inquired if there were any questions or comments from the documents provided to members. Members discussed both items. Mr. Martin inquired why a short-term rental would be allowed but a bed and breakfast would need special approval. Mr. Ross explained the differences and the varied levels of travel. Mr. Martin indicated he would need a chance to review the map closer with Mr. Ross. Mr. Ross advised the big issues in that area are things such as infrastructure and parking. He related the Planning Commission would meet the following Tuesday and a public hearing would be set for the next recess meeting.

PAYMENT OF WARRANTS

Mr. Baker motioned to approve warrants in the amount of $986,814.05, 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

SCHOOL BOARD APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. Baker motioned to approve $3,516,755.50 for the June 2021 School Board appropriations, and Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. Discussion: Mr. McCoy questioned why the amount had increased. Ms. Ballard related the finance office had said that it was the remainder of the budget. Members discussed the request.
Mr. Baker withdrew the motion.

Mr. Morris made a two-part motion to allocate adequate funding to the school system to cover personnel costs for June 2021, and to allocate the remainder of the School Board request contingent upon receipt of more detailed information on the June request. 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

SOCIAL SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. Morris motioned to approve $167,000 for the June 2021 Social Services appropriations. 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
FY 2021 BUDGET SUPPLEMENT

Ms. Ballard presented a FY 2021 budget supplement request for the business resiliency grant and indicated the checks have already been issued for the amount listed on the supplement. A copy of the supplement is attached at the end of these minutes.

Mr. Lawson motioned to approve a FY 2021 budget supplement in the amount of $500,000.00, and 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

PIPELINE

Mr. Martin mentioned a letter sent to members from Ms. Donna Pitt, which requested support and endorsement of members of DEQ’s set review sent to the Army Corps.

Mr. Martin made a motion to endorse the set time review sent to the Army Corps of Engineers.

Discussion: Mr. McCoy inquired if any other localities were supporting the review. Mr. Martin advised the request would be for DEQ to give an assessment to Army Corps on stream crossings and recommendations, and the timeline was about a year, which will give enough time for a study to be completed. Mr. McCoy stated he would like to know if other localities have done letters of support. The motion died for lack of a second.

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

May 20, 2021
ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 2, 2021, 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
RESOLUTION

At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Giles, held at the Administration Building on May 20, 2021, On a motion by Mr. Baker seconded by Mr. Lawson and carried:

WHEREAS, Sections 33.2-331 and 33.2-364 of the 2014 Code of Virginia, as amended, provides the opportunity for each county to work with the Virginia Department of Transportation in developing a Secondary Six-Year Road Plan,

WHEREAS, this Board had previously agreed to assist in the preparation of this Plan, in accordance with the Virginia Department of Transportation policies and procedures and participated in a public hearing on the proposed Plan (2021/22 through 2026/22) as well as the Construction Budget (2021/22) on May 20, 2021 after duly advertised so that all citizens of the County had the opportunity to participate in said hearing and to make comments and recommendations concerning the proposed Plan and Priority List,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that since said Plan appears to be in the best interests of the Secondary Road System in Giles County and of the citizens residing on the Secondary System, said Secondary Six-Year Plan (2021/22 through 2026/27) and Construction Budget (2021/22) are hereby approved in the following priority order:

Priority #0  Countywide surveying, right of way, guardrail – Various Countywide
Priority #1  Reconstruct and Surface Treat Route 673 Penvir Road
Priority #2  Rural Addition of Skyview Lane
Priority #3  Reconstruct and Surface Treat Route 659 Prospectdale Road
Priority #4  Reconstruct and Surface Treat Route 621 Hiram Jones Road
Priority #5  Reconstruct and Surface Treat Route 647 Powell Mt. Road

GILES COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
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