At the regular meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors held on Wednesday, October 5, 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 - Absent
- 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 September 22, 2022, minutes as presented. 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

VDOT REPORT

Mr. David Clarke advised he would be getting a copy of the state police report from the accident on Route 460 which occurred early that morning and would look to see what can be done there on the VDOT side of things. He stated the boom axe and brush cutter had gotten over 40 miles of cutting done, and it will be back a little later in the fall. Mr. Clarke related staff is doing dry runs to get things in order for winter, and storm prep was done before the rain last weekend. He reported shoulder work done on some primary roads, a couple of dirt roads worked, and new pipe installed on Route 772. Mr. Clarke advised Penvir Road is done, and the last bit of work is being done on Skyview.

Mr. Baker reported eroded asphalt on Big Stony Creek past the lime plant and a very rough section on Wolf Creek where a drain had been installed. Mr. McCoy inquired if Whitt Road is state maintained or private. Mr. McKlarney stated the road is private. Mr. Clarke stated he would double check to make sure. Mr. Lawson reported the spot where the drain had been installed at the end of Penvir Road on Wolf Creek has some pretty good-sized holes in some places and inquired about the school bus requests. Mr. Clarke advised the turnaround was done and there is still a sign needed. Mr. Martin reported a continued drainage issue on Sportsman Circle noting water backs up across the road and freezes in colder temperatures. Mr. Morris stated brush is always a problem in the county, but with over 40 miles of cutting, the crews got farther than he expected they would. Mr. McKlarney expressed appreciation for Mr. Clarke and the
local crew, noting they were good to work with. Mr. Baker reported issues coming out of Pearisburg on Wenonah Avenue where some timbers are coming out. Mr. Bryan Reed related the town crew had removed the timbers, but there are more significant issues with that area. Mr. Reed reported a large pothole on Route 219 near the Shell station.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Helen Beavers – Ms. Beavers stated she lives on Pembroke Avenue and expressed concern over the speeds being done in her neighborhood. She advised there are 10 children in the neighborhood, and she was told the town did not give speeding tickets unless it was significantly over the limit. Ms. Beavers related the town talked to Mr. Trump and was told to keep the children home. Mr. Baker expressed disdain for the comment. Ms. Beavers inquired what could be done about the speed limit and speeding. She related she had 17 people sign a petition from her neighborhood regarding these issues. Mr. Clarke indicated he works well with the town and advised he will check into all issues reported.

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

Dr. Terry Arbogast updated the board on current enrollments. He stated there are currently 2,195 students, which a decrease if 13 from the last year, and noted an additional 1,294 nonresidential students in virtual learning. He reported all schools will be accredited through the state for the year, and they are working on areas of concern. Dr. Arbogast related part of the HVAC system at Narrows Elementary Middle School is back up and running and informed members of continuing work on the system. He advised the Facilities Committee would be meeting with four companies the following day in hopes of partnering with one of them. Dr. Arbogast noted two days of teacher work days and parent-teacher conferences, with October 28th being the end of the first nine weeks. He recognized the Giles High School FFA Stockman’s Team with several students who placed at the Carroll County Fair and attended the State Fair.

OLD BUSINESS

VEDP GRANT UPDATE

Mr. McKlarney reported there would be a virtual tour of Wheatland Eco Park on October 27th relating to a grant application to VEDP. He noted the funding request for the project is almost $5 million.

PAYMENT OF WARRANTS

Mr. Baker motioned to approve warrants in the amount of $1,385,275.44, 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

October 5, 2022
EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. McCoy motioned to go into executive session as permitted by Virginia Code 2.2-3711 A (7) Legal Counsel 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 5-0 by rollcall vote as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris

RECESS MEETING WORK SESSION

Members discussed having a work session in order to complete required FOIA and conflict of interest training. A session was set for October 20, 2022, beginning at 5:00 PM prior to the recess meeting.

ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Thursday, October 20, 2022, at 6:30 PM, with a work session being held prior to the meeting beginning at 5:00 PM. The meeting will be held at the Giles County Administration Office located at 315 North Main Street, Pearisburg.

APPROVED:

______________________________
Chair

ATTEST:

______________________________
Clerk