

March 13, 2018

The Wythe County Board of Supervisors held its regularly scheduled meeting at 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 13, 2018. The location of the meeting was in the Boardroom of the County Administration Building, 340 South Sixth Street, Wytheville, Virginia.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Timothy A. Reeves, Sr., Chair
Joe F. Hale, Vice Chair
Brian W. Vaught
Charlie G. Lester

Ryan M. Lawson
Coy L. McRoberts
B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.

STAFF PRESENT:

Stephen D. Bear, County Administrator
Scot S. Farthing, County Attorney
Martha G. Collins, Administrative Assistant/Clerk
Bill Vaughan, County Engineer

OTHERS PRESENT:

Kevin Buller
Anthony Cline
Keith Dunagan
Charles Foster
Danny Gordon
Tim Irving
David Johnstone

Dane Little
Debbie Little
Linda Meyer
Mike Sobey
Stacy Terry
Dustin Warf

CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

Chair Reeves determined that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Tim Irving of the Wytheville Baptist Church provided the invocation and Chair Reeves led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS' TIME

Chair Reeves welcomed the citizens present at the meeting and inquired if anyone wished to address the Board.

1. School Resource Officers – Kevin Buller of 218 East Buck Avenue in Rural Retreat addressed the Board and stated the following:

"I come tonight as a concerned citizen of Wythe County. Although, I am a concerned citizen and have school age kids, I am concerned about the funding of our school resource officers that are in our schools at present. I also am a school resource officer, currently working at the Sheriff's Office, so I know a little bit about the position. What concerns me is that at the Sheriff's Office right now we are in kind of a tight spot. We are losing people to the State Police and we are just not going to be able to continue to do what we have been doing to help fund the Sheriff's Office. As a citizen, that bothers me because everywhere I have lived before, Sheriffs, law enforcement, schools they are funded by tax dollars and not by how many tickets you write. As a school resource officer, my duties

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call me to be in some of the schools here in the County, Rural Retreat High School, Middle School, Elementary School, and Speedwell. I am not doing the people there at the school, the teachers, the staff, the kids any good if I have to be out on the interstate writing tickets just to pay for my very existence at the Office. I am currently in a County funded position as far as I know; correct me if I am wrong Sheriff. County funded means it is paid for by ticket money. I think it has come to a point as you can see in the news every day; it doesn't take very long for us to see a school shooting pop up. Certainly, a month ago in Florida, they probably didn't see it coming or maybe they did see it coming, but they weren't prepared. I think that it is important we take care of our most valuable asset in this county, our children, and make sure and have someone there who is ready to take care of business and hopefully stop it before it starts. Here within the last week, I have been confronted with a student that made threats. I was able to stop that before it got any further than just threats. The Code of Virginia allows for that. I think that if we have got someone in place that is in law enforcement and is able to do that, then it is helping us a lot to get stopped before it gets started. I would like to encourage you all to please consider to fund our School Resource Program. It is important. It is important that the kids see someone there. That they know that someone is there to protect them. That they can be safe while they are trying to learn. I would appreciate it if you would do whatever it is in your power to see that the tax money that we pay goes to that or part of it goes to that anyway. I want to continue to have a job as a school resource officer. I know I would probably continue to work at the Sheriff's Office whether I continue to get to be a school resource officer or not. I think that it is important that we protect our kids. We can't do that if we are out writing tickets. I appreciate your time. Thank you."

2. School Resource Officers – Mike Sobey of 202 North Main Street in Rural Retreat addressed the Board and stated the following:

"I am here also to speak on the same subject that Mr. Buller just spoke. Let me preface my remarks by saying I don't have children in the school any more. My children have all grown up, but they all successfully had great experiences in Wythe County schools. They were very successful here. I do have a few children in schools, however, who call me poppy. Quite a few more that I serve as guardian ad litem for and an even greater number who call me coach. I still have a very deep concerned vested interest in our schools. There has always been a school resource officer there. I cannot think of anything that is more important as a governmental function than to provide for a safe, secure, sound education for our children. If there is somebody in this room who thinks that there is something that is a higher priority than that, I would love to know what it is. I can't think of anything. That is primary function that we have here. We are talking about having to raise taxes to keep school resource officers there. I don't think anybody if it came down to it would say no. Here is what I want to point out, a couple of things. One, everything that is right, everything that is good about having a sworn law enforcement officer in one of those schools was on very public display last week. Everything that we want that school resource

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officer to be has been blasted all over the media in very favorable terms because we had a deputy there. I am also aware of incidents at the schools that took place that could have been avoided, that would not have happened, if the school resource officer had been there, but he was out on the interstate writing tickets. He wasn't at the school at the time. It is not a part-time job. I hear and I saw it in the newspaper. I have been reading, following up on these, that the cost of a school resource officer, if we would have budgeted it, it was, however many dollars it was, and to do that if we raise the property tax by a little bit, that would be fine and that would cover all of that. I am also aware that we have spent about \$7.5 million thus far on the expo center. I don't recall anybody coming and saying we are going to have to raise taxes to build that. When I thought about that, it reminded me of the old joke we had when I was in the service about how the Airforce built their bases. Get the funding, find the land, and then the first thing you do is you build the officers club and the golf course. Get the things you really want because when you run out of money to build the runway, you know you are going to get more. We are saying here we need more money from you the taxpayers to keep our children safe. What I am suggesting is rather than float a bond for \$10 million to see if we are going to fix George Wythe High School, or if we are going to raise taxes to pay for school resource officers let's build the runway first. The runway in this case is keeping our kids safe. That is the most important thing that we have. We know that everybody in this room would say yes, we will do whatever we need to keep those kids safe, but I think that it is wrong to say let's speculate on what might happen if we build this project up in, off of Exit 77. I have spoken to a couple of Board members about it personally. I know that I have spoken to you about it previously, Mr. Reeves. My feelings on that notwithstanding. That falls in the category of nice to have, not must have. Must have is safe children in good, sound, secure schools. You are coming to us saying we are building... we put \$7.5 million, which if I am doing the math right, could fund the school resource officers in every one of our schools for about ten years. We don't have any problem spending that, but we want you to dip deeper in your pockets for the absolute necessity. That is backwards. That is wrong. Why don't we fund the school resource officers? Fund fixing George Wythe High School and then ask the taxpayers if they want to increase their taxes to pay for the expo center."

With no one else to address the Board, Chair Reeves closed Citizens' Time.

WYTHE COUNTY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Chair Reeves noted that the new Wythe County Community Hospital chief executive officer, Joseph Wilkins, was unable to attend the meeting as planned.

PAYMENT OF COUNTY INVOICES

Supervisor McRoberts made a motion to pay the invoices for approval on March 13, 2018, for the various departments of County government. The invoices were paid on General Warrants 30100287-30100306 and 30100324-30100426 as follows:

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**EXPENDITURES BY DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
March 13, 2018**

CHECK NO.	ISSUE DATE	VENDOR	TOTAL
30100287	02/28/18	BLEACHER BUILDERS INC.	\$50,000.00
TOTAL CHECKS APPROVED 02/28/18			\$50,000.00

CHECK NO.	ISSUE DATE	VENDOR	TOTAL
30100288	03/02/18	APPALACHIAN POWER	\$1,680.29
30100289	03/02/18	BUSINESS CARD	\$3,455.26
30100290	03/02/18	CENTURY LINK	\$44.67
30100291	03/02/18	CENTURY LINK	\$52.76
30100292	03/02/18	CENTURY LINK	\$70.72
30100293	03/02/18	CENTURY LINK	\$77.02
30100294	03/02/18	CENTURY LINK	\$114.49
30100295	03/02/18	CENTURY LINK	\$146.23
30100296	03/02/18	CENTURY LINK	\$247.66
30100297	03/02/18	CENTURY LINK	\$335.70
30100298	03/02/18	CENTURY LINK	\$4,983.89
30100299	03/02/18	LUMOS NETWORKS	\$31.25
30100300	03/02/18	MANSFIELD OIL CO.	\$7,282.12
30100301	03/02/18	TOWN OF WYTHEVILLE	\$82.46
30100302	03/02/18	VITA	\$3.50
30100303	03/02/18	VITA	\$163.18
30100304	03/02/18	VITA	\$182.03
30100305	03/02/18	VITA	\$191.10
30100306	03/02/18	VITA	\$235.40
TOTAL CHECKS APPROVED 03/02/18			\$19,379.73

CHECK NO.	ISSUE DATE	VENDOR	TOTAL
30100324	03/13/18	AMBURN, TERRI	\$30.00
30100325	03/13/18	APPALACHIAN JUVENILE COMMISSION	\$11,025.00
30100326	03/13/18	APPALACHIAN POWER	\$1,627.37
30100327	03/13/18	AYERS AND SONS SEPTIC LLC	\$500.00
30100328	03/13/18	B & H PHOTO	\$1,302.47
30100329	03/13/18	BEAR, STEPHEN	\$266.54
30100330	03/13/18	BIG WALKER SOIL WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT	\$1,500.00
30100331	03/13/18	BKT UNIFORMS	\$88.97
30100332	03/13/18	BLUE RIDGE AUTO PARTS INC.	\$78.90
30100333	03/13/18	BMS DIRECT INC.	\$4,028.00
30100334	03/13/18	BROWN EXTERMINATING CO.	\$81.08
30100335	03/13/18	CAR CARE CENTER LLC	\$28.24
30100336	03/13/18	CARTER MACHINERY CO. INC.	\$1,668.08
30100337	03/13/18	CAVALIER SUPPLY CO.	\$1,227.90
30100338	03/13/18	CDW GOVERNMENT INC.	\$1,992.26

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30100339	03/13/18	CENTURY LINK	\$133.56
30100340	03/13/18	CENTURY LINK	\$278.89
30100341	03/13/18	CITIZENS TELEPHONE COOP	\$720.00
30100342	03/13/18	COLLINS AUTO REPAIR INC.	\$53.99
30100343	03/13/18	COVERT, JINJER A.	\$869.50
30100344	03/13/18	CW WARTHEN	\$350.00
30100345	03/13/18	DELL MARKETING LP	\$2,421.14
30100346	03/13/18	DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES	\$50.00
30100347	03/13/18	DEPARTMENT OF MUSEUMS HERITAGE	\$1,250.00
30100348	03/13/18	DISTRICT THREE GOVT COOP	\$3,632.50
30100349	03/13/18	DUKES PRINTING	\$311.00
30100350	03/13/18	DUNAGAN, KEITH	\$209.44
30100351	03/13/18	ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT CO.	\$2,988.39
30100352	03/13/18	ERICOM SOFTWARE INC.	\$104.00
30100353	03/13/18	F & R ELECTRIC INC.	\$11,375.00
30100354	03/13/18	FARTHING, SCOT S.	\$2,500.00
30100355	03/13/18	FERGUSON ENTERPRISES NO. 5	\$80.28
30100356	03/13/18	FIRE RESCUE AND TACTICAL INC.	\$442.74
30100357	03/13/18	FIRE SAFETY PRODUCTS	\$1,040.00
30100358	03/13/18	FOLEY COMPANY	\$110.00
30100359	03/13/18	FRIZZELL CONSTRUCTION CO. INC.	\$10,421.98
30100360	03/13/18	FROEHLING AND ROBERTSON INC.	\$903.50
30100361	03/13/18	GALLS	\$463.29
30100362	03/13/18	GRANT, BRUCE M.	\$4,136.75
30100363	03/13/18	GUNN, LORI C.	\$93.82
30100364	03/13/18	HARPO'S HARDWARE AND BUILDING SUPPLY	\$12.99
30100365	03/13/18	HOME AND COMMERCIAL CLEANING	\$139.80
30100366	03/13/18	HORNEY, HAYDEN H.	\$14.30
30100367	03/13/18	HURT AND PROFFITT INC.	\$5,400.00
30100368	03/13/18	INSTRUMENT CALIBRATION	\$69.50
30100369	03/13/18	INTOXIMETERS	\$458.00
30100370	03/13/18	JAMES, GEORGE F. JR.	\$30.00
30100371	03/13/18	JASON'S AUTO SERVICE	\$51.00
30100372	03/13/18	JOINT PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY	\$35,526.40
30100373	03/13/18	JONES, DAVID	\$30.00
30100374	03/13/18	KC AUTOMOTIVE	\$57.75
30100375	03/13/18	LEXIS NEXIS	\$197.91
30100376	03/13/18	LEXIS NEXIS	\$724.00
30100377	03/13/18	LITTLE HENRY'S EXCAVATING AND PAVING	\$94,549.13
30100378	03/13/18	MANSFIELD OIL CO.	\$5,799.90
30100379	03/13/18	MEREDITH'S GARAGE	\$43.00
30100380	03/13/18	NEW RIVER REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY	\$12,740.96
30100381	03/13/18	NEW RIVER RESOURCE AUTHORITY	\$785.97
30100382	03/13/18	NEW RIVER VALLEY JUVENILE DETENTION	\$37,635.00
30100383	03/13/18	NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL JAIL	\$95,913.95
30100384	03/13/18	OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER	\$40.00

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30100385	03/13/18	PAPER CLIP	\$67.22
30100386	03/13/18	PEED AND BORTZ LLC	\$31,600.00
30100387	03/13/18	PITNEY BOWES	\$594.00
30100388	03/13/18	POSTAGE BY PHONE RESERVE ACCOUNT	\$550.00
30100389	03/13/18	R & R ENTERPRISES INC.	\$60.00
30100390	03/13/18	RGM ERECTORS INC.	\$184,865.63
30100391	03/13/18	ROBINSON FARMER COX ASSOCIATES	\$47,400.00
30100392	03/13/18	RURAL DEVELOPMENT	\$2,282.00
30100393	03/13/18	RURAL DEVELOPMENT	\$2,514.00
30100394	03/13/18	RURAL DEVELOPMENT	\$11,572.00
30100395	03/13/18	RURAL RETREAT AUTO PARTS INC.	\$25.50
30100396	03/13/18	SALEM STONE	\$130.14
30100397	03/13/18	SECOM SYSTEMS INC.	\$30,184.00
30100398	03/13/18	SENTRY SERVICES	\$282.55
30100399	03/13/18	SOUTHWESTERN VIRGINIA GAS SERVICE	\$1,079.47
30100400	03/13/18	STATE ELECTRIC SUPPLY CO.	\$327.27
30100401	03/13/18	SUNTRUST	\$36,881.92
30100402	03/13/18	SUPPLY WORKS	\$985.95
30100403	03/13/18	TESLA ELECTRIC SERVICE	\$415.33
30100404	03/13/18	TESSCO INC.	\$2,857.07
30100405	03/13/18	THOMPSON TIRE	\$48.99
30100406	03/13/18	THRASHER GROUP INC.	\$1,234.50
30100407	03/13/18	THREE RIVERS MEDIA CORP.	\$330.00
30100408	03/13/18	TOLLEY, DIANNE	\$30.00
30100409	03/13/18	TRACTOR SUPPLY COMPANY	\$66.24
30100410	03/13/18	TRANSUNION RISK AND ALTERNATIVE	\$43.00
30100411	03/13/18	TRI COUNTY GLASS INC.	\$307.06
30100412	03/13/18	UNIFIRST CORP.	\$139.11
30100413	03/13/18	UPS STORE 5065	\$18.79
30100414	03/13/18	U S CELLULAR	\$66.10
30100415	03/13/18	U S CELLULAR	\$846.85
30100416	03/13/18	USA BLUE BOOK	\$1,648.31
30100417	03/13/18	V & M RECYCLING	\$74,206.74
30100418	03/13/18	VERIZON	\$13.50
30100419	03/13/18	VRPS	\$30.00
30100420	03/13/18	WEST, ALLAN	\$30.00
30100421	03/13/18	WORDSPRINT	\$385.00
30100422	03/13/18	WYTHE COUNTY WATER/WASTEWATER	\$231.32
30100423	03/13/18	WYTHE TIRE AND MUFFLER	\$335.95
30100424	03/13/18	WYTHEVILLE ENTERPRISE	\$64.00
30100425	03/13/18	WYTHEVILLE OFFICE SUPPLY	\$1,926.86
30100426	03/13/18	XEROX	\$736.90

TOTAL CHECKS APPROVED 03/13/18**\$798,017.41****TOTAL EXPENDITURES APPROVED 03/13/18****\$867,397.14**

Supervisor Horney seconded the motion.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Brian W. Vaught	Coy L. McRoberts
	Charlie G. Lester	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	Ryan M. Lawson	Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.
	Joe F. Hale	

NAYS: None

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Board was presented with the February 27, 2018, minutes for adoption.

Supervisor Vaught made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Lester to approve the February 27, 2018, minutes as presented.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Brian W. Vaught	Coy L. McRoberts
	Charlie G. Lester	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	Ryan M. Lawson	Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.
	Joe F. Hale	

NAYS: None

FOX RIDGE SUBDIVISION

The Board reviewed and discussed the deed vacating the Fox Ridge Subdivision plat made and entered into on February 16, 2018, by and between Sandy Ridge, Inc. and the Wythe County Board of Supervisors for the property located within the Fort Chiswell Magisterial District.

Mr. Bear reported that Ron Hughes had subdivided the property adjoining Harvey Lane in the Fort Chiswell District in 2008 when house construction was thriving. He explained that Mr. Hughes had indicated in a recent Planning Commission meeting that it seemed like about a day after he recorded the plat, house construction went down. Mr. Bear advised that Mr. Hughes has not sold any of the lots, has not built anything on the property, and has; therefore, requested vacation of the subdivision plat. He noted that County Attorney Farthing has prepared the deed vacating the subdivision plat, which Mr. Hughes has executed and requested that the Board take action to vacate the subdivision.

Supervisor Lester made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Horney to approve vacation of the Fox Ridge Subdivision Plat as presented.

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The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Brian W. Vaught	Coy L. McRoberts
	Charlie G. Lester	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	Ryan M. Lawson	Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.
	Joe F. Hale	

NAYS: None

WYTHEVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD APPOINTMENTS

The Board reviewed and discussed a letter and supporting information from Dean Sprinkle, Wytheville Community College President, requesting reappointment and/or appointment of two members to the Wytheville Community College Board.

Chair Reeves noted that Danny McDaniel is eligible and willing to serve an additional term.

Mr. Bear explained that Jerry Hurt has indicated that he would serve if so desired, but he currently serves on several boards and committees and believes that his time would be better served helping those. He noted that the Wytheville Community College Board appointments do not expire until June 30, 2018, and could be delayed until a later date.

Supervisor Horney made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Lawson to reappoint Danny McDaniel to the Wytheville Community College Board for an additional four-year term.

The motion passed unanimously.

WYTHE COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD

Danny Gordon, Wythe County Rescue Squad Board of Directors chair, addressed the Board and reported the following:

"Our captain, Mr. Warf had asked for some time because it has been a while since you have had an update on the Wythe County Rescue Squad. It just so happens almost exactly four years ago, a previous board and captain came in front of you, or previous Board members, I think Tim was a member then, asking that you take over the Wythe County Rescue Squad because it was about to go under. Thankfully, in the few years that I have been there and Dustin has been captain, we have been able to turn the ship around so to speak. We have been able to of course obtain the one vehicle with the County's help for an emergency grant. It cost exactly nothing for the County or the Rescue Squad. That has been a blessing because the other vehicle was about to fall apart. Right now, we have got our billing straightened out. Dustin has taken over that and doing a fantastic job. We have got training ongoing. We have money in the bank; in fact, we had to use that money. I don't know if some of you are aware of it, but when we applied for this grant for our second truck, it came back 50/50 instead of 80/20. The County had committed \$41,000. I talked to Mr. Bear, he didn't think you all

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were interested in adding to that and we were \$71,600 short. If we don't take the grant then we are off their cycle for about five years. So, we pretty well had to do something. With help from First Community Bank. They allowed us to put the \$71,600 in savings, taking some of our checking and borrow the money against that. Of course, it is kind of hard to go borrow money because the vehicle when it comes is titled to you all. So we can't use the titles to borrow money. The only thing that we own is the building. We borrowed using the leverage of our savings account. To bring it up to \$71,600 we had to move \$24,000 from our checking. We are still okay, but it is kind of tight. Since the vehicle is yours, I have had trouble wrapping my head around it, but actually, we are paying for a vehicle that will be the County's immediately as it is presented in May, but we will be paying about \$1,200 a month for the next six years to pay for it, which may or may not make sense. I have never before borrowed money to pay for somebody else's vehicle even though we use the vehicle. Technically all of our vehicles but one belong to Wythe County. I don't think that there is any disagreement with that. Is there? You all own all of the vehicles. We own the building, but because it sits on Town property, we would have to had a lot of legal work done and have it assessed to borrow money against the building. Doing what we had to do, the board decided and went and met with First Community Bank and Jim Grubbs was nice enough to allow us to do this. As we pay down the loan then that frees up money in savings if we have to have it. We had built that savings up for emergencies so that we wouldn't have to come to you guys and lady and ask for money for repairs. Just wanted you to know that to keep the rescue squad improving and moving forward because the vehicle we are running now is just barely getting there. We had two vehicles. The second one is what a 1998 and got quite a few miles on it. Often it breaks down without warning when you are trying to go somewhere. We use that right now until the new one comes. The new vehicle will be a quarter million dollar vehicle and Dustin is going to tell you about that and why we need it so badly. Dustin tell them about the new vehicle."

Dustin Warf, Wythe County Rescue Squad Captain, addressed the Board and reported the following:

"Thanks for having me. Right now, we currently have the unit that we bought, or that we was able to get on a grant, emergency grant. That is my first run unit right now. It makes our job a lot easier knowing that I can get a patient to the hospital without us breaking down. The next unit that we are trying to replace with this newer unit is the '98 van. It is a van, four-wheel drive very complicated to work in. Not only counting the breakdowns that we have had on it, we have put over \$5,000 into the last repair that we had on it. It is constantly... it is a ticking time bomb. Right now, we are losing oil out of it. It is just a matter of time that the motor is going to give up. With that van, they don't make them anymore period. Parts. If anything electrical goes wrong with it on the inside, they are not able to fix it. If something happens to the electronics, the master boards in it or anything like that, that truck will be... it will have to go out of service. The new truck, we are hoping with it, we can start reaching out more towards the hospital. We are doing some discharges now within the County. Transporting these patients, that is using transport from a nursing home even from home. We have actually been allowed to with that van model to take these patients back to their home

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residence in a Wythe County ambulance. It speaks loudly. With the County and the community to say hey my squad is taking me home. The hospital is not having to reach out to outside services like Richardson there in Smyth County. They are now moved into Wythe County and me personally that is a smack in our face. If the patients want a transport, I would love to have the trucks to provide that."

Mr. Gordon stated, "Also, Dustin when we have our monthly meetings, and any of you are welcomed to attend, they are the second Tuesday in each month now, at 5 p.m. We will be having an open house later this year because the Squad is celebrating 70 years, 70 years of existence. That is pretty darn amazing. My father was a president of the Wythe County Rescue Squad board and served on the Rescue Squad for 33 years, so I am kind of following in his footsteps, but couldn't hold a light to his service. We have good people. We have got... a lot of the problems before where billing was not being completed. It was not being turned in on a punctual timeframe and it was not being filled out completely. Dustin being in charge of that, we are taking care of it. I thought it was ironic coming over here that we finally got the ship turned around. They have done painting down there. We have had new lights installed outside and a lot of work done on the building by the volunteers and the people who work down there for the Rescue Squad. We even got a trash dumpster and threw away 70 years of trash. I mean it was bad. I needed a mask because it liked to kill my sinuses, the dust. Anyway it is kind of ironic that we are here today saying we are borrowing money to keep your rescue squad running. We are willing to do that because we have community service in our blood and we got people that are dedicated. I hear some of the stories where I had a two year old died and was near death and he and some other squad members of Lead Mines worked for two hours trying to save that baby. That is what we need in the Wythe County and other rescue squads is people willing to go out there and go the extra mile. This is the best cardiac tech in Wythe County. Probably in the area. If you have a heart attack, you want to see Dustin coming, trust me. I brag on him because other people tell me that. We got a good rescue squad. We got... firmly got our feet planted now financially. We have Stanley Demers who is a retired Wytheville Police officer on our board. We have Dr. Trina Leedy who is a veterinarian that is on our board now and even though that is a different type of medicine, she and Dustin can talk the same language. Also, we have Paul Cassell, one of the finest young attorneys in the field. No offense. We also have, of course, Jay Wright our accountant. We have been able to get this in good shape. We were stretching our self when we borrowed this money. We knew it, but we had to have it. We plateaued, Mr. Hale. We have hit as far as we could go with one new vehicle. When this other one breaks down, we are not going to be able to haul as many people to the hospital because we won't have but one vehicle. That is where we are at right now. We decided that we would go out on the edge and borrow the \$71,600. I understand that you all are not a lending agency, but I talked to Mr. Bear about you are lending money to yourself, not to us. Basically, I want you to know that you have done that. We have done that and we are moving forward and not bringing bad reports to you like have been in the past years."

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Chair Reeves stated, "On behalf of the Board for you, Mr. Wright, and Mr. Cassell, you all have done a wonderful job down there. The Board really appreciates you all taking the bull by the horns, you might say and turning the Squad around and making it profitable."

Mr. Gordon stated, "For years never had a name tag. You go into someone's house; our people have their name tags and identification because I think that it is important this day and time. We have got shirts. All of our people wear the same shirts. We got toboggans and hats because we want people to recognize our group. That is the reason the color was changed on the vehicle. The next one will be the same because we want people to say Wythe County Rescue Squad you are driving too fast or you are doing a good job. We want our people to stand out. Trust me we are not getting the complaints we were. We have had a few people leave. We were having trouble with people hot rodding and everything else before I got there. That has come to an end."

Mr. Warf reported, "Right now the past two weeks my volunteer list went from four to twelve now. We actually just voted on four members this past board meeting. Knock on wood, I have got some really good young kids that is wanting to get out there and bring these people in. I had two more to drop applications off today. For that, they are wanting to jump to the schools through Wythe County to try to educate people on EMS and try to bring people to this field. EMS, it is not easy anymore. I mean the training is unbelievable now. Once we get our certificate that means we don't have to go to school. That is not. We got to recert 96 hours every two years to keep our certification. If we don't, we lose it. We are always in school. Plain and simple. A lot of people is seeing that with the volunteers and it has hurt us. Hopefully, now I got some really good young kids that is wanting to come in and help. Like today, I pulled into my building and I had five volunteers cleaning my building, washing my trucks for me. I am trying to get that number back up to where we need to be and try to get around to the schools and stuff and bring those people in."

Mr. Gordon stated, "That is how it used to be. Used to be the volunteers and you had a junior rescue squad. I served on the junior rescue squad a few years back. We have got people now that want to be a part of it. We have to give them the equipment to protect them when they are on the road. This four-wheel drive we are talking about, 1998. The radiator went out on it one day when they went on a call."

Mr. Warf noted, "We got stranded in Speedwell, which we ended up having to wait on Rural Retreat to drop a patient off to meet us. It really adds the time."

Mr. Gordon stated, "How do you tell your patient. I know you are hurt, you broke your leg, but you got to wait. Realistically that is what we have to do. So when we get the second vehicle we will eliminate that. I think you are going to be very proud of what you are going to see from the Wythe County Rescue Squad."

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Mr. Warf stated, "Also I would like to add one more thing. If I can. You can even speak to Darlene in dispatch. They are thrilled to death with that other truck. I have been getting to run a second crew during the daytime to help cover the calls. January, we broke a record at Wythe County Rescue Squad, 266 calls is what we was dispatched to. I only had to roll over four calls. If that other truck hadn't of been there we was rolling 60 to 100 calls a month because we just can't get to them. The past two months, the call volume has doubled and it is just going to keep getting worse down the road. We have looked at the projections from last year to this year and there is 35 to 45 percent increase just in the number of calls a month that we are having."

Mr. Gordon added, "If we can't get to them often it results in a tragedy. We need vehicles that can go, get there, and then get them to the hospital or somewhere else where ever they need to go. We wanted you to know where we stood and what we are trying to do. We have to make some hard decisions sometimes."

Supervisor Hale questioned, "Is your new truck on scene or when will it be?"

Mr. Gordon responded, "In May. They are building it right now."

Supervisor Hale stated "Danny you are better off than when you didn't have any. Now you got one good truck and another one on the way. Let's talk about that loan part for a minute. You all get money from the County and I am not arguing with you. That takes care of some of your maintenance and your gas. The reason they are in the County's name, it saved you all a ton of money on buying insurance from Chesterfield by being in the County insurance pool. You got to take that into consideration. These are good business moves to make you all better and be able to put your money in the place where you need it. This was a good business move and you all didn't really make it sound like it was a good business move, but it was. That has been done. It needs to happen or everybody was going to fail."

Mr. Gordon stated, "We can't even find the agreement to read it and see what all it says. I remember when it happened, but I wasn't on the board and so we are kind of after the fact. We probably need to revisit and see what it says. Maybe it needs to be redone or something. I don't know."

Supervisor Hale noted, "If it is working, I don't know why we need to reopen something. He just said your call load is changing. I understand that. When something is working good for everybody's benefit, yours, and all of the other crews, it would take something really glaring wrong with that to reopen and try to remodel the agreement."

Mr. Gordon responded, "I am not saying that we want to change it, but your other two rescue squads have not borrowed \$71,600 to put a vehicle in your name. I am just saying. We went above and beyond and that is our board and our decision because we wanted to make sure people were safe."

Supervisor Hale added, "I am really glad you were able to do it. Thank you."

Mr. Gordon stated, "Yes sir. We were glad we were able to as well."

Supervisor Horney stated "The new truck that they have I don't know how old it is, but it is sharp."

Mr. Warf reported, "It is brand new. It was a 2017. We was able to actually get the newest model. A lot of people. I have heard the comments through the Town, once people actually see the truck in person, to see how well lit that truck is. That thing you can see it from a ten-mile radius. A lot of people were discouraged over the gray, but now everybody is wanting to go to that. Not only in Wythe County, but everywhere. This truck, they are actually wanting to put how we designed it and everything, they are putting it in the top magazine of Atlantic Solutions calendar for this upcoming year. They said that in 20 some years they have never had an ambulance in that calendar. It has all been fire department fire trucks because the money and how much people puts into a fire apparatus. We are very pleased with that truck being... to have that opportunity to get it in a calendar that big. That just puts a name to the Wythe County seal right there."

Mr. Gordon noted, "The new one will be of course four wheel drive. It will be diesel. It will be higher. We have problems with the new vehicle. The dips in Wytheville. Some of the streets is dragging. This new one will not give us that problem."

Supervisor McRoberts inquired, "Has Lead Mines got their selves straightened out yet."

Mr. Bear responded, "They are in a tight financial situation. I have gotten their latest financial report and they are, they are in a tight financial situation."

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT

1. Spiller Annex Building Lease – Supervisor Hale made a motion, as recommended by the Building and Grounds Committee to approve the Spiller Annex Building lease contingent upon acceptance by the Town of Wytheville.

Mr. Bear reported that the lease would allow The Town of Wytheville use of the Spiller Annex building and adjacent parking lot for museum purposes. He explained that the lease term originally included in the agreement ran in conjunction with the jail property and other properties. Mr. Bear advised that the Town had indicated that in order for them to justify the cost and financial investment necessary to repair and renovate the building, they would request extension of the lease term to a minimum of 40 years. He noted that the lease as presented has been amended to extend the term to 40 years, prohibit revision to the exterior architectural appearance of the structure, and require maintenance of both liability and property insurance.

Supervisor Vaught questioned if the County could sell the property to the Town of Wytheville, if they do not have any use for the property.

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Supervisor Hale noted that the County has previously used the basement for storage. He added that the lease is tied to other adjacent properties and is a continuation of that policy.

Mr. Bear advised that he believes that the Town is in discussions with the School Board to extend the lease that they currently have on the Withers Park property. He noted that this would not include the Spiller Annex building.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Brian W. Vaught	Coy L. McRoberts
	Charlie G. Lester	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	Ryan M. Lawson	Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.
	Joe F. Hale	

NAYS: None

2. Barren Springs Fire Department Building and Home Improvement Club Property – Supervisor Hale made a motion, as recommended by the Building and Grounds Committee to proceed with options for the sale of the two lots at the intersections of Wysor Highway, Castleton Road, and Brim Lane containing the old Barren Springs Fire Department Building and the Home Improvement Club property. Terms would indicate that the buyer would allow the Home Improvement Club continued use of the building as long as they remain a viable entity. This would require a public hearing to declare the property surplus.

Chair Reeves inquired if they have discussed who would purchase the property.

Mr. Bear advised that they have not had any discussions concerning who would purchase the property. He noted that the Barren Springs Fire Department has indicated that they would be interested in selling their building. Mr. Bear explained that the Home Improvement Club, however, has expressed an interest in continuing to use the property. He stated that if they proceed with the sale, they could either request sealed bids for sale of the property to the highest bidder or they could auction the property. Mr. Bear added that approval of the motion would allow the Board to hold a public hearing, advertise, and proceed with sale of the property.

The motion passed unanimously.

3. Library Compressor Unit – Supervisor Hale made a motion, as recommended by the Building and Grounds Committee to amend and appropriate \$5,300 to 43045-443020 to replace a compressor unit at the Library building.

Chair Reeves noted that the library was closed for the day due to the issue.

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2. Pay Application No. 4 – Supervisor Hale made a motion, as recommended by the Appalachian Regional Exposition Center Construction Committee to authorize payment of Appalachian Regional Exposition Center Pay Application No. 4 in the amount of \$184,865.63.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Brian W. Vaught	Coy L. McRoberts
	Charlie G. Lester	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	Ryan M. Lawson	Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.
	Joe F. Hale	

NAYS: None

3. Project Update – Supervisor Hale reported that the steel has been erected, the concourse has been concreted, and the northwest side walls and insulation have been placed. He added that the west concourse plumbing has been installed and the majority of the east-southeast concourse plumbing and electrical has been completed.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

1. Water/Wastewater Department Pay Scale – Supervisor Hale made a motion, as recommended by the Personnel Committee to adopt the revised Water and Wastewater Department Pay Scale as presented and to approve the pay changes effective March 16, 2018.

Mr. Bear advised that the pay scale revisions would place the County's wages more in line with that of other surrounding localities.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Brian W. Vaught	Coy L. McRoberts
	Charlie G. Lester	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	Ryan M. Lawson	Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.
	Joe F. Hale	

NAYS: None

2. Water and Wastewater Department Administrative Assistant – Supervisor Hale made a motion, as recommended by the Personnel Committee to advertise a part-time Administrative Assistant Position to handle phone calls, customer service, payments, and assist the Building Inspection Department as needed. This additional position would allow the Water and Wastewater Administrative Assistant to focus on billing, delinquent accounts, illegal consumption, and the new utility billing module.

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Mr. Bear reported that with completion of the last two water projects, the County now has over 3,000 water and wastewater customers. He explained that currently all of those customers must pay in person, by mail, or over the phone, as the County does not accept online or automated clearinghouse (ACH) payments. Mr. Bear noted that this does not allow the current Water Department Administrative Assistant the time needed to focus on collection of older delinquent accounts and development of the utility billing module needed for the new accounting system. He stated that once the new utility billing module is active, they would be able to accept automatic bank draft payments, which should substantially decrease mail and phone payments. Mr. Bear added that at that point and time they should hopefully be able to return to the current staffing needs.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Brian W. Vaught	Coy L. McRoberts
	Charlie G. Lester	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	Ryan M. Lawson	Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.
	Joe F. Hale	

NAYS: None

HOLIDAY

Supervisor McRoberts made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Horney to close County offices on Friday, March 30, 2018, for the Good Friday holiday.

The motion passed unanimously.

CLOSED MEETING – DISCUSSION OF PERSONNEL MATTERS

Supervisor Lester made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Hale to enter into Closed Meeting under Section 2.2-3711-A.1 (Discussion of Personnel – Consideration of Prospective Candidates for Employment – Public Information Officer/Grant Coordinator) of the Code of Virginia.

The motion passed unanimously.

Supervisor Lester made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Hale to return to open meeting.

The motion passed unanimously.

Upon returning to open meeting, Supervisor Lester made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Horney to adopt the following Resolution certifying the business conducted in closed meeting as follows:

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**RESOLUTION
CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING**

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

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Wythe 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 Wythe County Board of Supervisors.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Brian W. Vaught	Coy L. McRoberts
	Charlie G. Lester	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	Ryan M. Lawson	Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.
	Joe F. Hale	

NAYS: None

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Mr. Bear asked that Board members be prepared for additional committee meetings above and beyond the normal schedule, as action would be needed on several pending matters.

MARTHA COLLINS

The Board wished Ms. Collins a happy birthday.

RECESS

The Board recessed at 8:17 p.m. until Monday, March 26, 2018, at 8:30 a.m.

RECONVENE

The Board reconvened on Monday, March 26, 2018, at 8:31 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Timothy A. Reeves, Sr., Chair	Ryan M. Lawson
Brian W. Vaught	Coy L. McRoberts
Charlie G. Lester	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.

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MEMBERS ABSENT:

Joe F. Hale, Vice Chair

STAFF PRESENT:

Stephen D. Bear, County Administrator

BUDGET WORK SESSION

The Board met with County departments and outside agencies for presentation of Fiscal Year 19 Budget funding requests.

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Supervisor Vaught read the following disclosure statement:

Pursuant to section 2.2-3112 of the Code of Virginia, 1950 as amended:

I, Brian W. Vaught intend to participate in discussion concerning the budget for Wythe County for the Fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018. This discussion will determine how much money is appropriated to the Wythe County Sheriff's Office. I am employed by Wythe County Sheriff Keith Dunagan. This budget may affect all Sheriff's Office employees in the County, and I am able to participate in the transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest."

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to come before the Board, Chair Reeves adjourned the meeting at approximately 5:10 p.m.

Timothy A. Reeves, Sr., Chair