

At the regular meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors held on Wednesday, September 3, 2025 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.

Jeff Morris	Chair (Central District)
Paul “Chappy” Baker	Vice-Chair (At-Large Supervisor)-Absent
John C. Lawson, Jr.	Western District
Perry Martin	Eastern District
Richard McCoy	At-Large Supervisor – Absent
Chris McKlarney	County Administrator
Catherine Ballard	Finance Director
Jon Butler	Emergency Services Coordinator
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. Martin motioned to approve the August 21, 2025, minutes as presented. Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was approved 3-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker and Mr. McCoy

VDOT REPORT

Mr. David Clarke updated members on road maintenance within the county including pipe and head wall work on Route 219 as well as drainage work in a couple of Rich Creek subdivisions, machining gravel roads, brush cutting with the boom axe, and repair of pavement issues on Doe Creek. He noted that work on Rocky Sink and Big Stony are scheduled, and there had not been any additional issues with the sinkhole on Norcross. Mr. Clarke advised the pothole in Narrows had been fixed as well.

Mr. Lawson reported an issue with brush on Eaton Lane in Staffordsville, and Mr. Clarke indicated he is working with the schools on the bus routes that need to be cut. Mr. Lawson expressed appreciation for the work done on Route 219 and advised there are rough spots that need patched near the old White’s Market and other spots on 219. He advised he had filled in with mortar at the bottom of his driveway to keep the mail carrier from breaking an axle.

Mr. Martin reported eroding shoulders on Castle Rock Drive and inquired about setting up a meeting regarding a deceleration lane there, adding questions about funding types that could be used to fund that project. Mr. Clarke related smart scale is application-based and provided information about safety improvement funds. Mr. Martin reported

should issues on Route 460 in the Hoges Chapel area, and noted issues with passing zones in different areas along Route 42. He also requested ditching on Rye Hollow. Mr. Morris indicated he has received several calls regarding issues with brush.

Sheriff Morgan Millirons related he had been working on getting a brush cutting crew from Bland Correctional Center into the county and requested the speed on Castle Rock Road be reduced to 25 miles per hour. He also requested new flashing school signs on Route 460 at Eastern Elementary and inquired if the speed through that zone could be reduced to 35 miles per hour during the hours of 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday, when school is in session. He indicated there had been several near misses and a lot of speeding traffic had been reported in that area. Mr. McKlarney inquired if the county still has to purchase those signs. Mr. Clarke advised it does and will provide specifications and vendor information. Mr. Lawson commended the work being done to widen Route 460 between Rich Creek and Narrows. He inquired if VDOT controls the traffic lights and related back up issues at the light in Narrows.

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

Dr. Marlin Campbell reported the first day of school had gone well and praised the work of school and county staff involved in getting schools back open. He indicated the school renovations are going well and crews will continue to work throughout the school year during evening hours. Dr. Campbell noted several planned projects underway for academic achievement and attendance improvement, adding plans are in place to support teachers.

NEW BUSINESS

CELANESE MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT

Mr. Jon Butler presented an updated mutual aid agreement with Celanese. He noted a updated change in language, which would exempt the Celanese drone operators from the search warrant requirement. He recommended approval.

Mr. Lawson made a motion to approve the updated mutual aid agreement with Celanese. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. The motion was approved 3-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker and Mr. McCoy

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RENEW THE NEW RIVER CLEAN UP

Mr. McKlarney announced the ReNew river clean up will be held this coming Saturday and invited members to attend.

PAYMENT OF WARRANTS

Mr. Martin motioned to approve warrants in the amount of \$1,135,446.79, and Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was approved 3-0 as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker and Mr. McCoy

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Lawson motioned to go into executive session as permitted by Virginia Code 2.2-3711 A (1) Personnel and (29) Contracts. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. The motion was approved 3-0 by rollcall vote as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker and Mr. McCoy

Mr. Lawson 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. Martin seconded the motion. The motion was approved 3-0 by rollcall vote as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin and Mr. Morris; Absent: Mr. Baker and Mr. McCoy

ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Thursday, September 18, 2025, 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