

At the regular meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors held on Wednesday, September 4, 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) – Absent
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
Catherine Ballard	Finance Director
Richard Chidester	County Attorney
Missy Bray	Board Secretary

CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION

Mr. Lawson 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 August 7, 2024 and August 15, 2024, minutes as presented. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. McCoy

VDOT REPORT

Mr. David Clarke updated members on maintenance efforts throughout the county, such as machining gravel roads; mowing, brush cutting, boom axe work on Clover Hollow, pipe work on Doe Creek, dust control and ditching on some gravel roads, and slope stabilization on Eaton’s Chapel.

Mr. Baker inquired about timing for line painting. Mr. Clarke advised he knows there are a lot of issues with that in the area. Mr. Baker requested work on the crossover on Route 460 at 84 Lumber. Mr. Clarke reported VDOT is going to do a bigger project on that. Mr. Morris related he has seen some brush cutting in the county. Mr. Martin reported some shoulder erosion on Mountain Lake Road and the bank washing out on Plow Screw that is going to start eating into the road. He related the edge of the road breaking off on Slant Drive and low shoulders on Route 460 in Hoges Chapel. Mr. Martin stated part of the guardrail had been taken out on Big Stony and inquired if there were any plans for road repairs since the pipeline will soon be pulling out, noting several places where trucks have damaged the roads. Mr. Clarke advised he will have a follow up meeting with them. Mr. McKlarney presented a letter relating to the road closure and

detours during the replacement of the bridge on Apache Road. Mr. Clarke indicated there is no other option except bridge replacement with that particular funding.

Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the Apache Road letter 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; Absent: Mr. McCoy

Mr. Bryan Reed related he had received a request for a speed study on Route 643, Grey Sulphur Road. Mr. Clarke advised all gravel roads in Virginia are 35 miles per hour by law, and it is VDOT policy to not post speed limits on gravel roads even with a study. He outlined how the policy is written.

Mr. Reed presented a request for watch for children signs on Route 42 near the store.

Mr. Baker made a motion to approve watch for children signs on Route 42. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. McCoy

Mr. Reed presented a request for watch for children signs on Big Rock Road, Route 692. Mr. Morris indicated there are already some private signs to that affect along that road.

Mr. Baker made a motion to approve watch for children signs on Big Rock Road. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. McCoy

Mr. Jay Williams expressed appreciation for the work being done on the brush cutting.

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

Dr. Arbogast updated the board on current enrollments. He stated there are currently 2,182 students, and there are an additional 1,111 nonresidential Stride virtual students. He related the lights for the Giles High School stadium are almost finished, and the Macy roof replacement is pretty much done. Dr. Arbogast indicated they are moving along on window installations and HVAC replacement will start in October. He stated the area will be abated during Christmas break, and there was a power switch over during the summer. Dr. Arbogast related boilers will be ordered closer to install and also related testing to be done at other schools.

Mr. Martin inquired about college classes being available for high school students, with the ability to switch between schools if needed. Dr. Arbogast stated it was allowed if the schedule would work out. Mr. Martin inquired about the extent of the college courses available to students, and Dr. Arbogast indicated he would send a listing.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jay Williams – Mr. Williams provided information on the Workforce programs, noting the Board office had moved into Radford. He reported the programs were cut by

approximately \$1.2 million for the year and 20 people were served in Giles. Mr. Williams related the Workforce office had set up a non-profit so that people or businesses could donate to the programs, and classes are being held at the King Johnston location. He encouraged members to submit an elected official nomination for the Consortium Board.

OLD BUSINESS

DAVENPORT FINANCIALS

Mr. Austin Sacks, with Davenport Financials, presented an update on the county's financial status. He indicated the county is in good shape financially and related the county is working on a series of capital projects through a VRA bond. Mr. Sacks provided information on goals and objectives, populations, history of assessed values, historical financial results, unassigned fund balance, debt service profile, capital planning, and interest rate and loan structure options. He suggested a policy of 15 percent for the unassigned fund balance and provided information on how the bonds might affect tax rates. Mr. Sacks advised a resolution would be sent for approval for the September recess meeting, and closing should take place in November.

RAILROAD CROSSING UPDATE

Mr. McKlarney reported the railroad will charge \$35,000 for the review of a preliminary engineering report, and there could be railroad funding available for crossings if removed. He indicated the crossing could be eliminated and a box culvert built over Doe Creek, which would be a good alternative if the railroad has enough money to pull it off. He related there are a lot more things still to do to move it forward. Mr. Martin inquired if the grant was on a cycle. Mr. McKlarney indicated the county had met the intent of the cycle with the preliminary work already done.

NEW BUSINESS

VJCCCA FUNDING

Mr. McKlarney presented a request from court services for the return of \$1,145.20 in VJCCCA funding out of a total of \$7,318.00 allocated for Fiscal Year 2024.

Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the request to return \$1,145.20 of VJCCCA funds from FY 2024. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. McCoy

STREET CLOSURE REQUESTS

Mr. McKlarney presented the following requests for street closures:
 Pearisburg, Annual GHS Homecoming Parade, 10/04/2024
 Pearisburg, Annual Scarecrow Festival, 10/05/2024

Pearisburg, Annual Fireman Parade, 10/5/2024
Narrows, Annual Fall Festival, 9/28/2024

Mr. Baker made a motion to approve all the street closure requests 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; Absent: Mr. McCoy

CARILION REQUEST FOR RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

Mr. McKlarney presented a requested resolution from Carilion in support of kidney transplant services at Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital and recommended approval.

Mr. Baker motioned to approve resolution in support of kidney transplant services at Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital 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; Absent: Mr. McCoy

APPOINTMENTS

Mr. McKlarney related every two years member jurisdictions for the New River Valley Regional Commission need to appoint an additional member. He indicated it was Giles County's time for that rotation.

ACO TRUCK

Mr. McKlarney presented a state contract price of \$49,362.62 for a Ford F250 as an animal control vehicle, noting the transmission is going out of the oldest ACO truck. He also noted a specialized box to go on the back that would cost approximately \$22,000.

Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the purchase of the Ford F250 from the state contract. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. McCoy

PAYMENT OF WARRANTS

Mr. Baker motioned to approve warrants in the amount of \$2,073,410.52, and Mr. Morris seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. McCoy

FINAL FISCAL YEAR 2024 TRANSFERS

Mr. Morris made a motion to approve the FY 2024 to FY 2025 transfers in the amount of \$927,471.46. Mr. Baker seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. McCoy

SOLAR PRESENTATION

Mr. Ross reported Entergy Right will be coming to the meeting on October 2nd for a presentation on solar energy, with the Planning Commission in attendance as well.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Morris motioned to go into executive session as permitted by Virginia Code 2.2-3711 A (29) Contracts. Mr. Baker seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0 by rollcall vote as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Lawson, Mr. Martin and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. McCoy

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 4-0 by rollcall vote as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Lawson, Mr. Martin and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. McCoy

ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Thursday, September 19, 2024, at 6:30 PM. The meeting will be held at the Giles County Administration Office located at 315 North Main Street, Pearisburg.

APPROVED:

Chair

ATTEST:

Clerk

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR KIDNEY TRANSPLANT SERVICES PROVIDED BY CARILION
CLINIC AT CARILION ROANOKE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL**

WHEREAS, Carilion Clinic is applying to the Commonwealth of Virginia for a Certificate of Public Need (COPN) to bring kidney transplant services to Southwest Virginia through its flagship hospital, Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital; and,

WHEREAS, the Giles County Board of Supervisors wishes to improve access to, high-quality kidney transplant services for its residents and other citizens of the region; and,

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimate that 1 in 7 U.S. adults have chronic kidney disease, the 10th leading cause of death in the country.

WHEREAS, in Virginia, there are currently over 2,300 residents on the state's waitlist for kidneys,

WHEREAS, patients in Roanoke and Southwest Virginia live hours from a transplant center, making it difficult to access critical services, resulting in long waitlist times and care complications,

WHEREAS, there is a growing need for kidney transplant services among Southwest Virginia's population, and these local services will allow for more cost-effective and timely care,

WHEREAS, these services will increase the number of medical professionals and healthcare employment opportunities in the area,

WHEREAS, Carilion Roanoke Memorial already provides highly complex medical services that include a Level One Trauma Center, a Level Three Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and 85 medical specialties;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Giles County Board of Supervisors, supports the plans and efforts of Carilion Clinic to establish kidney transplant services at Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Giles County Board of Supervisors enthusiastically supports the application of Carilion Clinic for a Certificate of Public Need (COPN) to bring kidney transplant services to Roanoke and Southwest Virginia and congratulates Carilion on its recognition by US News & World Report as the highest ranked hospital in Southwest Virginia and one of the top hospitals in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Adopted this 4th day of September, 2024


Attest: Chris McKarney, Clerk

