

At the recess meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors held on Thursday, February 16, 2023, 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)
John C. Lawson, Jr.	Vice-Chair (Western District)
Perry Martin	Eastern District
Richard McCoy	At-Large Supervisor
Paul “Chappy” Baker	At-Large Supervisor
Chris McKlarney	County Administrator
John Ross	Building Official – Absent
Catherine Ballard	Finance Director – 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. Baker motioned to approve the February 1, 2023, minutes 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***

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Mr. Mike Thompson** - Mr. Thompson, President of the Giles County Farm Bureau, related their board was notified that the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Sciences (VDACS) is proposing to close the Wytheville and Lynchburg agriculture labs and open a super lab at Virginia Tech. He stated he was a meeting recently, where there was standing room only, and there were none present in favor of closing the Wytheville Lab. Mr. Thompson provided cost information on labs recently built in North Carolina and Maryland, and he indicated every county in southwestern Virginia has used that lab during the year. He requested members to pass a resolution in opposition of the closing and send it to VDACS and state representatives. A copy of the resolution is attached at the end of these minutes.

***Mr. McCoy made a motion to approve the resolution 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***

**Mr. Warren Wilson** – Mr. Wilson, Chief of the Rich Creek Fire Department, thanked members for their support over the years, with allocations as well as grant funding. He related he has been a fire fighter for 28 years and has seen the dedication of the

department volunteers to make the department what it is today. Mr. Baker expressed appreciation for the Rich Creek Fire Department and all the other departments throughout the county. Mr. Wilson stated the department has a 15 year plan and budget to replace all its equipment except for a 34 year old truck. Replacement cost for the truck would be approximately \$520,000. Mr. Wilson expressed concerns over the number of wrecks at Rich Creek at the intersections of Route 460 and Old Virginia Avenue as well as Route 460 and Island Street, noting 51 wrecks at those intersections between 2018 and 2022. He advised that would be 102 damaged vehicles and 102 affected families and requested a study be performed by VDOT to reduce the vehicle accidents at those intersections. He noted short turn lanes and poor visibility due to the road angles and guardrails at the crossovers. Mr. Wilson also cited speed as an issue in that area and requested the speed be lowered. He indicated the flashing lights VDOT installed have helped some but not enough to make a significant impact. Mr. Baker advised VDOT would be at the first meeting in March. Mr. McCoy suggested sending VDOT an email prior to the next meeting. Mr. McKlarney indicated he has met with VDOT safety engineers a number of times due to the issues in that area. Mr. Lawson inquired if the speed issue had ever been discussed. Mr. McKlarney advised VDOT is reluctant to reduce the speed anywhere along Route 460.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **AEP**

Mr. McKlarney reported AEP has started working on the line replacement in Eggleston. He advised he did not know how long the project would take until completed.

### **SERCAP GRANT**

Mr. McKlarney related a SERCAP grant was awarded in the amount of \$50,000 and requested members accept the grant.

***Mr. McCoy made a motion to accept the SERCAP grant in the amount of \$50,000. 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**

### **PEMBROKE FIRE DEPARTMENT 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

Mr. McKlarney presented a resolution in recognition of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Pembroke Fire Department. He related the fire departments had done a tremendous job in the communities and read the resolution into the record. A copy of the resolution is attached at the end of these minutes.

***Mr. Baker made a motion to adopt the resolution in recognition of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Pembroke Fire Department 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***

Chief Chris Neice accepted the resolution and thanked various staff for their support. He related the department has a lot of members behind it, and they put in a lot of hard work.

## **OPIOID SETTLEMENT RESOLUTION**

Mr. Chidester presented a resolution regarding the current litigation with the opioid settlement. He advised this resolution is relating to a settlement with Walmart, CVS, Walgreens, Teva and Allergan, adding Virginia will receive approximately \$425 million in settlement funds. Mr. Chidester advised the funds from Walmart would be paid in 2023, if there is 100 percent participation in Virginia, with others taking up to 15 years to settle. He recommended approval and indicated discussions were ongoing on how the funds might be used.

***Mr. McCoy motioned to approve the opioid settlement resolution 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***

## **PAYMENT OF WARRANTS**

***Mr. Baker motioned to approve warrants in the amount of \$1,353,887.85, 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 \$2,680,000.00 for the March 2023 School Board appropriations and \$31,763.25 in ESSR III funds for a total of \$2,711,763.25. 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***

## **SOCIAL SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS**

***Mr. Martin motioned to approve \$354,600.00 for the March 2023 Social Services appropriations. 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***

## **COYOTE BOUNTY**

***Mr. McCoy made a motion to allocate \$2,500 of his recreation funds to the coyote bounty program. 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 and (30) Contracts relating to the Giles County Trail Center. 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***

## TRAIL CENTER BIDS

***Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the bid received from Building Specialists, Inc. for the Giles County Trail Center in the amount of \$1,221,000, pending investigation into an alternative site. Mr. Baker seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-1 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris; Voting No: Mr. Martin***

## ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 1, 2023, 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

February 16, 2023

**RESOLUTION OF THE GILES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CONCERNING THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WYTHEVILLE LABORATORY**

**WHEREAS**, it is proposed by the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Sciences (VDACS) to close two laboratory facilities in the Commonwealth, including the laboratory located in Wytheville; and


**WHEREAS**, the Virginia Department of Agriculture Wytheville Laboratory offers a wide range of services in bacteriology, serology, virology, parasitology, pathology, and molecular testing; they perform necropsies, bacteriological cultures, identification and sensitivity testing, hematology, parasitology, and histopathological examination of tissues; and consumers are also protected by the testing of raw milk products, meat, cheese, ice cream and water; and

**WHEREAS**, Giles County has a vast amount of agricultural land and numerous farms who utilize the services offered at the Wytheville Lab; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Giles County Board of Supervisors does hereby formally request the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Sciences, along with the Commonwealth, to maintain the state funding required to keep the Virginia Department of Agriculture Wytheville Lab open and fully staffed.

Approved by the Giles County Board of Supervisors this 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2023.

	Voting for	Voting against	Abstain	Absent
Baker	X			
Lawson	X			
Martin	X			
McCoy	X			
Morris	X			

  
Attest: Chris McKlarny, Clerk

# County of Giles

**Jeffrey Morris**  
Central District Supervisor

**Perry Martin**  
Eastern District Supervisor

**John Lawson**  
Western District Supervisor

**Paul "Chappy" Baker**  
At-Large Supervisor

**Richard McCoy**  
At-Large Supervisor



## Board of Supervisors

315 NORTH MAIN STREET  
PEARISBURG, VIRGINIA 24134

### RESOLUTION OF THE GILES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IN CLEBRATION OF THE 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF PEMBROKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

**WHEREAS**, the governments and residents of the Town of Pembroke and the County of Giles agreed that there was a critical need for a fire department to protect the Town of Pembroke and the surrounding communities in Giles County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pembroke Fire Department was established February 3, 1948; and

**WHEREAS**, Pembroke Fire Department has diligently and selflessly served the people of the Town of Pembroke and its surrounding communities in Giles County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED** that the Giles County Board of Supervisors hereby recognizes the necessary and worthwhile work of Pembroke Fire Department and its members as they celebrate 75 years of extraordinary community service.

**ADOPTED** this 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2023 in the County of Giles, Virginia.

	Voting for	Voting against	Abstain	Absent
Baker	X	_____	_____	_____
Lawson	X	_____	_____	_____
Martin	X	_____	_____	_____
McCoy	X	_____	_____	_____
Morris	X	_____	_____	_____

Jeffrey L. Morris, Chair

Chris McKlarney, Clerk

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