

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 2nd day of November, 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 P. Mann called the meeting to order, gave the invocation, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion by Selma G. Hood, duly seconded by Darrel W. Jeter, this Board hereby approves the November 2, 2022 agenda.

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 Jeremy P. Herron, this Board hereby approves the October 5, 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 P. Mann opened Citizen Expression Period to receive public comments.

Laura Bledsoe spoke about Snowflake Road. She pointed out that residents of Snowflake Road have attended road meetings for years and Snowflake Road has been on the Six Year Plan since 1997. Ms. Bledsoe questioned what the Six Year Plan is for. She added that a drain tile has washed out her driveway and the dust ruins homes and outdoor furniture. In addition, a zoo is located on Snowflake Road. Bushes make it difficult to see around curves and dangerous when meeting a school bus or FedEx. She went on to say that the residents on Snowflake Road pay their taxes, and this is ridiculous. Ms. Bledsoe pointed out that roads are being resurfaced throughout the county and is not needed.

Richard Gillenwater spoke about Ball Field Road. He thanked the Board for their letter to legislators requesting assistance, but he has not heard anything from that.

Ms. Starnes replied that she mentioned at the last meeting that she had met with the Virginia Department of Transportation District Director because the letter was sent back to the local Bristol district office.

Mr. Gillenwater stated that he is currently working on a letter to the state representatives on this issue. He pointed out that his concern was increased due to the school bus accident that occurred on Twin Springs Road. Mr. Gillenwater went on to say that the only way to get a response is with data as to unpaved, narrow roads, and school buses. Mr. Gillenwater requested that he be informed of any new developments.

Peggy Tyus inquired about getting a grant for Snowflake Road.

Chairman Mann replied that he has never heard of that except for the road coming from High Knob.

Supervisor Jeremy Herron noted that Snowflake Road is not on the Six Year Plan. That road has been paved in sections. It has been on the Six Year Plan for those sections, but the remaining section is not on the plan. It should be the next one to go on the plan. Each District Supervisor selected a road. Four of them were added, and there should be three remaining. Ball Field Road is the same situation. A portion of that road is paved too. It has been that way for a

while. There was a freeze on funding for the Six Year Plan; therefore, nothing was added to that plan.

Residency Administrator Allen Sumpter presented a report to the Board of Supervisors (Said report being attached to the minutes of this meeting; Minute Book 33 Attachment No: 54). Mr. Sumpter reported that Jackie Christian retired, and he would be providing a report to the Board of Supervisors and will visit quarterly. He went on to say that the report will highlight previous requests and project status. There is a need to mow more efficiently, and a mowing cycle will be established. Mr. Sumpter noted that crews will be working on storm debris along many roadways especially dead trees this winter. He added that Virginia Department of Transportation contractors have been affected with resources. He confirmed that Snowflake Road and Ball Field Road are not on the Six Year Plan. Mr. Sumpter explained that there was a time around 2005 when roads would be placed on the Six Year Plan without enough funds. The plan was not realistic because it would take millions of dollars to fix those roads and funding was not available. The plan was made more realistic resulting in roads being taken off. There was a priority list established at the county level. When projects were completed, roads were pulled from the priority list. Mr. Sumpter reported that there is a Six Year Plan public hearing each Spring. He encouraged the residents of Snowflake Road and Ball Field Road to attend the Public Hearing and request that their road be added to the plan.

Supervisor Selma Hood mentioned that a small section of Bee Line Road on Route 753 was completed but rarely traveled. Furthermore, she received complaints about Bunker Road being paved. Bunker Road has the same route number as a section of Bee Line Road. Supervisor Hood questioned if there had been a mistake since Bunker Road was never on the Six Year Plan and is not traveled that much.

Mr. Sumpter replied that safety improvement funds were used for Bunker Road. That road was selected due to reoccurring maintenance issues. It saved money in the long term by paving that road.

Supervisor Hood stated that she had not received complaints about Bunker Road. There are so many needs in residential areas. Bee Line Road is a heavily traveled road. She added that she gets more calls on Bee Line Road than any other road in District Six. Supervisor Hood noted that it is on the Six Year Plan, but she was told that it would be years before that road is paved.

Mr. Sumpter replied that the intent is to get the roads on the Six Year Plan paved within six years. He went on to say that he will check the status of Bee Line Road and will be in touch with Supervisor Hood at some point.

Supervisor Danny Mann inquired about funding in the near future.

Mr. Sumpter replied that the funds are established by a formula through the General Assembly based on gas tax and the purchase of vehicles. Mr. Sumpter added that he would receive any increase in funds prior to the public hearing on the Six Year Plan.

Supervisor Jeter pointed out that some people think that real estate tax pays for roads.

Mr. Sumpter replied that gas tax and vehicle title tax pay for the roads.

Supervisor Michael Brickey added that a lot of issues with roads such as trees falling into roads and pot holes might have started when the Virginia Department of Transportation closed local departments and went to contractors.

Mr. Sumpter recalled the area headquarters having 28 employees and now there are 10 or 12 employees. Those are supplemented with contractors. When everything works right, we get the work accomplished. When we get the contractors back, it will free up Fort Blackmore and Pattonville to address more of the routine maintenance. There has been some funding identified to supplement the tree trimming fund and get another crew to focus on high traffic routes in Scott County.

The Board noted that all they can do is call in road complaints and pointed out that the state had two billion dollars in excess funds that could have been used for roads but was distributed as a supplement to the tax payers.

Mr. Sumpter replied that he only has the ability to work with the funds that are allocated here.

Chairman Mann stated that it is a funding issue.

Mr. Sumpter stated that he would check on the drain issue on Snowflake Road that was mentioned during Citizen Expression Period and look at the maintenance issues as they are brought to our attention.

Supervisor Jeremy Herron pointed out that the road is down to the bedrock that was addressed by Laura Bledsoe. There is no way to easily put a drain tile in there, and Ponderosa Road is the same way. There is a stretch of Ponderosa that has no drain tiles, and it has a steep grade.

Mr. Sumpter replied that he would check on that.

Supervisor Herron stated that more funds are needed, and it has to start in Richmond. Supervisor Herron pointed out an article he found in Northern Virginia about the Blueprint Plan in 2009 that was all about making Virginia Department of Transportation smaller due to a deficit year. That is when several Scott County Virginia Department of Transportation shops closed. That took place throughout Virginia as well. There needs to be a maintenance schedule. There is a buildup of gravel and dirt on both sides of the road. Gate Road has two deep ditches and is down to the bedrock so there is nothing to work with. There is property being ruined because there is no place for the water to go and washing gravel onto pasture fields. It would be costly for the property owner to get that cleaned up.

Supervisor Marshall Tipton pointed out tree issues on A.P. Carter Highway. He went on to say that Bluebell Drive needs to be added to the Virginia Department of Transportation system.

Mr. Sumpter replied that he could get a projected cost on Bluebell Drive.

Chairman Mann thanked Mr. Sumpter for attending the meeting.

Mr. Joey Mullins with the Virginia Department of Transportation addressed a bridge abandonment on Route 796 Old Snowflake Road and presented a drawing of the area (Said drawing being attached to the minutes of this meeting; Minute Book 33 Attachment No: 55). He added that this structure is recommended to be abandoned rather than replaced. The road carries 37 vehicles per day and has access at both ends. There would be a cul-de-sac constructed, and the other side of the bridge would be a private entrance and dead end road.

County Administrator Freda Starnes inquired about the bridge being torn down.

Mr. Mullins replied that he is asking for a resolution of support from the Board for a public hearing. He is not sure until the public hearing if it is desirable to be left in place.

Supervisor Michael Brickey stated that he looked at the property, there is only one occupied home, and he was not aware that property could be accessed from the Nickelsville Highway.

Mr. Mullins stated that only the portion of road at the bridge will be abandoned. A public hearing will be held for the bridge.

Supervisor Marshall Tipton questioned the reason for the abandonment.

Mr. Mullins replied that it is very costly to replace the bridge, and there is another access.

Supervisor Herron asked if the bridge would have to be completely replaced.

Mr. Mullins replied that it would have to be completely replaced.

Supervisor Darrel Jeter inquired about the remainder of the road being maintained by the Virginia Department of Transportation.

Mr. Mullins replied that it would be maintained.

Public Works Director/Assistant County Administrator Bill Dingus inquired whether the Virginia Department of Transportation owns enough property to make a cult de sac.

Mr. Mullins replied that rights-of-way from the property owner would need to be obtained. Mr. Mullins stated that is why he is asking for support from the Board of Supervisors today so this can be pursued further and work through the details.

Supervisor Brickey mentioned that there is farm equipment located on the other side of the creek, and the owner might need use of that bridge.

Chairman Danny Mann replied that the Board needs to form a resolution to consider at the December meeting, and he thanked Mr. Mullins for attending.

Mr. Richard Gillenwater stated that he listened to the Virginia Department of Transportation report. It is just the same thing over and over again. The Six Year Plan is a political effort. Mr. Gillenwater told the Board that each of them have a responsibility for their district. Everyone thinks that the Six Year Plan is a joke. There has to be a better way. Someone should be appointed to look at the big picture. He added that everyone sympathizes with the Board that is caught in the system also. Mr. Gillenwater requested a copy the report presented by the Virginia Department of Transportation.

Chairman Mann gave Mr. Gillenwater a copy and asked Mr. Gillenwater to give Mr. Sumpter a chance.

Mr. Gillenwater stated that Mr. Sumpter gave him his contact information.

Chairman Mann replied that it is not just your road. There are many roads in Scott County with issues. There are over 250 miles of unpaved roads.

United Way of Southwest Virginia Development Coordinator Amanda Martin presented information about the organization. She requested that county employees be allowed to participate in the United Way campaign. Ms. Martin reported that all proceeds remain in Scott County, and there is a local board that makes decisions and sees that everything stays local. (Said information being attached to the minutes of this meeting; Minute Book 33 Attachment No: 58).

Chairman Mann thanked Ms. Martin for the presentation.

On a motion by Stefanie C. Addington, duly seconded by Selma G. Hood, this Board hereby accepts funds in the amount of \$60.00 from the sale of Animal Friendly license plates in FY 2022 and transfers the funds to the Scott County Humane Society (Certification of Funds attached to the minutes of this meeting; Minute Book 33 Attachment No: 52).

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 Michael K. Brickey, this Board hereby authorizes a public hearing to amend the FY 2023 budget.

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 Darrel W. Jeter, this Board hereby ratifies an engagement letter with Robinson Farmer Cox (Said letter being attached to the minutes of this meeting; Minute Book 33 Attachment 53).

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 Jeremy P. Herron, this Board hereby appropriates the following:

Animal Control

\$2,100.00 to 35100-3170 – Animal Control – Special Services

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 Jeremy P. Herron, this Board hereby appropriates the following:

Sheriff

\$5,923.91 to 31200-8001 Vehicle Replacement

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 Michael K. Brickey, this Board hereby accepts Commonwealth's Attorney's DCJS (Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services) Virginia Sexual & Domestic Violence Victim Fund Continuation FY 23 Grant 496559.

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.

The Social Services Board appointment was postponed until the December meeting.

County Administrator Freda Starnes presented the claims and related reports (Said reports being attached to the minutes of this meeting; Minute Book 33 Attachment No: 59).

On a motion by Marshall D. Tipton, duly seconded by Stefanie C. Addington, this Board orders that:

- (a) Social Services be allowed the sum of \$359,678.33 for voucher numbers 4080417 – 4080537 with voucher number 4080389 voided and payroll electronic tax.
- (b) General Fund be allowed the sum of \$1,131,984.95 for voucher numbers 2097876 – 2097880, 2097882 – 2097910, 2097912 – 2097926, 2097928 – 2097969, 2097971 – 2097979, 2097981 – 2097989, 2097990 – 2097993, 2097995 – 2098006, 2098007 – 2098022, 2098024 – 2098029, 2098031 – 2098033, 2098035 – 2098037, 2098039 – 2098042, 2098044 – 2098048, 2098050 – 2098059, 2098061 – 2098074, 2098075 – 2098097 with check number 2097892 voided and payroll electronic tax.
- (c) Fund 11 be allowed the sum of \$3,446.70 for payroll electronic tax payment.
- (d) Fund 42 be allowed the sum of \$328.95 for voucher numbers 2097881 and 2097896 and payroll electronic tax.
- (e) Fund 35 be allowed the sum of \$200,888.45 for voucher numbers 2097911, 2097927, 2097980, 2097994, 2098030, 2098034, 2098038, 2098043, 2098049, 2098060.
- (f) Fund 55 be allowed the sum of \$61,175.64 for voucher numbers 5511311 – 5511323.
- (g) Fund 45 be allowed the sum of \$1,700.82 for voucher number 2098023 and payroll electronic tax.
- (h) Fund 16 be allowed the sum of \$189.82 for voucher number 2097999.
- (i) Fund 2 be allowed the sum of \$1,911.00 for voucher number 2097970.

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 Selma G. Hood, this Board hereby grants an additional four hours leave for county employees on November 23, 2022.

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 announced that a bridge dedication will be held on November 19, 2022 at 10:30 a.m.

On a motion by Jeremy P. Herron, duly seconded by Michael K. Brickey, this Board hereby allows county employees to participate in the United Way campaign.

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.

BREAK: 10:00 a.m.

RECONVENE: 10:15 a.m.

Tourism Director Pam Cox gave an update (Said update being attached to the minutes of this meeting; Minute Book 33 Attachment No: 56).

Park and Recreation Director Derrick France gave an update (Said update being attached to the minutes of this meeting; Minute Book 33 Attachment No: 57).

Darrel Jeter thanked the Board and staff and inquired about the budget.

The County Administrator replied that the budget is currently \$182,000 in the negative.

Supervisor Jeremy Herron inquired about the status of the tax tickets and extending the deadline.

County Administrator Freda Starnes replied that they are at the printers and should be received any day. By Code, there has to be a 14 day notice.

Supervisor Herron replied that he does not agree with it. A lot of people will have to come up with another \$1,000.00.

Ms. Starnes replied that car values have increased across the nation and not just Scott County.

Supervisor Michael Brickey expressed appreciation to those that serve on committees. It is hard to find people to serve. He suggested keeping a list of those willing to serve.

Ms. Starnes replied that the web site is being redone and will be more user friendly.

Supervisor Selma Hood reported that ReVIDA will do a presentation in December. She spoke about a recent visit to the Daniel Boone Interpretive Center museum. Supervisor Hood expressed concerns about paving and serious water needs in Scott County.

Supervisor Stefanie Addington expressed appreciation to the staff and added that she sent the Public Service Authority Director an email about water needs in Hunters Valley.

Supervisor Danny Mann thanked the staff and wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving,

On a motion by Marshall D. Tipton, duly seconded by Michael K. Brickey, this Board hereby enters into closed session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 A.3 Real Estate being Gate City.

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 Darrel W. Jeter, 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 Marshall D. Tipton, duly seconded by Darrel W. Jeter, 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 P. Mann adjourned the meeting to December 7, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.

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CHAIRMAN

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CLERK