

At the regular meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors held on Wednesday, May 1, 2024 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.

Richard McCoy	Chair (At-Large Supervisor)
John C. Lawson, Jr.	Vice-Chair (Western District)
Perry Martin	Eastern District
Jeff Morris	Central District
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. McCoy 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 18, 2024, minutes as presented. Mr. Morris 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 updated members on maintenance such as machining on Eaton’s Chapel, Curve Road, Green Valley and Orchard Hill, boom axe cutting on Guinea Mountain and Old Virginia Avenue, shoulder repair on Route 460 on a small sink hole, and a plan was put in place for the pipe on Wabash. He indicated AEP would be doing some overhead line work in May, for which Route 460 will be closed for 15 minutes at a time. Mr. Clarke related Pemtel would also be doing some overhead line work later on. Members discussed possible issues.

Mr. Baker expressed appreciation for the work done on Route 635, but related there is a portion that needs repair up past White Rocks. Mr. Morris reported water ponding on Wilburn Valley Road. Mr. Martin stated he continues to receive concerns over the trucks and their speeds on Route 630, adding people are having to pull off the road to avoid them. He inquired about the length of time between the dust control on the gravel roads. Mr. Clarke indicated it was by calls received or around once a month. Mr. Martin asked for increased frequency or more stone on the gravel roads. He reported a pothole on Bluegrass Trail and inquired about who does the mowing on Castle Rock Drive. Mr. Clarke reported VDOT mows along that roadway. Mr. Martin requested mowing there prior to a trash pick up to be held in mid-May and requested brush cutting on Spruce Run. Mr. McCoy stated more effort needs to be made on brush cutting, and

VDOT needs to get some of it under control. He reported potholes on Clover Hollow. Mr. McKlarney requested work on Arch Eaton Road, and requested Mr. Clarke consider using some of the county crew to help with brush cutting or having the county submit as a contractor. He stated the county gets calls all the time about brush, and it would be good for both entities. Mr. McCoy requested Flat Hollow and River Road be looked at to see what can be done. Mr. McKlarney advised he had received a call about more sinkholes opening up on Big Stony Creek and will let Mr. Clarke know about the situation once he is able to get a look at them and get more information.

## **SCHOOL BOARD REPORT**

Mr. McKlarney updated the board on current enrollments. He stated there are currently 2,188 students, which is an increase of 3 from the previous month. He indicated there are 1,320 Stride students, and there are 25 days of school left for this year.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **TIMBERLAKE BUILDING BIDS**

Mr. McKlarney reported bids have been received for the Timberlake Building project. He stated two bids received were competitive and were as follows: Building Specialists at \$1,487,925 and Envision at \$1,449,261

## **FY 2025 DRAFT BUDGET**

Mr. McKlarney presented an updated draft budget for FY 2025, noting a five percent pay increase for staff to match the school increase. He indicated the draft budget was balanced with the revenues, and proposed a public hearing for the May recess meeting in order for tax tickets to be sent out on time. Mr. McKlarney stated he did not yet have the state budget, but the county can reduce it later on if so needed.

***Mr. Baker made a motion to set the FY 25 budget public hearing for May 16<sup>th</sup> during the recess meeting. Mr. Morris 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**

### **GILES CHRISTIAN MISSION REQUEST**

Mr. McKlarney presented a request from the Giles Christian Mission for assistance with façade improvement to its building on Wenonah Avenue. He advised they do a terrific job and have helped to coordinate food services in the county. Mr. McKlarney indicated the decision does not have to be made at this point, but it would be good to assist if possible. He suggested a decision be made after the budget is finalized. Mr. Morris inquired about any details on the façade improvements. Mr. McKlarney stated the

entire façade would be aluminum and glass at a cost of approximately \$45,000, and he thinks they would like to do the project soon.

## **TRAIL GRANT**

Mr. McKlarney provided a letter of support for a grant to be submitted to the Department of Conservation and Recreation for trail expansion at Mountain Lake. An additional grant would be submitted to improve the trail to Mill Creek. He indicated the grant applications would have to come through the county, and the proposed grant of \$100,000 would improve 24 miles of trails and would bring those trails under public easement if the grant is awarded. Mr. Martin inquired if both applications would come from the county. Mr. McKlarney indicated they would both come through the county, and multiple applications are allowed for submission. Mr. Lawson inquired if the foundation was aware of the public easement requirement. Mr. McKlarney related they were and had agreed to do it in principle, but have not yet officially voted on the easement.

***Mr. Morris made a motion to approve moving forward with the grant process and the letter of support 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 \$1,058,898.08, and Mr. Morris seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris***

## **TRAIL CENTER RIBBON CUTTING**

Mr. McKlarney announced the ribbon cutting at the new Trail Center will be held on May 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM. He related staff from DHCD would be in attendance.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

***Mr. Morris motioned to go into executive session as permitted by Virginia Code 2.2-3711 A (7) Legal Counsel and (29) Contracts. Mr. Baker seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 by rollcall vote as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris***

***Mr. Morris 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, 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 Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 6:30 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**