

April 28, 2020

The Wythe County Board of Supervisors held its regularly scheduled meeting at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 28, 2020. The location of the meeting was in the Boardroom of the County Administration Building, 340 South Sixth Street, Wytheville, Virginia.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brian W. Vaught, Chair

Ryan M. Lawson, Vice Chair

Rolland R. Cook

B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.

Coy L. McRoberts

James D. "Jamie" Smith

Stacy A. Terry

STAFF PRESENT:

Stephen D. Bear, County Administrator

Scot Farthing, County Attorney

Martha Collins, Administrative Assistant/Clerk

Jeremy Farley, Public Information Officer

OTHERS PRESENT:

Charles Foster

Wilma Justus

Linda Meyer

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Vaught determined that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pastor Farley, Restoration Church, provided the invocation and Supervisor Cook led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Mr. Bear announced that Jeremy Farley, who was formerly Wythe County's Public Information Officer, has returned to that position on a part-time basis. He is very experienced and capable and the County is very pleased to have him back.

CITIZENS' TIME

Chair Vaught inquired if anyone present wished to address the Board.

1. First Amendment Rights – Ms. Linda Meyer appeared before the Board and stated "I have a couple of things for you. I'm concerned about what is going on,

April 28, 2020

or not going on, and it's my opinion that defeating the flu will not happen through some top-down government solutions, but through the cooperation and collaboration of free individuals. We have tolerated the Governor's executive orders for 45 days already supposedly to mitigate all this nonsense. The additional time will not, if he continues to expand it through June, it will not prevent, stop or cure this virus. The quarantine of the whole State violates Title 32 of the Code of Virginia and produces destructive long-lasting damage to the economy, small businesses and families. I have with me a resolution and supporting documentation from the Supreme Court and I'm hoping that you will adopt a resolution, a first constitutional amendment resolution opening Wythe County for business once again, immediately. *(handed out information)* Hope you can please look at it. We are already a Second Amendment Sanctuary. We should be a First Amendment Sanctuary and this will give you guys and the local people control over what's happening and we don't have to deal with executive orders too much."

Speedwell Flooding – Ms. Meyer continued "Another thing I'd like to bring up is the Speedwell flooding. With the amount of water that we had a couple weeks ago, we had a great deal of flooding on Route 21 slightly north of Speedwell and so on, and I was wondering if somebody has looked into the contributing factors, i.e. there is a business there. Has the disruption of the soil and the mountain and so on, has that caused, do we have engineers, do we have somebody that can look into that? There's a lot of people that have had, let's say property destruction and so on, and if we have something like that again it could be equally as bad for the people in Speedwell. So, I was wondering if we could have some collaboration with State officials and if we have a County Engineer and so on and so forth to go out and look at and document and then give us a report as to how we can hopefully work together with state and local to help the people out there and prevent this from happening again."

Reassessment – Ms. Meyer further stated "Considering what's happening now in our economy, I was wondering if we were going to curtail the reassessment because that is contractual. Is it going to happen? Do we really need it to happen this year? Can we save the money in our budget and perhaps do it next year when we've recovered from whatever is happening now? We're losing a lot of money with all the taxes not being paid, you know the hotel taxes and everything else that's going on, and the demands on government right now. So, if that is a possibility, perhaps you guys should think about it and not have a reassessment

April 28, 2020

this year. I don't know how much that costs us but, I didn't look in my paperwork, but it was costly and do we really need to do it at this time? Thank you."

The Chair asked Mr. Bear if he has heard anything from VDOT about the Speedwell flooding.

Mr. Bear responded that he's not heard anything from VDOT. Most of what he's heard has come from citizens citing damage from dry run washing out banks through there. The County Engineer has been out there as has Mr. Crawford and believes they've been in contact with DEQ (flood plain areas) and others regarding the situation.

Ms. Meyer asked about timing of an official report and Mr. Bear responded that he is unaware of the time frame but as soon as he receives a report, he will be happy to share it.

2. First Amendment Rights – Ms. Wilma Justus appeared before the Board and stated "I'd like to also support the First Amendment Sanctuary and there's been a lot of people that's died in this country to fight for our freedom and First Amendment is one of them. And yes, the corona virus is a serious issue for some people but you know let people have their freedom to do what they want as the First Amendment states to be able to do stuff like go to church. My church didn't meet for a couple weeks. We had the videos. Watching video church is nothing like going. The drive-in church, it's better where you can at least see people, wave at them, but yet you know it's different than having that personal contact, and you know that's one of the freedoms our ancestors came here years ago to fight for religious freedom and that was put in our, and right now, that religious freedom is being taken away from us on this First Amendment with all of these rules and even stuff like voting. Yeah it's okay to do absentee voting but we need people, we need to ease these restrictions, let people go out and cast that ballot. That's what America is about. I've got kids that's been in college and they can tell you they don't like having to do the absentee ballot. They would rather go there and actually vote because all my kids used to go in as toddlers and a little bit older and fill in the blanks on Mommy's paper. Mommy points, say *'Go ahead, yeah, that's the right one'* and you know that meant a lot to my kids and we're losing too many freedoms as it is and let's open things back up and you know do like when you go to a motel that swimming pool has *'Enter at Your Own Risk'*. And you know there's no lifeguard there to protect you, but for me, I don't go in it because I can't swim like that unless it's at the kiddie section. But you know

April 28, 2020

you've got that freedom to do and that sign says *'Enter at Your Risk'*. You know going into church, letting people go as it is, or whatever, enter at your risk if you got some real bad respiratory problems or so but you know, I would personally you know it'd be better to die from doing what, have that freedom than not and like as a parent you put a kid, you can't put that kid in a cage to keep it from falling and getting hurt and stuff. And we need to get our freedom back so I ask that you think about ... Second Amendment Sanctuary is great but we need that First Amendment protected also. Thank you."

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

PAYMENT OF COUNTY INVOICES

Supervisor Horney made a motion to pay the invoices for approval on April 28, 2020, for the various departments of County government. The invoices were paid on General Warrants 30106495-30106635 as follows:

EXPENDITURES BY DEPARTMENT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS April 28, 2020

CHECK #	ISSUE DATE	VENDOR	AMOUNT
30106495	04/17/2020	APPALACHIAN POWER	\$ 26,574.28
30106496	04/17/2020	CENTURYLINK	62.75
30106497	04/17/2020	CENTURYLINK	116.07
30106498	04/17/2020	CORELOGIC	5,328.74
30106499	04/17/2020	LERETA LLC	2,912.50
30106500	04/17/2020	NEW PEOPLES BANK	318.12
30106501	04/17/2020	ADAMS JAMES W &	301.19
30106502	04/17/2020	ADAMS JAMES W &	822.11
30106503	04/17/2020	COOPER PENELOPE VERNON	71.96
30106504	04/17/2020	EDWARDS MARY A	10.80
30106505	04/17/2020	EDWARDS MARY M	20.76
30106506	04/17/2020	ENTERPRISE FM TRUST	2,612.42
30106507	04/17/2020	JONES FRED E	173.88
30106508	04/17/2020	LAWSON RONALD P JR	186.84
30106509	04/17/2020	OHM SHEE SAI NATH LLC	25.36
30106510	04/17/2020	RICE LAWRENCE C	46.60
30106511	04/17/2020	RICE LAWRENCE C	100.20
30106512	04/17/2020	WELLS JAMES M	356.72

April 28, 2020

30106513	04/17/2020	WHITT CRISTINA MAY	16.32
30106514	04/17/2020	WILLIAMS FARM INC	315.57
30106515	04/17/2020	1340 WEST MAIN LLC	317.21
30106516	04/17/2020	ALDERMAN MATTHEW EDWARD	13.02
30106517	04/17/2020	ALLISON KAREN W	253.26
30106518	04/17/2020	ALLISON RALPH C	186.74
30106519	04/17/2020	BARKER BELFORD DALE	20.00
30106520	04/17/2020	BATTEN JR JOHN A	6.89
30106521	04/17/2020	BELCHER JAMES ANDREW	6.66
30106522	04/17/2020	BENNETT JENNIFER CAROL SA	230.05
30106523	04/17/2020	BERTHOLOMEY BRIAN L	5.00
30106524	04/17/2020	BLAIR CARL O'DELL	554.04
30106525	04/17/2020	BLOXOM SANDRA KITZMILLER	5.00
30106526	04/17/2020	BOYER SAMUEL C	36.91
30106527	04/17/2020	BREWER ROBERT WAYNE EST	34.94
30106528	04/17/2020	CAMRETT LOGISTICS INC	1,043.20
30106529	04/17/2020	DALOV ALEXANDER JORDAN	134.66
30106530	04/17/2020	DUNFORD MILDRED G	100.00
30106531	04/17/2020	FARTHING SCOT S & LESLIE	11.53
30106532	04/17/2020	FLINCHUM BRANDI RENEE	16.41
30106533	04/17/2020	FURCHES EVERGREENS INC	14.04
30106534	04/17/2020	GRAY SR MICHAEL WAYNE	30.21
30106535	04/17/2020	GRAYBEAL JOSHUA SHAWN	6.49
30106536	04/17/2020	HALL ANGELA V	36.16
30106537	04/17/2020	HALL GLENN ANTHONY	5.20
30106538	04/17/2020	HARDEN DAISY DARLENE	20.00
30106539	04/17/2020	HARMAN PATRICIA S	7.68
30106540	04/17/2020	HARRELL MICHAEL STEVEN	11.34
30106541	04/17/2020	HOGSTON MELODY C	17.25
30106542	04/17/2020	HURST ALLEN KENT	5.00
30106543	04/17/2020	JARMAN MARVA CORNELIA	5.70
30106544	04/17/2020	LYNCH PANSY	8.27
30106545	04/17/2020	MOORE KENNETH	56.16
30106546	04/17/2020	NEWBERRY DARLENE	5.56
30106547	04/17/2020	PORTER KELLY AARON	5.20
30106548	04/17/2020	SCHAPPACHER DAVID ALAN	6.00
30106549	04/17/2020	SHEFFEY MATTHEW W	5.81
30106550	04/17/2020	SLAGLE CHARLES GARNETT	7.12
30106551	04/17/2020	SMITH SANDRA S	52.92

April 28, 2020

30106552	04/17/2020	SNYDER CLYDE G	90.82
30106553	04/17/2020	STOOTS CURTIS	19.81
30106554	04/17/2020	SURRATT FRANCES G	53.64
30106555	04/17/2020	TAYLOR JEFFREY CHARLES	54.00
30106556	04/17/2020	THE JOHNSTONE FAMILY TRUS	141.46
30106557	04/17/2020	THOMAS JOHN JUNIOR	161.90
30106558	04/17/2020	TORRES ANTONIO-JAVIER GAL	270.57
30106559	04/17/2020	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	307.16
30106560	04/17/2020	TRIVITT JACK L	18.36
30106561	04/17/2020	TURNER TONJA GAYLE	5.46
30106562	04/17/2020	WARD MICHAEL DOUGLAS	1,099.98
30106563	04/17/2020	WILLIAMS PATRICK	17.29
30106564	04/17/2020	WRIGHT DAVID BRADLEY	104.51
30106565	04/17/2020	SKYLINE NATIONAL BANK	496.15
30106566	04/17/2020	JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	254.91
30106567	04/17/2020	THE BANK OF MARION	1,349.46
30106568	04/17/2020	VANDERBILT MORTGAGE & FIN	596.05
30106569	04/17/2020	VIRGINIA HOUSING DEVELOPM	517.32
30106570	04/17/2020	WELLS FARGO REAL ESTATE T	545.22

TOTAL EXPENDITURES 04/17/2020**\$49,758.89**

30106571	04/28/2020	APPALACHIAN REGIONAL EXPO	\$ 48,900.00
30106572	04/28/2020	APPALACHIAN POWER	3,250.60
30106573	04/28/2020	BKT UNIFORMS	689.81
30106574	04/28/2020	BLACKBERRY MULCH	1,092.00
30106575	04/28/2020	BLUE RIDGE AUTO PARTS INC	17.04
30106576	04/28/2020	BMS DIRECT INC	1,286.87
30106577	04/28/2020	BOWERS, WILLIAM B	104.14
30106578	04/28/2020	BROWN EXTERMINATING CO	156.05
30106579	04/28/2020	BUFFINGTON, LINDA	60.00
30106580	04/28/2020	BUSINESS CARD	2,895.46
30106581	04/28/2020	CARROLL COUNTY PSA	15,692.00
30106582	04/28/2020	CENTURYLINK	39.98
30106583	04/28/2020	CENTURYLINK	237.42
30106584	04/28/2020	CENTURYLINK	4,963.00
30106585	04/28/2020	COMFORT SYSTEMS USA	14,700.00
30106586	04/28/2020	COMMUNITY ANIMAL CLINIC I	40.90
30106587	04/28/2020	CRAIG'S FIREARM SUPPLY	3,225.00
30106588	04/28/2020	DELL MARKETING LP	1,590.67

April 28, 2020

30106589	04/28/2020	DEPT OF MOTOR VEHICLES	50.00
30106590	04/28/2020	DOLI BOILER SAFETY	40.00
30106591	04/28/2020	DOMINION OF BEDFORD, INC	99,272.00
30106592	04/28/2020	DUKE'S PRINTING	375.00
30106593	04/28/2020	FARTHING, SCOT S	6,410.00
30106594	04/28/2020	FIRE RESCUE AND TACTICAL	150.98
30106595	04/28/2020	FN WHOLESALE LIGHTING & S	414.06
30106596	04/28/2020	FRYE, HARRY	29.40
30106597	04/28/2020	GALLS	339.79
30106598	04/28/2020	GRANT, BRUCE M	4,343.59
30106599	04/28/2020	GRUBB FUNERAL HOME	1,137.00
30106600	04/28/2020	IVANHOE FIRE DEPT	4,164.66
30106601	04/28/2020	JASON'S AUTO SERVICE	847.18
30106602	04/28/2020	JOHNSON CONTROLS	585.00
30106603	04/28/2020	MANSFIELD OIL CO	3,087.05
30106604	04/28/2020	MCI COMM SERVICE	80.05
30106605	04/28/2020	MCI COMM SERVICE	768.40
30106606	04/28/2020	MOUNT ROGERS PLANNING DIS	4,609.50
30106607	04/28/2020	MUNCY, MICHAEL	28.00
30106608	04/28/2020	OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDIC	20.00
30106609	04/28/2020	PAPER CLIP	138.32
30106610	04/28/2020	PHILLIPS, ANGELA	56.00
30106611	04/28/2020	R&C TOWING & REPAIR CO	798.50
30106612	04/28/2020	R&R ENTERPRISES INC	244.50
30106613	04/28/2020	R.E. MICHEL COMPANY, LLC	2,701.99
30106614	04/28/2020	RENTAL HUB INC	58.99
30106615	04/28/2020	RURAL RETREAT HIGH SCHOOL	60.00
30106616	04/28/2020	RURAL RETREAT VOL EMERG S	61,026.00
30106617	04/28/2020	SHARP, TONY	28.00
30106618	04/28/2020	SKYLINE NATL BANK	27,284.77
30106619	04/28/2020	SMITH, TAMMY	56.00
30106620	04/28/2020	SOUTHWESTERN EQUIPMENT	242.00
30106621	04/28/2020	SOUTHWESTERN VA GAS SERVI	1,246.53
30106622	04/28/2020	TOWN OF RURAL RETREAT	25,000.00
30106623	04/28/2020	TOWN OF WYTHEVILLE	5,540.24
30106624	04/28/2020	TRI CITIES/SW VA REGIONAL	745.40
30106625	04/28/2020	UPS STORE 5065	95.47
30106626	04/28/2020	VERIZON WIRELESS	1,805.07
30106627	04/28/2020	VIRGINIA BUSINESS SYST	5,362.49

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Brian W. Vaught	Coy L. McRoberts
	Rolland R. Cook	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	James D. "Jamie" Smith	Stacy A. Terry

NAYS: Ryan M. Lawson

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Bear explained that Mrs. Guynn submitted a written report to the Board for their review and she is available by phone for any questions. The Consolidated Account was comprised of \$64,602,332 of which \$42,793,150 was in the General Fund at the end of March. Delinquent real estate and personal property notices were sent in March (approximately 9,500 bills), but due to COVID-19 delays, were not received by taxpayers until April 9th. As a result, the Treasurer has extended the due date, to prevent DMV Stops from being placed on unpaid personal property taxes, to May 15th. Tax collections are at 93% with an increase in April due to the stimulus and income tax refunds. Treasurer's Office remains closed to the public but business is being conducted by phone and email.

WATER COMMITTEE REPORT

1. Mount Rogers PDC – Supervisor Horney made a motion, as recommended by the Water Committee, to approve MRPDC Addendum 01, 19-WW-03-CNST-09 and Agreement 20-WW-03-CNST-14 for unspent funds in the amount of \$3,798.03 for the Max Meadows Bridge Water Line Replacement project.

Mr. Bear explained that these are funds that were not spent in 2019 and to avoid those funds from being frozen, DHCD requires an addendum and agreement to use those funds in 2020. This has no impact on the total amount of money received.

The roll call vote was as follows:

AYES:	Brian W. Vaught	Coy L. McRoberts
	Rolland R. Cook	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry
	James D. "Jamie" Smith	

NAYS: None

2. Open-Ended/Term Engineering Contracts – Supervisor Horney made a motion, as recommended by the Water Committee, to award open-ended/term engineering contracts to Peed & Bortz, Thrasher and Hurt & Proffitt. Term contracts are for one year, renewable for two separate one-year increments.

Mr. Bear added that the Water Committee conducted interviews with several firms and these were the top three.

The roll call vote was as follows:

AYES:	Brian W. Vaught	Coy L. McRoberts
	Rolland R. Cook	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry
	James D. "Jamie" Smith	

NAYS: None

3. Austinville Wastewater Project – Supervisor Horney made a motion, as recommended by the Water Committee, to negotiate with Mattern & Craig for the Austinville Wastewater upgrade and conveyance system requirements.

Mr. Bear asked the Board to reject the motion to negotiate with Mattern & Craig since the County has now received the actual agreement from the company which is acceptable.

The roll call vote was as follows:

AYES:	Rolland R. Cook	Coy L. McRoberts
NAYS:	Brian W. Vaught	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry
	James D. "Jamie" Smith	

Supervisor Terry made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Lawson, to approve the agreement with Mattern & Craig for the Austinville Wastewater upgrade and conveyance system project.

The roll call vote was as follows:

April 28, 2020

AYES:	Brian W. Vaught	Coy L. McRoberts
	Rolland R. Cook	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry
	James D. "Jamie" Smith	

NAYS: None

Mr. Bear added that based on information received last week, this project totaling around \$1MM, that \$100k of it would be in a forgivable loan, and \$800k would be at a very low interest rate. He said that would help us in providing at least 20% in grant money.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Supervisor Smith made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar as follows:

1. PAYROLL – March 2020:

General County Fund	\$	572,378.85
Police Activity Fund		67,184.45
Courthouse Security Fund		14,188.57
Water Department Fund		21,129.55
Wythe County Wastewater Fund		24,192.65
TOTAL	\$	699,074.07

Check Numbers: 20000724-20000745

Voucher Numbers: 11470-11832

2. STATUS REPORTS:

- A. Animal Control – Arlan Dunford
- B. Building Inspection – Rhonda Vaught
- C. Central 911 – Darlene Lang
- D. Finance – Bruce Grant
- E. Parks & Recreation – Kevin Williams
- F. Public Information Office – Jeremy Farley
- G. Water & Wastewater – Don Crisp

3. PERSONNEL:

- A. Kegley, Melissa – Hired, Full-time IT Support (Sheriff), Annual Salary \$45,000, Effective March 2, 2020
- B. Hatcher, Amy – Terminated, Full-time Communications Officer, Effective March 20, 2020
- C. Holliday, Crystal – Resigned, Full-time Accounting Technician, Effective March 31, 2020
- D. Stowers, Blake – Resigned – Full-time Public Information Officer, Effective April 14, 2020

4. BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

- A. \$1,790.94 (43048-443020) – Auto Claim, 2007 Chevrolet Colorado, Vin5319
- B. \$1,137.00 (1101-461420) – Burial Cost for Indigent Remains

Supervisor Terry seconded the motion and the roll call vote was as follows:

AYES:	Brian W. Vaught	Coy L. McRoberts
	Rolland R. Cook	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry
	James D. "Jamie" Smith	

NAYS: None

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Bear reported that the Personnel Committee conducted interviews for the Building Inspector position and will enter into employment negotiations with the top-ranked candidate this week.

Regarding COVID-19, Mr. Bear announced that testing was done earlier today in conjunction with the Health Department and that approximately 52 people were tested.

COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORT

Mr. Farthing shared his weekly assignment list earlier today with the Board.

Chair Vaught asked about the cattle issue concerns that were previously raised.

Mr. Farthing responded that he left a message for the Commonwealth Attorney but has not yet spoken with him.

Both Mr. Farthing and Mr. Bear have spoken with Mr. Dunford (Animal Control) about the situation and believe there is a June or July court date.

Mr. Farthing also stated that he will send a letter to Flying J this week regarding the trash issue.

SUPERVISORS' REPORTS

1. First Amendment Rights – Supervisor Terry said he's not sure that a First Amendment Sanctuary is the right answer but, at some point in time, the Board will need to discuss how to move forward. He said the devastation from closing businesses will be more harmful than the virus itself, and we need to look out for all our people.
2. Broadband – Supervisor Terry has received calls from residents on Black Lick Road whose children are struggling with online school work due to lack of broadband in their area.
3. Run-off – Supervisor Horney commented that after speaking with the County Engineer, he felt the dry run problem could be improved if VDOT could clean out under the bridge. Supervisor Horney asked Mr. Bear to reach out to VDOT.
4. Pump Hollow Road – Supervisor Horney heard there was concern about the speed limit on Pump Hollow Road resulting in a few "near misses". If VDOT could also look at that, it would be helpful.
5. Rickey Road Resolution 2020-18 – Supervisor McRoberts made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Cook, to adopt Resolution 2020-18 awarding contract for the construction of Rickey Road Water Extension to Meade Contracting Company of Pulaski (low bidder) in the amount of \$120,025.

The roll call vote was as follows:

AYES:	Brian W. Vaught	Coy L. McRoberts
	Rolland R. Cook	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry

James D. "Jamie" Smith

NAYS: None

6. COVID-19 Restrictions – Vice Chair Lawson was contacted by a business owner concerned about reopening businesses. While June 10th is a ways off, the Vice Chair believes the Board should start looking into next steps. She hopes that by the next meeting, they will be in a better position to discuss this.

7. High School Graduations – Supervisor Cook asked that calendars be marked for the following graduations:

Wythe County Technology Center	June 17 th
Rural Retreat High School	June 18 th
George Wythe High School	June 19 th
Fort Chiswell High School	June 20 th

Given the uncertainty of COVID-19, the time and manner of the graduations has yet to be determined.

8. COVID-19 Restrictions – Supervisor Smith has also received concerns from small business owners that can't wait until June 10th to reopen. They don't feel it's fair that Walmart, Rural King and Lowes can stay open but the small, locally-owned shops have to close. They can't survive like the big box stores can and their livelihoods are all at risk.

9. Robinson Property on Route 94 – Supervisor Smith has received a complaint about the Dorothy Robinson property between Eddy Gunter and Zerna Felts' property not being taken care of (overgrown brush). Looking up the road, you can't see the curve. The person who complained said he would send a letter to the property owner.

Also, speeding on Route 94 from Fort Chiswell Road to Jewell Lane continues to be an issue that he would like followed-up on.

10. Millers Creek Road – Supervisor Smith asked if there was an update on the road conditions.

April 28, 2020

Mr. Bear suggested that the Residency Administrator attend the next meeting by phone to update everyone on road concerns. But he did say that temporary fixes are currently underway until permanent repairs can be made.

11. Peppers Ferry Road – Supervisor Smith received a request from a resident for a three-way stop at the intersection of Millers Creek and Peppers Ferry due to people speeding through that curve.

Supervisor Smith also mentioned damage to the bridge on Peppers Ferry, right up from Millers Creek.

12. Lots Gap Road – Supervisor Smith has received complaints about the residence at 1192 Lots Gap Road (south side of the mountain next to 94) where there continues to be a pile of trash.
13. COVID-19 Restrictions – Chair Vaught mentioned a letter from Senator Pillion, Delegates Campbell and Morefield and several others to the Governor regarding effects these restrictions have on our small business owners. Chair Vaught doesn't want to give people false hope that this Board has authority to allow them to open up. That could expose the business owner to unnecessary risk of the State suspending their license. The Chair suggested Mr. Bear draft a letter to the Governor asking that Wythe County be judged based on our numbers and not with urban Virginia. He is also interested in seeing the results from today's corona virus testing.

Mr. Bear commented that he would draft a letter to the Governor for the Board's review.

BUDGET DISCUSSIONS

Mr. Bear provided a revised budget calendar and noted another correction that May 2nd should be "Advertise Proposed Tax Levy" only (not with County Budget). Mr. Bear proposed a public hearing for May 12th for the tax levy only so that, once approved, the Treasurer and Commissioner can move forward processing tax tickets for upcoming year. He also suggested moving the public hearing for the School Board and County Budget to June 11th, having the Board review comments on June 12th then adopt the budget on June 19th.

Supervisor Horney made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Terry, to approve revised budget calendar as discussed.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Brian W. Vaught	Coy L. McRoberts
	Rolland R. Cook	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry
	James D. "Jamie" Smith	

NAYS: None

It should be noted that the 2020 Proposed Tax Levy remains unchanged from 2019 (\$.54 real estate, \$2.32 for personal property, \$1.50 machinery and tools, \$.56 merchants capital).

Supervisor McRoberts made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Smith, to set the public hearing for 2020 Proposed Tax Levy on May 12th at 6:00 p.m.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Brian W. Vaught	Coy L. McRoberts
	Rolland R. Cook	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry
	James D. "Jamie" Smith	

NAYS: None

Mr. Bear reported they are still working on budget numbers and will share with the Board via email. As for having an additional budget work session, Board members are good with where they're at now and don't see the need for another meeting.

Mr. Bear did state that in order to balance the budget, they will need to pull from reserves. However, he expects the school to have a significant carryover which would go a long way to helping the County balance the budget.

Chair Vaught referenced a recent email from Senator Pillion that mentioned approximately \$1.5b in stimulus money that Virginia received. Mr. Bear will include that reference in the letter he's drafting to the Governor.

CITIZENS' TIME (CONT'D) LIBRARY STAFF LAYOFFS

Chair Vaught overlooked a citizen's concern about library layoffs during Citizen's Time. Therefore, he requested the following be entered into the official minutes:

"My name is Natalie Arnold-Ratcliff. I called earlier today and left you a message. This e-mail is a follow-up to that call.

I realize there is so much going on at this time, and I hate to bother you, but I was told to contact you in hopes that the county board of supervisors might intervene on our behalf.

I have been an employee at the Wythe County Public Library for almost twenty-five years. Yesterday, an e-mail was sent out to myself and at least four of my co-workers, notifying us that as of May 11, 2020 we would no longer be employees at WGRL as we were being placed on permanent layoff.

To say we were shocked and dismayed is an understatement. Especially, since we were told that the Wythe County Board of Supervisors had approved \$81,113.75 to be allocated for our payroll at their April 14th meeting, which would carry us through the end of this fiscal year.

We could have possibly understood being placed on furlough, because that would have, at least, protected our jobs and kept our current pay and benefits intact. Instead, we were told we could apply for any future jobs that may be available once the library re-opens.

I am fifty-four-years-old and the sole breadwinner in my family. It took me seventeen years working at WCPL before I ever reached \$10 per hour, and even after almost twenty-five years, I am only at \$12.35 per hour. It saddens me to think that if I want to continue working at our county library, I will have to re-apply for a job I have done since 1995, and that I will lose all my accrued time, as well as my current rate of pay, if they would even rehire me at all.

Since I am currently working at my second part-time job, I am unable to attend your meeting this evening. Would it be possible for you to bring up my (our) dilemma during your citizen's time segment? I have attached the e-mail which was sent to me yesterday, but as I was on bereavement leave, I did not receive till today.

Thank you for any possible help you can give me! Respectfully, Natalie Arnold-Ratcliff"

SPEEDING PATROL

Chief Deputy Foster stated that he would notify patrol of the speeding concerns on Pump Hollow Road and Route 94.

COUNTY ATTORNEY STATUS REPORT

Supervisor McRoberts extended his thanks to Mr. Farthing for his report.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to come before the Board, Chair Vaught adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:57 p.m.

Brian W. Vaught, Chair