

SCOTT

VIRGINIA

At a meeting of the Scott County Board of Supervisors begun and held in the Supervisors' meeting room located at the Community Services Building in Gate City, Virginia on Wednesday the 5th day of October, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Darrel W. Jeter
Marshall D. Tipton
Jeremy P. Herron
Danny P. Mann – Chairman
Michael K. Brickey
Selma G. Hood
Stefanie C. Addington – Vice-Chairman

ABSENT: None.

Chairman Danny Mann called the meeting to order.

Supervisor Michael Brickey gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion by Darrel W. Jeter, duly seconded by Selma G. Hood, this Board hereby amends the agenda by adding items 10b - Establish lease threshold for right to use at \$10,000 for GASB 87 and 15b – Authorization to sign Interagency Agreement between Scott County and Scott County Public Service Authority for the Falin Hollow water project.

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, Marshall D. Tipton, Jeremy P. Herron, Danny P. Mann, Michael K. Brickey, Selma G. Hood, and Stefanie C. Addington.

Voting nay: None.

On a motion by Marshall D. Tipton, duly seconded by Stefanie C. Addington, this Board hereby approves the September 7, 2022 minutes.

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, Marshall D. Tipton, Jeremy P. Herron, Danny P. Mann, Michael K. Brickey, Selma G. Hood, and Stefanie C. Addington.

Voting nay: None.

Chairman Danny Mann opened Citizen Expression Period to receive public comments.

Mr. Fred Bishop presented three different boundary lines for the Town of Duffield. He reviewed the drawings and indicated that the third boundary line is correct (Said drawings being attached to the minutes of this meeting; Minute Book 33 Attachment No: 49).

Supervisor Selma Hood stated that she has been working with Mr. Bishop, and he is proposing that the area that was taken away be added back in. She went on to say that this will not require anyone paying more taxes.

Chairman Mann noted that the Board would review this matter further to determine what needs to be done.

Mr. Richard Gillenwater spoke about the status of Ball Field Road. He also stated that he was impressed with the results that the Twin Springs High School students were able to get with their letters about mowing along the road leading to the high school. Mr. Gillenwater expressed appreciation for the letter that the County Administrator sent to the Governor about the condition of the roads and inquired about a response from that letter.

County Administrator Freda Starnes replied that she met with the manager over the Bristol District. Since that time, the director of our area has changed, but not due to the letter that was sent to the Governor. She noted that Allen Sumpter is back and will be likely to get some of our road issues fixed. She went on to say that he will be attending the November meeting.

Mr. Gillenwater stated that the citizens planned on writing a letter as well.

Chairman Mann replied that it helps when citizens get involved. He added that the road to Twin Springs High School was mowed 48 hours after the Twin Springs High School students attended the September meeting. Chairman Mann went on to say that Mr. Sumpter is really good at his job, and he encouraged the citizens to attend the November meeting and speak directly to Mr. Sumpter before sending a letter to the Governor.

Ms. Peggy Tyus spoke about the condition of Snowflake Road. She spoke about the overgrown bushes especially in curves and the danger of meeting the school bus, FedEx, or UPS. She also mentioned the condition of ditch lines and scraping the road. She voiced how proud everyone is of the Twin Springs High School students. Ms. Tyus went on to say that secondary roads need a budget, and the funding for primary roads needs to be rearranged if needed in other areas. She pointed out that Veterans Memorial Highway was repaved, and there was nothing wrong with it. Ms. Tyus added that there are so many unpaved roads in Scott County, and Snowflake Road has been on the Six Year Plan for years.

Chairman Mann pointed out that there was no funding this year to do any projects.

Supervisor Jeremy Herron added that it is not official that Snowflake Road is on the plan.

County Administrator Freda Starnes pointed out that it is next in line to be added. Secondary Roads are considered every spring.

Supervisor Herron reported that funding from Richmond was cut. The Nickelsville and Gate City Virginia Department of Transportation shops were closed and manpower is the issue. There will need to be some changes from Richmond. The funding cuts were bad in 2008 and 2009. There needs to be a Virginia Department of Transportation crew for secondary roads, and that needs to be part of a letter the citizens send to the Governor.

Chairman Mann pointed out that funding cannot be moved from primary roads to secondary roads. The Board of Supervisors has no say about how the funding is spent.

Hearing no further comments, Chairman Mann closed Citizen Expression Period.

President of Mountain Empire Community College Dr. Kristen Westover gave an update and discussed a new Promise Program being established at the collage. Dr. Westover reported on various funding that has been put into the program from other counties. She requested \$45,000 from the Board of Supervisors to add to the program that would benefit those coming out of high school in Scott County (Said presentation being attached to the minutes of this meeting; Minute Book 33 Attachment No: 50).

Chairman Danny Mann indicated that the budget committee will look at the request and he thanked Dr. Westover for the presentation.

Mr. Keith Wilson with the Gate City Visioning Group and Daniel Boone Wilderness Trail Association spoke about a trail along with Gate City and Weber City being a part of the Kingsport MTPO. Mr. Wilson went on to say that the Gate City Visioning Group has been looking at ways to improve life in Gate City. There were a group of 40 people who came together to explore ideas. One thing that came out of that meeting was a desire for walking trails. Moccasin Gap is the issue. The Kingsport MTPO has a plan for Weber City and Gate City. The plan was to paint a line on the side of the road for a bike route into Gate City. That does not seem safe and has nothing to do with walking. The idea came to connect the Gate City sidewalk system with the Weber City sidewalk system. The area through Moccasin Gap needs to be addressed. The plan starts at the municipal parking lot in Gate City and ends at the soccer field in Weber City behind Food City and would connect with the Greenbelt eventually. The Daniel Boone Wilderness Trail Association is interested because that is the most valuable piece of property in Scott County. Moccasin Gap was the first gap that had to be navigated to get from North Carolina and Tennessee into Kentucky. Mr. Wilson went on to say that there was a meeting with the Virginia Department of Transportation. They pointed out that an engineering study needs to be done. There are grants available for that; therefore, Mr. Wilson requested a letter of endorsement from the Board of Supervisors. Furthermore, he requested that the Board of Supervisors consider placing this project on their planning document.

On a motion by Michael K. Brickey, duly seconded by Marshall D. Tipton, this Board hereby approves a letter of support for a trail grant (Said letter of support being attached to the minutes of this meeting; Minute Book 33 Attachment No: 48).

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, Marshall D. Tipton, Jeremy P. Herron, Danny P. Mann, Michael K. Brickey, Selma G. Hood, and Stefanie C. Addington.

Voting nay: None.

Virginia Department of Health Reisa Sloce, Michelle McPheron, and Daniel Hunsucker thanked the Board for their support through COVID. The group spoke about a Comprehensive Harm Reduction Program. The program started in 2018 in Wise County and was the first in the State of Virginia. Ms. Sloce stated that the program was a huge risk and challenge. She went on to say that Dr. Sue Cantrell was very passionate about the program. She saw the need from so many addicts, mental health issues, and diseases that come from addiction. Ms. Sloce spoke about diseases such as Hepatitis and HIV being spread through dirty syringes used by addicts. She noted that users do not care if someone is exposed to a dirty syringe with HIV or Hepatitis. Ms. Sloce added that Hepatitis C can live in a syringe for three months and pointed out that children will pick up anything. She reported that 210 people have HIV due to needle sharing. She explained that people work with addicts every day unaware because it is not always easy to identify an addict. The Comprehensive Harm Reduction Program is a syringe exchange program to reduce the spread of disease, provide counseling, family planning, and regular testing. Ms. Sloce went on to say that she has spoken with Scott County law enforcement about this program being provided at the ReVita Clinic in Duffield, and they support it. She asked the Board to give this program consideration as well. The group added that this area does not have long term patient facilities for addiction and pointed out that they meet people where they are but don't leave them there. They addressed services available through this program to help addicts recover and invited the Board of Supervisors to visit the Wise facility.

The Board addressed concerns about the program as well as benefits of the program. After much discussion, the Board decided to study the program further and place it on the November agenda.

Chairman Danny Mann expressed appreciation for the excellent presentation.

BREAK: 10:30 a.m.

RECONVENE: 10:49 a.m.

On a motion by Stefanie C. Addington, duly seconded by Marshall D. Tipton, this Board hereby ratifies a letter of support for Scott County Telephone Cooperative (Said letter being attached to the minutes of this meeting; Minute Book 33 Attachment No: 47).

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, Marshall D. Tipton, Jeremy P. Herron, Danny P. Mann, Michael K. Brickey, Selma G. Hood, and Stefanie C. Addington.

Voting nay: None.

On a motion by Marshall D. Tipton, duly seconded by Michael K. Brickey, this Board hereby establishes a lease threshold for right to use at \$10,000 for GASB 87.

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, Marshall D. Tipton, Jeremy P. Herron, Danny P. Mann, Michael K. Brickey, Selma G. Hood, and Stefanie C. Addington.

Voting nay: None.

On a motion by Darrel W. Jeter, duly seconded by Jeremy P. Herron, this Board hereby approves a quote from Livewire Communications Co. for Brivo door system equipment designed for all county buildings with an electronic doors system in the amount of \$7,456.84 with American Rescue Plan Act funds.

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, Marshall D. Tipton, Jeremy P. Herron, Danny P. Mann, Michael K. Brickey, Selma G. Hood, and Stefanie C. Addington.

Voting nay: None.

On a motion by Stefanie C. Addington, duly seconded by Selma G. Hood, this Board hereby appoints Danny P. Mann as the VACO voting representative and Michael K. Brickey as an alternate for the 2022 annual meeting.

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, Marshall D. Tipton, Jeremy P. Herron, Danny P. Mann, Michael K. Brickey, Selma G. Hood, and Stefanie C. Addington.

Voting nay: None.

On a motion by Selma G. Hood, duly seconded by Stefanie C. Addington, this Board hereby adopts the following:

RESOLUTION 2022-21

DECLARING AN END TO THE LOCAL EMERGENCY FOR RESIDENTS ON BLACKGUM LANE DUE TO LACK OF WATER

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Management for the County of Scott, Virginia, declared a Local Emergency on August 11, 2020, in accordance with the “Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Services and Disaster Law of 2000,” Virginia Code § 44-146.13, *et seq*, due to the lack of water from collapsed wells for residents on Blackgum Lane in the Cliff Mountain area of Duffield in Scott County, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Scott County Board of Supervisors, pursuant to Virginia Code § 44-146.21, confirmed by resolution the Declaration of Local Emergency at a special called meeting on August 18, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Code § 44-146.21(A) requires the governing body to designate an end to the declared emergency when all emergency actions have been taken; and

WHEREAS, on September 26, 2022, residents without water on Blackgum Lane received access to water in their homes from a newly installed water project in the area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Scott County Board of Supervisors on this 5th day of October, 2022, does hereby declare an end to the Local Emergency declared on August 11, 2020, due to lack of water for residents on Blackgum Lane.

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, Marshall D. Tipton, Jeremy P. Herron, Danny P. Mann, Michael K. Brickey, Selma G. Hood, and Stefanie C. Addington.

Voting nay: None.

On a motion by Selma G. Hood, duly seconded by Michael K. Brickey, this Board hereby ratifies the County Administrator signing an Appalachian Regional Commission Grant Agreement (Said agreement being attached to the minutes of this meeting (Minute Book 33; Attachment No: 44).

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, Marshall D. Tipton, Jeremy P. Herron, Danny P. Mann, Michael K. Brickey, Selma G. Hood, and Stefanie C. Addington.

Voting nay: None.

On a motion by Marshall D. Tipton, duly seconded by Darrel W. Jeter, this Board hereby ratifies the County Administrator signing the Falin Hollow agreement with the Board of Supervisors and DHCD (Said agreement being attached to the minutes of this meeting; Minute Book 33 Attachment No: 45).

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, Marshall D. Tipton, Jeremy P. Herron, Danny P. Mann, Michael K. Brickey, Selma G. Hood, and Stefanie C. Addington.

Voting nay: None.

On a motion by Marshall D. Tipton, duly seconded by Michael K. Brickey, this Board hereby authorizes the County Administrator to sign an interagency agreement with Scott County Public Service Authority for the Falin Hollow Water Project (Said agreement being attached to the minutes of this meeting; Minute Book 33 Attachment No: 46).

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, Marshall D. Tipton, Jeremy P. Herron, Danny P. Mann, Michael K. Brickey, Selma G. Hood, and Stefanie C. Addington.

Voting nay: None.

On a motion by Jeremy P. Herron, duly seconded by Darrel W. Jeter, this Board hereby appropriates the following:

Sheriff

\$1,768.10 to 31200-6009 Sheriff's Office – Repairs/Maintenance of Vehicles

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, Marshall D. Tipton, Jeremy P. Herron, Danny P. Mann, Michael K. Brickey, Selma G. Hood, and Stefanie C. Addington.

Voting nay: None.

On a motion by Marshall D. Tipton, duly seconded by Darrel W. Jeter, this Board hereby transfers \$4,240.37 from 95000-8022 Capital Projects – Munis Software to 12540-8102

Information Systems – Capital Outlay

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, Marshall D. Tipton, Jeremy P. Herron, Danny P. Mann, Michael K. Brickey, Selma G. Hood, and Stefanie C. Addington.

Voting nay: None.

County Administrator Freda Starnes presented the claims and related reports (Said reports being attached the minutes of this meeting; Minute Book 33 Attachment No: 51).

On a motion by Michael K. Brickey, duly seconded by Selma G. Hood, this Board orders that:

- (a) Social Services be allowed the sum of \$373,691.35 for voucher numbers 4080297 – 4080416 with voucher number 4080282 voided and payroll electronic tax.
- (b) General Fund be allowed the sum of \$1,241,648.81 for voucher number 2097696 – 2097725, 2097727 – 2097757, 2097759 – 2097783, 2097785 – 2097792, 2097793 – 2097795, 2097797 – 2097803, 2097806 – 2097807, 2097808, 2097809 – 2097828, 2097830-2097839, 2097841-2097861, 2097862-2087875, and payroll electronic tax.
- (c) Fund 11 be allowed the sum of \$2,675.51 for voucher number 2097808 and payroll electronic tax payment.

- (d) Fund 42 be allowed the sum of \$1,000.00 for voucher number 2097726 and payroll electronic tax.
- (e) Fund 35 be allowed the sum of \$36,796.39 for voucher numbers 20977784, 2097796, 2097804, 2097829, 2097840 and payroll electronic tax.
- (f) Fund 55 be allowed the sum of \$53,241.94 for voucher numbers 5511295 and 5511310.
- (g) Fund 45 be allowed the sum of \$1,700.85 for voucher number 2097805 and payroll electronic tax.
- (h) Fund 16 be allowed the sum of \$390.57 for voucher numbers 2097758 and 2097765.
- (i) Fund 27 be allowed the sum of \$286.12 for voucher number 2097822.
- (j) Fund 46 be allowed the sum of \$2.77 for voucher number 2097808

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, Marshall D. Tipton, Jeremy P. Herron, Danny P. Mann, Michael K. Brickey, Selma G. Hood, and Stefanie C. Addington.

Voting nay: None.

County Administrator Freda Starnes gave an update on the Fugate Hollow abandonment. She reported that property owners are not moving forward with their request for abandonment.

Chairman Danny Mann talked about visiting a Washington County, Tennessee compactor station. They had five sites that serves 150,000 people.

Assistant County Administrator/Public Works Director Bill Dingus added that the committee is looking at options to determine the best route for Scott County.

Supervisor Marshall Tipton thanked the staff and Board.

Supervisor Jeremy Herron addressed EMS contributions and the lack of insurance payments coming in. Supervisor Herron went on to say that this will continue to become a major problem. There has not been an increase given in several years. If the county had to support them one hundred percent, it would cost millions; therefore, there needs to be an increase. Supervisor Herron added that the county cannot keep truck drivers due to the salary, and they

can go other places and make more money. He addressed a fire tax and implementing it into what we already have.

Supervisor Selma Hood stated the highlight of her month was the Blackgum residents getting water. She expressed appreciation to the Duffield Fire Department for taking them water and everyone who had a hand in getting them water. Another highlight she mentioned was the Kenny Fannon bridge dedication. She went on to say that Kenny Fannon was a train enthusiast and a train came by just as the ceremony was beginning. Supervisor Hood noted that the weeds have been cut along her road, and she appreciates the Twin Springs High School students for their letters.

Supervisor Stefanie Addington expressed appreciation to the staff. She stated that she loves working with this Board along with Freda and Sally and the staff that do a phenomenal job.

Supervisor Danny Mann thanked the staff.

On a motion by Darrel W. Jeter, duly seconded by Michael K. Brickey, this Board hereby enters into closed session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 A.1 Personnel being County Administrator, A.3 Real Estate being Gate City and Weber City, and A.7 Legal Counsel being opioid litigation.

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, Marshall D. Tipton, Jeremy P. Herron, Danny P. Mann, Michael K. Brickey, Selma G. Hood and Stefanie C. Addington.

Voting nay: None.

On a motion by Michael K. Brickey, duly seconded by Marshall D. Tipton, this Board hereby returns to open session.

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, Marshall D. Tipton, Jeremy P. Herron, Danny P. Mann, Michael K. Brickey, Selma G. Hood and Stefanie C. Addington.

Voting nay: None.

On a motion by Darrel W. Jeter, duly seconded by Marshall D. Tipton, this Board hereby gives the following:

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Scott County Board of Supervisors has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provision of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Scott County Board of Supervisors that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Scott County Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Scott County Board of Supervisors.

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter
Marshall D. Tipton
Jeremy P. Herron
Danny P. Mann
Michael K. Brickey
Selma G. Hood
Stefanie C. Addington.

Voting nay: None.

Chairman Danny Mann adjourned the meeting until November 2, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.

CHAIRMAN

CLERK