

At the closeout meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors held on Tuesday, June 30, 2026, at 3:00 PM in the Giles County Maintenance Building located at 315 N. Main Street, Pearisburg, VA, 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
Paul “Chappy” Baker	At-Large Supervisor
Richard McCoy	At-Large Supervisor
Chris McKlarney	County Administrator
Catherine Ballard	Finance Director
Jon Butler	Emergency Services Coordinator
Richard Chidester	County Attorney
Gracie Howard	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. McCoy motioned to approve the June 18th, 2026 minutes, as presented. Mr. Baker seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote as follows:
Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris***

VDOT REPORT

The Board received a written update from Mr. Clark, who had attended the bridge dedication earlier in the day but was unable to return for the afternoon session. His report detailed recent VDOT maintenance activity across the county. Patch and paving work was completed on Route 772 – Sinking Creek and Route 663 – Green Valley Road, while machining and stone work were performed on Route 688 – Hendrickson Lane, Route 754 – Mill Road, and Route 623 – Rye Hollow. He noted that Spring Dry Run did not receive the expected work. Shoulder maintenance and striping were completed on Route 613 – Mountain Lake Road, and patchwork was finished on Route 616 – Lyda Lane, Route 786 – Burton Road, and Route 694 – Elder Hollow. Brush cutting was conducted on Route 700 – Mountain Lake using the boom-axe in preparation for July 4th festivities, as Mountain Lake will hold fireworks on July 2nd. Work began on the sinkhole at Route 684 – Norcross Road, and stonework was completed on Route 661 – Midkiff Road and Route 662 – Arch Eaton. Additional repairs included pothole patching on 460 East at Glen Lyn, stone placement on Route 723 – Interior Lane, cold patch on Route 643, and brush cutting on Route 623 – Cascade

Drive. Stone and drainage pipe replacements were completed on Route 656 – Moyer Road and Route 642 – McKenzie Avenue. A rock slide on Route 61 – Wolf Creek Road was cleared with assistance from both a contractor and VDOT. Cold patch work was done on Route 623 – Rocky Hollow Road, and machining and stonework were completed on Route 762 – Celestial Heights, Route 657 – Purdue Road, and Route 714 – Little Meadows Road. Brush cutting began on Route 635 – Big Stony Creek Road, where the boom-axe will remain for an extended period before moving to other areas. Mr. McKlarney noted that VDOT crews—not contractors—will handle primary mowing this season. He reported that water ponding on 460 near 84 Lumber had been corrected, and the Board expressed appreciation for VDOT’s efforts to expedite signage for the Maybrook bridge dedication by retrieving them directly from Richmond.

Mr. Martin requested that the County follow up with Mr. Clarke about the millings on Orchard Hill.

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

Dr. Campbell provided updates from Giles County Public Schools, beginning with the announcement of Dr. Derrick Sessor as the new principal of Giles High School. Dr. Sessor previously served as assistant principal at Patrick Henry High School in Roanoke City, overseeing approximately 600 students within a larger school of 2,000. He will begin his duties Monday morning, with a faculty meet-and-greet scheduled. Recruitment is underway for a new assistant principal at the high school. Dr. Campbell also shared a memo distributed earlier in the year regarding pay scales, offered for informational purposes. He reported that the School Board adopted its five-year comprehensive plan and approved a division-wide student handbook. A welcome-back event for staff will be held on August 4th at Buckeye Farms, and students will return on August 12th. He noted that the school year had been successful and that preparations for the upcoming year are well underway.

GILES COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL CARRY OVER FUNDS

A joint meeting involving two members of the Board of Supervisors and two School Board members resulted in a request for \$1,321,650 in carryover funds, covering work on the Narrows athletic facilities—including the track and tennis courts—and elementary school construction.

PAYMENT OF WARRANTS

Mr. Baker motioned to approve payment of FY 2026 warrants in the amount of \$2,304,885.18, and Mr. McCoy seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris

RECREATION CARRY OVER FUNDS

Mr. Martin made a motion to approve the recreation carryover funds for the recreational funds. 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

APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Baker made a motion to reappoint Ms. Catherine Ballard to the New River Valley Community Service Board. 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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. McCoy motioned to go into executive session as permitted by Virginia Code 2.2-3711 A (1) Personnel, and (29) Contracts. Mr. Baker seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 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 by a 5-0 rollcall vote as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris

PUBLIC HEARING

RE-ZONING – 715 & 717 GILES STREET, PEARISBURG VA 24134

Mr. Morris opened the Public Hearing, and Mr. Taylor called the Planning Commission to order. Members present were as follows: Mr. Berkman, Mr. G. Snider, Mr. Baker, Mr. I. Snider, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Law, and Mr. Thompson.

Mr. Chidester presented a rezoning request involving two parcels—Parcel 26-42A located at 715 Giles Street in Pearisburg and Parcel 26-42A1 located at 717 Giles Street. The issue arose due to mapping errors that led the Town of Pearisburg to believe the parcels were located within town limits and therefore subject to town zoning. After reviewing maps and records—assisted significantly by Jim Berkman—it was confirmed that the parcels were not within the town boundaries and had never been zoned by the county.

The county determined that rezoning them to R-2 would be the closest and most appropriate equivalent. Notices were sent to the affected property owners, and both owners were contacted directly. Neither expressed any objection to the proposed rezoning. No public comments or objections were presented during the hearing.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT – VOCATIONAL SPECIALIST

Mr. Morris opened the second public hearing for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application. A preliminary hearing had been held at the prior meeting, and this second hearing provided additional detail. Mr. McKlarney noted that the county would apply as a single-locality Public Services Project with a maximum award of \$250,000. The application seeks funding to establish the Working to Recover Program, an initiative employing a vocational specialist to support participants in the Giles County Recovery Court and Day Won program. The vocational specialist would teach work-readiness skills, including résumé development, employment applications, and interview preparation. Participants would complete mock interviews with local business professionals, and the grant would provide funding for appropriate interview attire. The specialist would assist participants with job searches, application submissions, and provide at least 90 days of employment support through regular check-ins with both participants and supervisors. It was also noted that the proposed CDBG activities are not expected to result in displacement, as the project is not housing-related. No public comments were offered, and no matching funds are required for the grant.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. McCoy motioned to go into executive session as permitted by Virginia Code 2.2-3711 A (1) Personnel. Mr. Baker seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 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 by a 5-0 rollcall vote as follows: Voting Yes: Mr. Baker, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Martin, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Morris

NEW BUSINESS

LIGHTS – POLYSTYRENE EXEMPTION

Mr. Butler, on behalf of Light's requested a polystyrene exemption for their store to use the items already in store.

Mr. McCoy moved to approve the polystyrene exemption. 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

PAY INCREASE

Mr. McCoy moved to approve a 3.5% pay increase for County employees. 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

PLANNING COMMISSION RECCOMENDATION

The Planning Commission recommended that the Board approve the rezoning of 715 and 717 Giles Street, Pearisburg, from C1 to R2.

Mr. McCoy moved to approve the Planning Commission recommendation to re-zone 715 and 717 Giles Street, Pearisburg from C1 to R2. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. 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, July 8th at 5:00 PM. The meeting will be held at the Giles County Maintenance Building located at 315 North Main Street, Pearisburg, VA.

APPROVED:

Chair _____

ATTEST:

Clerk