At the recess meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors held on Thursday, November 17, 2022, 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.

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
John Ross              Building Official
Catherine Ballard      Finance Director
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 minutes of November 2, 2022 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

NEW BUSINESS

RECOGNITION OF BENNY JOHNSON

Mr. McKlarney presented a plaque in recognition of Benny Johnson’s years of service for Giles County to his sons, Mike Johnson and Ben Johnson. Mr. McKlarney noted Mr. Johnson had served on the Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors and Board of Zoning Appeals as well as serving on the Narrows Town Council for a number of years. He related Mr. Johnson was a master of relationships and his demeanor allowed him to get a lot of things done. Mr. Mike Johnson stated his father really enjoyed his time serving with the county, and Mr. Ben Johnson expressed his father enjoyed being around people, noting he was a people person. They both thanked members for the recognition of their father, Benny Johnson. Mr. Baker related a story about an election one year, adding Mr. Johnson was never beat out on anything.

RECOGNITION OF CARYL ALLEN

Mr. McKlarney reported the county’s CSA Coordinator, Caryl Allen, had been named an Outstanding CSA Coordinator by the Virginia Office of Children’s Services and
presented a resolution in recognition of her achievements. A copy of the resolution is attached at the end of these minutes.

*Mr. Lawson made a motion to approve the resolution in recognition of Caryl Allen 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*

**THOMPSON & LITTON ENGINEERING CONTRACT EXTENSION**

Mr. McKlarney reported the term of services on the Thompson & Litton engineering contract is due to expire on December 2\textsuperscript{nd} and recommended an extension.

*Mr. Baker made a motion to approve a one-year extension of the Thompson & Litton engineering contract. 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*

**SURPLUS VEHICLES**

Mr. McKlarney presented a request to surplus a 2005 Lincoln Aviator, a 2009 Ford Mustang and a 2011 Ford Crown Victoria, noting vehicle numbers of each.

*Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the request for surplus vehicles as presented. 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*

**MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT**

Mr. McKlarney exhibited a mutual aid agreement with Celanese, which is updated annually. He requested approval and related the amount of assistance to the county with EMS calls.

*Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the mutual aid agreement with Celanese as presented. 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*

**NRRA TEMPORARY AGREEMENT WITH PATRICK COUNTY**

Mr. McKlarney related a request was received from the New River Resource Authority for approval from member jurisdictions to allow for a temporary solid waste disposal agreement with Patrick County, which was presented as an approved resolution. He noted it would be the same type of agreement as was previously approved for Smyth County.

*Mr. McCoy motioned to adopt the resolution as presented by the New River Resource Authority to enter into a temporary disposal agreement with Patrick*
County. 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

GRANT OPPORTUNITY

Mr. McKlarney reported an opportunity to apply for grant funding that could be used for emergency vehicles. He stated the match was 33 to 35 percent, which would mean the county buying 2 vehicles and the grant money paying for a third. Mr. Martin inquired if the funding would apply to ambulances. Mr. McKlarney stated he thought it would, but staff would follow up to make sure.

Mr. Lawson made a motion to move forward with the grant application process. 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

PAYMENT OF WARRANTS

Mr. Baker motioned to approve warrants in the amount of $626,866.06, 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

SCHOOL BOARD APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. Lawson motioned to approve $2,750,000 for the December 2022 School Board appropriations, ESSR III Funds in the amounts of $142,027.85 and $108,744.96, and FY 19-20 carryover funds in the amounts of $41,567.00 and $110,770.00 for a total of $3,153,109.81. 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

SOCIAL SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. McCoy motioned to approve $350,000 for the December 2022 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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. McCoy motioned to go into executive session as permitted by Virginia Code 2.2-3711 A (1) Personnel, (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

November 17, 2022
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

Mr. Morris opened the public hearing, and Mr. Berkman called the Planning Commission to order. Members of the Commission present at the meeting were as follows: J. Berkman, Mr. Law, P. Baker, T. Pitzer, H. Nippert and G. Snider.

CONDITIONAL USE TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER - OSBOURNE

Mr. John Ross stated Planning Commission received a request for the issuance of a conditional use permit pursuant to sections 802.04 and 603.03-27 (telecommunications tower) of the Giles County Zoning Ordinance, specifically to allow for the construction and operation of a 195± foot monopole telecommunications tower (199± foot when including a 4± foot lightning rod), a 40’x40’ fenced compound around the tower, generator and other associated ground elements. The property is specifically identified as tax parcel 57-66, and is located at 2881 Eggleston Road, Eggleston, Virginia. The property is owned by Nicholas and Amanda Osbourne. The property is located within the RRA-1 zoning district.

Mr. Ross introduced Ms. Lori Schweller with Verizon. She demonstrated an aerial view of the proposed tower and stated the site is surrounded by a wooded area. Ms. Schweller indicated that all required setbacks had been met. She recapped the balloon test and discussions held with surrounding adjacent owners and indicated Verizon is proposing a decrease in tower height from 195’ to 150’, which she believes will benefit everyone. Ms. Schweller stated the tower will not be lit and will have flush-mounted antennas. Verizon also suggested painting the tower brown, which would blend in with the wooded area. Ms. Schweller showed a comparison of the first balloon test and the new results from decreasing the tower’s height. She indicated all criteria had been met and requested the conditional use permit be granted.

Mr. Martin inquired if this was the only available location for the tower. Ms. Schweller stated a different location would mean beginning again and radio frequency would have to be assessed before another site could be approved. She explained a new application would need to be submitted as well and this would take several months to complete.

Mr. Ed Coffey, an adjacent property owner residing at 184 Mountain Visa Drive, Eggleston addressed the Board. He began by describing some blessings in his life such as his family, home, and land. Mr. Coffey demonstrated an aerial view of his property and a view of the previous balloon test. He indicated, if the cell tower had been there prior to purchasing his home, he would not have bought it. He stated he will have a difficult time selling his home in the future if the tower is built. Mr. Coffey read section 1.14 of the Comprehensive Plan and a portion of the Zoning Ordinance and indicated he does not feel some of the requirements have been met. He demonstrated
a view showing distances from the tower to all surrounding adjacent property owners. His calculation showed a total distance of 11,738 feet. Mr. Coffey demonstrated moving the tower location and stated the new distance would then become 12,930 feet. In conclusion, Mr. Coffey discussed how finding the best solution requires a design revision and effort and the neighborhood deserves both. He stated a 150’ cell tower at site number two is a fair and reasonable compromise.

Mr. James McIntyre of 433 Briar Patch Trail addressed members. He indicated the tower not being lit was a huge help. Mr. McIntyre stated everyone has been very patient with this process and Verizon stating this would take more time and effort was a bit concerning. He stated the residents deserve whatever time it takes, and he requested members take Mr. Coffey’s request to heart. He concluded by thanking everyone involved in the balloon test.

Mr. Thomas Brandon of 3106 Eggleston Road addressed the Board. He stated he had been a Civil Engineer for 38 years, and he lives across the street from the proposed tower. He witnessed the balloon test and stated what used to be one of the most beautiful views in Giles County would now become a view of the tower. He realizes there is a need for technology but feels there are many health risks involved. After researching his safety concerns, he found millions of articles pertaining to this subject. He stated there may be numerous legal actions against cell tower providers because of health issues in the future. Mr. Brandon concluded by stating once the tower goes up, there will be no coming down; and for all these reasons, he and his wife are opposed.

Mr. Baker made a motion to table this subject until the Planning Commission could meet and discuss the matter during their meeting next Tuesday, November 22, 2022 at 5:00 pm. Mr. Nippert seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Law, Mr. Nippert, Mr. Berckman, Mr. Pitzer, and Mr. Snider; Absent: Mr. Hackney, Mr. Taylor, and Mr. Browning

With no further questions or comments, Mr. Morris closed the public hearing and Mr. Berckman adjourned the Planning Commission. The item will be discussed at the next Planning Commission meeting to be held at 5:00 PM on Tuesday, November 22, 2022 at the Giles County Administration Office located at 315 North Main Street, Pearisburg, Virginia.

TAX SALE

Mr. Chidester reported there had been 14 pieces of property sold at the recent tax sale for a total of $272,500 and related how the funds would be distributed.
ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 7, 2022, 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
At a recess meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors held on the 17th day of November, 2022, in the Giles County Administration Office at 315 North Main Street, Pearisburg, Virginia, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLUTION

Whereas, on November 2, 2022, Caryl Allen was named an Outstanding CSA Coordinator by the Virginia Office of Children’s Services for her collaborative spirit, family focus and innovation, and

Whereas, throughout her career she has spearheaded multiple workgroups and committees in addition to her regular duties, collaborated with Montgomery County to develop recruiting and training for foster parents, partnered with DePaul Services to create a video to help inform the public of the need for foster parents, and encouraged family engagement in the FAPT process; and

Whereas, it is fitting and proper to recognize the outstanding dedication she has shown to the families and children of Giles County.

Now therefore be it resolved by the Giles County Board of Supervisors that Caryl Allen be duly recognized for the outstanding dedication and leadership shown to the County and throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia;

Approved by the Giles County Board of Supervisors this 17th Day of November, 2022.

Jeffrey Morris
Chair

Paul "Chappy" Baker
At-Large Supervisor

Richard McCoy
At-Large Supervisor

Chris McElroy
County Administrator

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