

At the recess meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors held on Thursday, April 20, 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
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 April 5, 2023, minutes as presented. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin and Mr. Morris; Abstaining: Mr. McCoy***

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **SALVATION ARMY PRESENTATION**

Captain Charlene Cover, with the New River Valley Salvation Army, presented information regarding its programs and numbers from Fiscal Year 2022. She noted the Salvation Army has served Southwestern Virginia for more than 100 years, and 82 cents of every dollar donated goes into service programs. Captain Cover indicated there are programs to help with food, clothing, utilities, rent, and emergency assistance as well as a thrift store. In fiscal year 2022, 1,100 people received assistance with emergency or rental assistance, 4,400 people received food, and 1,700 children were on the angel tree. She provided information about summer camp and related assistance needed with finding volunteers and board members. Mr. Baker told about assistance provided to the soldiers being shipped out to Vietnam in the middle of the night in 1966, where the Salvation Army was there to provide donuts and coffee to them before their flight left. He expressed appreciation for the Salvation Army and its work.

## OLD BUSINESS

### OPIOID ABATEMENT GRANT

Mr. McKlarney reported the opioid abatement grant is due May 5<sup>th</sup> and provided draft agreements, noting he would get members numbers as soon as he has them. He informed the Board this would be a regional application for services such as hiring a substance abuse director and staff, in-patient treatment, drug testing, recovery fitness, treatment programs, housing and children services. Mr. McKlarney indicated there are very few taking the opportunity for this round of funding. He expressed appreciation for Delegate Jason Ballard's help with the connections in this process.

### MOUNTAIN LAKE AVENUE TRAFFIC LIGHT

Mr. McKlarney reported VDOT traffic engineering has scheduled for the traffic light at Mountain Lake Avenue to be removed. He advised members might begin to hear from people about it.

### DEQ GROUNDWATER TEST SITE

Mr. McKlarney presented a request from DEQ to place a test well at the Eggleston Park location to test groundwater levels, which would be on a three-by-three foot pad. He noted the state is working with localities to find sites, and related he did not see a down side to the request. Members discussed the request, if there was a need, and what would be monitored at the site. Members concurred with the site request.

### REQUEST FOR LANE CLOSURE – PEARISBURG FESTIVAL IN THE PARK

Mr. McKlarney presented a request from the Town of Pearisburg for a lane closure during the upcoming Festival in the Park.

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

### FAMILY FUN FESTIVAL

Mr. McKlarney presented video footage of the Family Fun Festival held the previous week. He related Ms. Caryl Allen had worked very hard putting the event together, and approximately 500 people had attended.

### PAYMENT OF WARRANTS

***Mr. Baker motioned to approve warrants in the amount of \$1,204,026.12, 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 \$4,755,000.00 for the May 2023 School Board appropriations, ESSER III Funds in the amounts of \$120,850.69, \$7,640.86 and \$23,999.08 for a total of \$4,907,490.63. 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 \$382,000.00 for the May 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*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. McKlarney announced the ACCE sponsor dinner to be held on April 26<sup>th</sup>, and Lauren Sisler will be presenting her story to the recovery courts in the area on April 25<sup>th</sup>. He also announced the trail center groundbreaking being held on April 28<sup>th</sup>.

## VDOT

Mr. McCoy reported a drain pipe being even with the pavement on Route 605, and Mr. Baker inquired if the issue on Route 622 had been fixed. Mr. Clarke advised he had not received a report prior to coming to the meeting but will check. Mr. Baker related conditions on Big Stony Creek Road are not getting any better.

Mr. Clarke reported he had already spoken with the Council about the traffic light on Mountain Lake Avenue. He indicated the site would not meet the current warrants needed to meet requirements for replacing the lights at a cost of \$300,000 to \$500,000. Mr. Clarke related some studies were run, and he did not think it would cause a major delay. Mr. Lawson inquired if stop signs would be installed. Mr. Clarke stated stop signs would be installed on Mountain Lake Avenue. Mr. Morris inquired about sensors on Route 100. Mr. Clarke indicated they are most likely traffic counters but would check to make sure.

## PUBLIC HEARING

### **JOINT HEARING WITH VDOT: PROPOSED SECONDARY SIX-YEAR PLAN FOR FY 2023-24 THROUGH 2028-29 AND PROPOSED SECONDARY SYSTEM CONSTRUCTION BUDGET FOR FY 2023-24**

Mr. Morris opened the public hearing. Mr. David Clarke presented a draft plan for discussion and comments and advised any comments will be reviewed. Mr. Clarke listed the roads on the plan in order as well as the upcoming funding. The roads on the draft plan are as follows: Priority 1 – Prospect Dale Road, Priority 2 – Hiram Jones

Road, Priority 3 Powell Mountain Road. He indicated the approximate cost per mile for construction is \$1 million, and unpaved roads funding for Fiscal Year 2024 will be approximately \$250,000, with telefee funds coming in at around \$31,000. Mr. McKlarney inquired about rural addition funds. Mr. Clarke indicated the rules had changed a little, with it now being ten percent of the total. He reported the draft construction budget would all be put toward Prospect Dale Road, and county wide traffic could be moved if a project was found. He related the Board can keep the order, change it or add to it and requested a resolution by the end of June. Mr. McKlarney requested an update on funding for members. Mr. Clarke related there was pretty much no money left in unpaved construction funds after the recent projects. Mr. McKlarney inquired about the ten percent of total to county wide traffic. Mr. Clarke advised there could be a third put toward that.

Mr. Martin inquired if anything could be done to Hiram Jones without paving, noting issues of vehicles not being able to pass in certain spots. Mr. Clarke advised VDOT has a 30 foot prescriptive easement, but they might be able to create a pull out.

Mr. Morris asked for any additional questions or comments. Hearing none, he closed the public hearing.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

***Mr. McCoy motioned to go into executive session as permitted by Virginia Code 2.2-3711 A (7) Legal, and (29) 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***

## **BUDGET WORK SESSION**

***Mr. McCoy motioned to hold a budget work session beginning at 1:00 PM on May 3, 2023. 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***

**ADJOURN**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 3, 2023, at 3:00 PM with a budget work session to begin at 1:00 PM. The meeting will be held at the Giles County Administration Office located at 315 North Main Street, Pearisburg.

**APPROVED:**

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**Chair**

**ATTEST:**

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**Clerk**