

At the recess meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors held on Thursday, January 23, 2025, 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)
Paul “Chappy” Baker	Vice-Chair (At-Large Supervisor)
John C. Lawson, Jr.	Western District
Perry Martin	Eastern District
Richard McCoy	At-Large Supervisor
Chris McKlarney	County Administrator
Catherine Ballard	Finance Director – Absent
John Ross	Building Official – Absent
Richard Chidester	County Attorney
Missy Bray	Board Secretary – Absent

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 January 8, 2025, minutes. Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was approved as presented 5-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris

NEW BUSINESS

FY 2025 PUMPER FUND REQUEST

Mr. Jon Butler, Emergency Services Coordinator, presented a request from the Pearisburg Fire Department for FY 2025 pumper funds in the amount of \$25,000 to offset the cost of an engine replacement in Engine 7. He related the total cost of the repair was \$68,761.58. Mr. McCoy inquired if it was that department’s turn for the funds, and Mr. Butler indicated it was. Members discussed the subsequent order of funds for departments.

Mr. McCoy made a motion to approve the appropriation of \$25,000 in pumper funds to the Pearisburg Volunteer Fire Department as requested, and 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

PROPOSED RECREATION FACILITY PRESENTATION

Mr. McKlarney presented information on a proposed recreation facility at the Cascades Industrial Park near Pembroke. He provided information on a 48,000 square feet

tensioned fabric structure along with cost variables and proposed uses along with other options that were researched. Mr. McKlarney outlined the site and why is it the most cost effective along with steps that would need to take place in order to move the project forward. He estimated the cost of the facility to be at \$5.5 to \$6 million, which does not include any IT or any food service area. Mr. McKlarney provided statistics on health and diseases within the county, noting Giles is significantly higher than neighboring jurisdictions, and being active would help to lower those numbers. He related information on the tension fabric, with the life of the fabric being 20 years, and provided information relative to maintenance and repair. Mr. McKlarney gave locations of other such facilities that are currently in use and the data obtained when talking to the people who operate them. He related the sketch includes a location for an outdoor pool, but construction of a pool is not included in the cost estimate Mr. McKlarney showed a sketch of the same building near the Wellness Center and indicated the space on that lot is limited due to utilities and is not owned by the county. He explained a lot of material would need to be moved on the Wellness Center site, and public water would have to be extended increasing the total cost of the facility. Mr. McKlarney related information on the facility foundation, heating and lack of air conditioning, adding the facility at Virginia Tech is not air conditioned. Mr. Baker stated he believes the Cascades Industrial Park is the best location for the facility. Mr. Lawson inquired if members had talked about improving the other road on the lot to make it an exit for eastbound traffic. Mr. McKlarney advised they had, and Mr. Morris indicated that parcel had been sold. Mr. McKlarney related the county still has a right of way through there. Members discussed road access and related costs. Mr. Martin express appreciation for all the work put into researching the proposed facility and indicated the county could get some good input from the community, noting the lack of space available for rec and school sports. Mr. McKlarney related the plan to get community input, including posting the plans and information on the county website and allowing emailed comments and suggestions on the project, as well as obtaining comments at the recess meeting in February. He indicated staff would gauge interest in responses to see if the meeting will need to be moved to a location with more room and would evaluate the cost of requests from the public against what the county can afford. Members discussed anticipated cost, and Mr. McKlarney indicated he expects the facility to operate at a \$250,000 per year loss as currently planned but better numbers would need to be obtained if interest is shown from the community.

PAYMENT OF WARRANTS

Mr. Baker motioned to approve warrants in the amount of \$1,1,746,023.60, 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

SOCIAL SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. Martin motioned to approve \$415,000.00 for the February 2025 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 (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

ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 5, 2025, 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