At the regular meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors held on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, 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.

Jeff Morris	Chair (Central District)
Richard McCoy	Vice-Chair (At-Large Supervisor)
Perry Martin	Eastern District
John C. Lawson, Jr.	Western District
Paul “Chappy” Baker	At-Large Supervisor
Chris McKlarney	County Administrator
Catherine Ballard	Finance Director
John Ross	Building Official
Richard Chidester	County Attorney
Missy Bray	Board Secretary

CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION

Mr. Morris called the meeting to order, and Mr. McKlarney offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. McCoy motioned to approve the April 21, 2022, minutes as presented. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. The motion was approved 3-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris; Abstaining: Mr. Baker and Mr. Lawson

VDOT REPORT

Mr. David Clarke updated members on road maintenance in the county. He noted pipe, overlay and shoulder work on Lurich Road, fixing of concrete on Route 460 in Glen Lyn, work on gravel roads and the sidewalk repair starting in Pembroke. He related various surface treatments to be done, such as Springdale, Lurich, State Line Road and Cover Hollow. Mr. Clarke indicated the public hearing for the primary roads six year plan would be held in Roanoke on May 12th, and the new Secretary of Transportation and Mr. Ray Smoot are expected to be in attendance. He reminded members of the suggestion to add Patterson Ford Road to the county’s six year plan, noting it would be in case the bridge maintenance funds could not cover the entire cost of the alternate route and would not be used unless approved by the Board. Mr. Morris inquired if Patterson Ford would be put at the end if it was added. Mr. Clarke advised it is a general priority and provided information regarding the use of UPCs on projects. Mr. Morris inquired when the project would start if everything works out. Mr. Clarke stated he thought it would start this year and would be untreated. He expects the project can be done for less than $800,000. Members discussed and viewed the new suggested route as well as options. Mr. Clarke stated more information would be known once the surveying is done, and indicated members could add the road later in the year with a resolution.

Mr. McCoy made a motion to approve the VDOT Six Year Plan as previously submitted, 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

A copy of the Six Year Plan Resolution is attached at the end of these minutes. Mr. McCoy stated that is a lot of money to use to repair the bridge at Apache Road, and there would be a better turn radius if the deceleration lane is constructed and the entrance is widened. Mr. Clarke advised a public hearing would be needed to abandon the structure. He indicated it would cost over $1 million to repair the structure and approximately $250,000 to widen the alternate entrance and construct a deceleration lane. Mr. Martin related the concern he had received was the size of the trailers coming in, adding he does not see how they can make it through even with the deceleration lane. He added it is not very forgiving if they get a trailer in a bind there. Mr. Clarke stated the designers could design the entrance for any type or length of vehicle. Members asked for preliminary designs prior to making a determination. Mr. Martin stated there are farmers on the other side too and inquired where that money would go if not used. Mr. Clarke indicated the remaining money would be put back for another bridge.

Mr. Baker expressed appreciation for the work done on the ditches on Curve Road and reported continued pot holes on Route 635 due to heavy truck use as well as a couple of trees across the road. Mr. McCoy stated he saw the tree crews working on the ash trees and inquired about brush cutting. Mr. McKlarney related the county still does not have inmates. Mr. McCoy inquired if the county could get use of the tractor with the brush hog attachment. Mr. Clarke said he would find out. Mr. McCoy reported brush growing out into the road on Norcross Road and a canopy of trees over Rocky Hollow Road.

Mr. Lawson expressed appreciation for the feedback on Lurich Road, the patching done on #2 bridge, and the potholes taken care of on the Route 460 ramps. He asked if the crew had worked on the Lurich side of Robertson Mountain Road. Mr. Clarke said he would check. He related the contractor is working on trying to get the runoff over to the other side of Route 61 at Penvir Road. Mr. Martin requested Snider Town Road be worked, reported a culvert unstopped on Sportsman's Circle, and inquired about the drain pipe at Kow Camp. Mr. Clarke stated he would check on the status of that. Mr. Martin inquired when mowing will start. Mr. Clarke advised it would be later as VDOT is trying to get through the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Martin reported compliments from residents on Orchard Hill Road and inquired if there was anyway to contract out for dust control on the gravel roads. Mr. Clarke related the plan was to reopen Winding Way either the end of May to mid-June, and the closing on the property is still not finished.

PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED ORDINANCE CREATING THE NEW RIVER VALLEY PASSENGER RAIL AUTHORITY

Mr. Morris opened the public hearing. Mr. McKlarney presented a proposed ordinance creating the New River Valley Passenger Rail Authority and provided background on

the station and formation of the authority. He advised the public hearing and ordinance are not a dedication of funding at this point, and added the projected expenditure for the county would be $6,000 to $7,000 annually if members chose to take that step. Mr. McKlarney asked for any questions or comments. Hearing none, Mr. Morris closed the public hearing. A copy of the ordinance is attached at the end of these minutes.

Mr. McCoy made a motion to adopt the ordinance creating the New River Valley Passenger Rail Station Authority and authorizing execution of an agreement setting forth rights and obligations of authority members as presented, 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

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

Dr. Terry Arbogast updated members on enrollments stating there were 2,179 students, which was an increase of 3 from last month, and there are 1,270 Stride students. He provided information on an art show held the previous week, noting exceptional turnout by the community. Dr. Arbogast related SOL testing would be going on May 2nd through May 27th, and graduation dates have been set with Giles High School graduating on June 2nd and Narrows High School graduating on June 5th. He provided names for teachers of the year for each school and stated they would be recognized at a reception the following day when the county Teacher of the Year would be announced. Dr. Arbogast acknowledged Narrows High School for being named a W!SE Blue Star School as well as being recognized for being one of the top 100 schools in Virginia for teaching personal finance. Mr. McCoy inquired about the April enrollment numbers for last year. Dr. Arbogast stated the current enrollment is down 49 from the previous year.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Loretta Smith – Ms. Loretta Smith, a resident of Newport, reported issues on Winding Way. She noted 13 houses on that road and 2 garages, and stated the road was hazardous with the entrance closing. Ms. Smith related several incidents where people had almost been hit on Route 460 trying to make the turn, and she also related issues with having funerals at the cemetery there as well as issues with overgrowth and debris in the ditches. She requested members get the road reopened as quickly as possible. Mr. Morris advised VDOT is having an issue with property, and Mr. Martin related Mr. Clarke had stated earlier Winding Way should be reopened by mid-June. He stated deceleration lanes are an issue and he had met with Mr. Clarke a couple of years ago, adding he hopes the reopening does happen.

OLD BUSINESS

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION – TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE GILES COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE

Mr. Ross presented a recommendation from the Planning Commission for approval of a text amendment to the Giles County Zoning Ordinance, Section 302.28-1, the definition

of “Commercial or Service Establishments” to allow for a broader array of uses to be covered under this section.

Mr. McCoy made a motion to approve the text amendment to the Giles County Zoning Ordinance as recommended. 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

NEW BUSINESS

GOODWILL INDUSTRIES STRATEGIC PLAN

Ms. Michelle Darby, Goodwill Industries of the Valleys’ Vice President of Marketing and Communications, presented information on their strategic plan. She covered topics such as the planning process, visions, goals such as eliminating poverty and providing a better wages to employees.

NEW RIVER VALLEY HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

Mr. Cat White, a Vice President of Tyris Homes and member of the New River Valley Home Builders Association, presented information to members regarding the association and their charitable committee. He also presented information on his wish to be more involved with zoning on a local level. Mr. White related the association provides a scholarship each year to a graduating senior going into anything related to building, holds a touch a truck event and works with the Pulaski County Schools vocational building program, where students built a project which was auctioned off for $2,000. He noted the Giles vocational building program as well.

PAYMENT OF WARRANTS

Mr. Baker motioned to approve warrants in the amount of $850,922.03, and Mr. McCoy 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. McCoy motioned to reappoint Mr. Kevin Belcher to the Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project Board, and Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, and Mr. McCoy Mr. Morris

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. McCoy motioned to go into executive session as permitted by Virginia Code 2.2-3711 A(1) Personnel and (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. McCoy 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 4-0 by rollcall vote as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris

TAX RATES PUBLIC HEARING

Members discussed tax rates for the upcoming year and concurred there will need to be a three cent increase across the board.

Mr. McCoy made a motion to set a public hearing for the May recess meeting with a tax increase of three cents across the board, and Mr. Baker seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, and Mr. McCoy Mr. Morris

BROADBAND

Mr. Lawson inquired if there had been any forward movement by Gigabeam on the broadband project. Mr. Ross reported there had been some but it was not expected to be complete by the June 30th deadline.

Mr. Lawson inquired about the next step for releasing the RFQ to run fiber to homes. Mr. McKlarney reported the RFQ is being drafted and expects it will be finished for review within the next couple of weeks. He related maps are completed with Pemtel, Gigabeam, and Suddenlink coverage areas.

ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Thursday, May 19, 2022, at 6:30 PM. The meeting will be held at the Giles County Administration Office located at 315 North Main Street, Pearisburg.

APPROVED:

_____

Chair

ATTEST:

_____

Clerk

May 4, 2022

RESOLUTION

At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Giles, held at the Administration Building on May 4, 2022, On a motion by Mr. McCoy seconded by Mr. Baker 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 (2022/23 through 2027/28) as well as the Construction Budget (2022/23) on May 4, 2022 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 (2022/23 through 2027/28) and Construction Budget (2022/23) 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

ORDINANCE CREATING NEW RIVER VALLEY PASSENGER RAIL STATION AUTHORITY AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT SETTING FORTH RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF AUTHORITY MEMBERS

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Chapter 38 of Title 33.2 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended (the "Act") the governing bodies of the County of Floyd, the County of Giles, the County of Montgomery, the County of Pulaski, the City of Radford, the Town of Blacksburg, the Town of Christiansburg, the Town of Pulaski, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and Radford University (the "Member Localities") desire to create the New River Valley Passenger Rail Station Authority (the "Authority") for the purposes set forth in the Act; and

WHEREAS, the Act defines facilities as including any structure, including real estate and improvements, used for operating passenger rail service and complementary activities.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF GILES, VIRGINIA AS FOLLOWS:

1. The name of the Authority is the New River Valley Passenger Rail Station Authority.

2. The Member Localities of the Authority are the County of Floyd, the County of Giles, the County of Montgomery, the County of Pulaski, the City of Radford, the Town of Blacksburg, the Town of Christiansburg, the Town of Pulaski, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and Radford University.

3. The Board of Supervisors finds that the economic growth and development of the of the County of Giles and the comfort, convenience and welfare of its citizens require the development of facilities, as defined in the Act, and that the creation of the Authority will facilitate the development of the needed facilities.

4. The County Administrator is authorized to execute the New River Valley Passenger Rail Station Authority Agreement establishing the respective rights and obligations of the Member Localities with respect to the Authority consistent with the purposes of the Act in substantially the form attached hereto and to take any other actions confirming the creation of the Authority, including filing this Ordinance with the Secretary of the Commonwealth as required by the Act for the creation of the Authority.

5. All other actions of Giles County officials in conformity with the purposes and intent of this Ordinance and in furtherance of the creation of the Authority are ratified, approved and confirmed.

6. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

On motion of Mr. McCoy seconded by Mr. Baker the foregoing Ordinance was adopted at a regular meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors on May 4, 2022. Members of the [Board of Supervisors] [City Council] [Town Council] voted as follows:

	Voting For	Voting Against	Abstain	Absent
Baker	X			
Lawson	X			
Martin	X			
McCoy	X			
Morris	X			

The undersigned Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Giles Virginia, hereby certifies that the foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of an Ordinance adopted at a meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Giles held on May 4, 2022. I hereby further certify that such a meeting was a regular meeting, duly called and held, and that during the consideration of the foregoing Ordinance, a quorum was present.

Chris McKlarney, Clerk
Giles County, Virginia