

May 26, 2020

The Wythe County Board of Supervisors held its regularly scheduled meeting at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 26, 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  
 Curtis Crawford, Emergency Services Coordinator

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Barry Ayers  
 Kimberly Ayers  
 William & Katherine Conaway  
 Roger Crigger  
 Jim & Dee Ennis

Linda Meyer  
 Jimmy Moux-Rodriguez  
 Sonya Ramsey  
 Edgar Testerman  
 Brenda Thomas

**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 Roger Crigger, Rural Retreat Pentecostal Holiness Church, provided the invocation and Supervisor Cook led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**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 "The last meeting you said you were going to send a letter to the Governor. Did you send the letter and was there a response?"

Mr. Bear confirmed that the letter was sent but we have not received a response.

May 26, 2020

Ms. Meyer continued "On Saturday, there was an article in the newspaper from the Mount Rogers Health District and it gave the areas of Southwest Virginia with a total population of 192,000 people. At that point, we had 85 cases of this virus, 52 recoveries and we had 6 deaths. So, if you do some math, the cases at 266 is 0.00135% of the population. With 6 deaths, it's 0.000031% of the population. I went looking for the Virginia Emergency Service Board, there are 13 people on it. They're all from the Richmond area and it looks like they're all bureaucrats. We have four people in our region that are supposed to be the liaisons to the Emergency Service Board in Richmond. The headquarters is in Marion and in Dublin; I'm sure you know that. I was wondering, have they come to you? Have they asked anything? Have they been to Wythe County? Here we have four people serving 19 counties, that's pretty slim, and I was interested in what they did for us since they're on our payroll."

Mr. Bear said he would follow-up with Mr. Crawford to see what interactions he's had with them.

Ms. Meyer responded "As I asked before, it's time to be brave. Shouldn't this Board or any board or Southwest Virginia have a liaison or a person on the State board in Richmond to represent us? That only seems fair and perhaps you guys should get together with the other 19 areas down here and do something about it to make sure our voices are heard. So, in light of that, shouldn't we be doing something since we have almost negligible problems here in Wythe County, I had asked you before to open Wythe County so we can get back to work, so our kids can play again and everybody is safe. We have more chances of being knocked over by a cow in Wythe County according to these stats from the Health Department than we do of getting this virus. So, it's time to open up, and it's time to be brave. And especially with forthcoming the school season hopefully in August and so on. If somebody sneezes, are we all going to fall by the wayside again and lock ourselves in houses? It is a little bit beyond ridiculous. So anyway, here are the stats. You can look at these, get out your calculators and do them also."

2. Memorializing Veterans – Ms. Linda Meyer continued "We had a gentleman from Ivanhoe. June 6, 1944 he was aboard the USS Rich at the Normandy invasion. He was killed. Unfortunately, there is no monument in Ivanhoe it doesn't seem. His name is Bruce Weatherman. There's nothing here and I don't think there's anything on the wall in Rural Retreat and I was hoping that Coy or the Board could get together perhaps with Nadine Weatherman who still lives in Ivanhoe,

May 26, 2020

and there is also a son, and get this guy a plaque. He certainly deserves it; he is one of our veterans and he is sorely missed in the Ivanhoe community as a young man and his life there. So, it would be something to look into, right Coy? His name is Weatherman, Bruce Weatherman."

Supervisor McRoberts agreed and said Mr. Weatherman's granddaughter works for the Commonwealth Attorney, and another who works for the Health Department.

Ms. Meyer added "Well, it seems like the proper time, not the proper time as it should've been done along time ago, that this fellow is memorialized some place within the County as one of our veterans. Thank you."

The Chairman added that Mr. Farley, Public Information Officer, is compiling a list of veterans from WWII and gathering information to properly honor them.

3. Speedwell Erosion – Mr. Edgar Testerman appeared before the Board and stated "I still haven't heard back from the State. Nobody's been over there to look at the erosion along the bank on Edward Crigger; and I did speak to one State man out of Abingdon and he said there was no erosion, but the vegetation he put to hold the bank, is hanging out from where it got washed away. The vegetation's there but the roots are hanging out. I mean, I don't know what they want us to do and I was just wondering if anybody had bothered to follow-up with them. I'm still following up with Mr. Pillion and Mr. Campbell and I plan on getting back with them tomorrow, but I haven't heard anything or seen anybody. My bank's being washed away. We're losing our yards and it's at the head. If you go down the creek, they've come in and put rock in in places to shore up the bank but they've never fixed the problem up there. I just videoed it this weekend with the possibility of floods and you can see that all that water is flowing through the one barrel and the other barrel is almost blocked on that bridge on south 21."

Chair Vaught asked Mr. Testerman to stay for a few minutes so Mr. Bear can share with him the communication he received from DEQ.

Mr. Testerman continued "I plan on going to Richmond. I'm not shutting up and going away no matter what excuses they make. They say we need vegetation to hold the creek bank, it's washing the bank out behind the vegetation; we're losing all that. I don't know what their plan is but they need to get one. They

May 26, 2020

spent \$3M on Ellers bridge and his road, and they can't fix the creek for us citizens that live there and pay their taxes. Something's wrong with that."

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

### **PAYMENT OF COUNTY INVOICES**

Supervisor McRoberts made a motion to pay the invoices for approval on May 26, 2020, for the various departments of County government. The invoices were paid on General Warrants 30106753-30106828 as follows:

### **EXPENDITURES BY DEPARTMENT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS May 26, 2020**

<b>CHECK #</b>	<b>ISSUE DATE</b>	<b>VENDOR</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
30106753	05/26/2020	APPALACHIAN JUVENILE COMM	\$ 10,500.00
30106754	05/26/2020	APPALACHIAN POWER	29,269.99
30106755	05/26/2020	APPALACHIAN POWER	662.66
30106756	05/26/2020	APPLIED INDUSTRIAL TECH	14,436.21
30106757	05/26/2020	AQUA-AEROBIC SYSTEMS INC	1,216.40
30106758	05/26/2020	BKT UNIFORMS	1,070.78
30106759	05/26/2020	BLUE RIDGE ANALYTICAL, LL	1,405.00
30106760	05/26/2020	BLUE RIDGE AUTO PARTS INC	26.35
30106761	05/26/2020	BROWN EXTERMINATING CO	75.00
30106762	05/26/2020	BW WILSON PAPER CO	2,313.80
30106763	05/26/2020	CARTER BANK & TRUST (NOTE	174,815.05
30106764	05/26/2020	CENTURYLINK	39.98
30106765	05/26/2020	CENTURYLINK	62.75
30106766	05/26/2020	CENTURYLINK	116.07
30106767	05/26/2020	CENTURYLINK	138.91
30106768	05/26/2020	CENTURYLINK	311.62
30106769	05/26/2020	CLEARWATER INC	1,200.00
30106770	05/26/2020	COM TEC	7,495.00
30106771	05/26/2020	COMMONWEALTH DOCUMENT MGT	307.80
30106772	05/26/2020	COUNTS, LENNON E	36.33
30106773	05/26/2020	TREASURER OF VIRGINIA	1,368.26
30106774	05/26/2020	DEPT OF MOTOR VEHICLES	800.00
30106775	05/26/2020	DUKE'S PRINTING	484.19
30106776	05/26/2020	DUNAGAN, KEITH	136.44

May 26, 2020

30106777	05/26/2020	F&R ELECTRIC INC	975.00
30106778	05/26/2020	FERGUSON ENTERPRISES #5	4,373.83
30106779	05/26/2020	FIRE RESCUE AND TACTICAL	791.47
30106780	05/26/2020	GALLS	559.30
30106781	05/26/2020	GRANT, BRUCE M	4,343.59
30106782	05/26/2020	GUN SHOP	1,529.89
30106783	05/26/2020	HURT & PROFFITT INC	1,408.68
30106784	05/26/2020	J. KEITH GOINES	123.68
30106785	05/26/2020	JASON'S AUTO SERVICE	34.95
30106786	05/26/2020	KIRBY, EDWIN WAYNE	275.41
30106787	05/26/2020	LONG, SCARLETTE	40.00
30106788	05/26/2020	MANSFIELD OIL CO	3,349.58
30106789	05/26/2020	MAX MEADOWS FIRE DEPT	11,861.83
30106790	05/26/2020	MCI COMM SERVICE	67.98
30106791	05/26/2020	MCI COMM SERVICE	102.34
30106792	05/26/2020	MCI COMM SERVICE	733.05
30106793	05/26/2020	MEADE TRACTOR	57.48
30106794	05/26/2020	MEDLEY-COX, IVY	40.00
30106795	05/26/2020	MEREDITH'S GARAGE	798.00
30106796	05/26/2020	MAILFINANCE INC	474.00
30106797	05/26/2020	NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL	120,501.90
30106798	05/26/2020	OWEN G DUNN CO	1,511.92
30106799	05/26/2020	PAPER CLIP	72.98
30106800	05/26/2020	PEED & BORTZ LLC	2,900.00
30106801	05/26/2020	PENTAIR AQUATIC ECO-SYSTE	1,380.66
30106802	05/26/2020	R&C TOWING & REPAIR CO	100.00
30106803	05/26/2020	R.E. MICHEL COMPANY, LLC	350.06
30106804	05/26/2020	RURAL RETREAT AUTO PARTS	720.65
30106805	05/26/2020	S&W FERTILIZER	219.00
30106806	05/26/2020	SEGRA	31.25
30106807	05/26/2020	SIRCHIE FINGER PRINT LABO	142.30
30106808	05/26/2020	JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	569.49
30106809	05/26/2020	SOUTHWESTERN EQUIPMENT	50.95
30106810	05/26/2020	SOUTHWESTERN VA GAS SERVI	306.63
30106811	05/26/2020	STONEMAN, RICK	75.00
30106812	05/26/2020	SUBURBAN PROPANE	50.00
30106813	05/26/2020	TOMAHAWK STRATEGIC SOLUTI	4,175.00
30106814	05/26/2020	TOWN OF WYTHEVILLE	398.58
30106815	05/26/2020	WYTHE COUNTY JAM	3,000.00

May 26, 2020

30106816	05/26/2020	TRACTOR SUPPLY COMPANY	155.56
30106817	05/26/2020	TWO WAY RADIO	90.00
30106818	05/26/2020	UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA	225.00
30106819	05/26/2020	UPS STORE 5065	107.76
30106820	05/26/2020	USA BLUE BOOK	1,072.68
30106821	05/26/2020	VENCO BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	593.14
30106822	05/26/2020	VERIZON WIRELESS	1,448.46
30106823	05/26/2020	VIRGINIA BUSINESS SYST	656.08
30106824	05/26/2020	VIRGINIA TECH	13,776.94
30106825	05/26/2020	WILLIAM KING MUSEUM OF AR	250.00
30106826	05/26/2020	WYTHE TIRE AND MUFFLER	155.00
30106827	05/26/2020	WYTHEVILLE OFFICE SUPPLY	195.87
30106828	05/26/2020	XEROX	492.25
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES 05/26/2020</b>			<b>\$436,003.76</b>

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES APPROVED 05/26/2020 \$436,003.76**

Vice Chair Lawson 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

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The Board was presented with the May 12, 2020, minutes for approval.

Supervisor Terry made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Smith, to approve the May 12, 2020, minutes as presented.

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	

May 26, 2020

NAYS: None

### **SPEEDWELL FLOODING**

Mr. Bear received a communication from DEQ that he will copy and share with everyone. Basically, they confirmed receipt of our inquiries and acknowledge the flooding that's taken place. Unfortunately, DEQ states that most of the community in Speedwell experiencing the worst of the flooding is inside a flood hazard area (high probability and frequency of flooding). Mr. Bear said DEQ is looking for Cooperative Solutions to help homeowners with potential grant opportunities, emergency declarations, etc. but DEQ states they have no immediate source of funding or programs to address the needs of the citizens.

### **BROADBAND**

Mr. Bear reported that he and Mr. Todd Catron (Computer Coordinator), along with Dr. Jefferies and Mr. Russell Street, had an online conference with Dr. Tamarah Holmes, Director of Broadband at VA Department of Housing & Community Development. She is working on contacts with many of our existing service providers to see what type of grant opportunities may exist. Mr. Bear said the process has started and as it progresses, he will share more of that information. There were also discussions about the AEP project in Grayson County and potential for extending that program into Wythe County.

### **VDOT SIX-YEAR PLAN**

Mr. Bear reiterated that the total estimated funding is \$900k. Mr. Bear shared a list of the roads, including the most recent additions by the BOS, but the list of roads exceed the \$900k. He spoke with Mr. Fowler (VDOT) about Gap of Ridge Road and possibly splitting that into two sections. The BOS will need to review and finalize the list so it can be advertised for public hearing.

It was confirmed that Scowanda Spring Road is not a new addition to the Six-Year Plan as it was previously included.

Chair Vaught said his concern with Gap of Ridge is that it's a safety issue. The Chairman also wanted to know why Crawfish did not qualify for Rural Rustic.

Supervisor Horney confirmed that citizens have complained about Gap of Ridge, Sheffey Town Road, but he's not sure about Riverview and Cinnamon Run.

Supervisor Smith added that Riverview is in bad shape. Mr. Bear commented that much of Riverview Road is in the flood plain.

*Mr. Fowler joined the meeting by telephone.*

Chair Vaught asked Mr. Fowler why Crawfish isn't eligible for Rural Rustic.

Mr. Fowler responded that it's very narrow and there's a steep slope and cut slope that would require more work than the Rural Rustic concept is designed for. He said it would be a design build project.

Chair Vaught asked about distance of Gap of Ridge from West Lee to Swallow Hollow. Mr. Fowler replied it's .5 mile from Route 11 to Swallow Hollow. The remaining section from Swallow Hollow to Black Lick Road is 1.6 miles.

Supervisor Horney asked for confirmation that Scowanda Spring Road is, in fact, already on the Six-Year Plan. Mr. Fowler confirmed that it is.

Mr. Bear asked for clarification of Route 748, Riverview Road. There are two roads in Ivanhoe, one is Riverview (off of 94) and the other is Route 764, Shady River Drive (near the county line) that comes back around to Riverview.

Mr. Fowler confirmed that VDOT is reviewing Route 639, Riverview Road. Route 748 should actually be Route 639. (.6 miles of Riverview on route 639).

Supervisor Smith asked the status of Jones Road off of Red Hollow.

Mr. Fowler responded that Jones Road only has an average daily traffic count of 30 and, therefore, would not qualify for Rural Rustic (the count must be at least 50).

Mr. Bear asked if Gap of Ridge was split, the .5 mile section would be about \$110k (from Route 11 to Swallow Hollow)? Mr. Fowler said yes, and the remaining portion would be \$352k.

Mr. Fowler asked if other routes might be recommended when the Board holds the public hearing?

Mr. Bear replied that the goal is to have an accurate list prior to the public hearing but the Board can revise it as long as it's adopted by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Fowler added that if they can come in under budget on some of these roads, it would then free up some more money to add roads in the future.



Supervisor Horney asked about the road going down to Asbury Church, off of Cedar Springs Road, and why it hasn't been repaired yet.

Mr. Fowler responded that he will look into it.

Mr. Bear asked Mr. Fowler to send the paving schedule for this summer so he can share with the Board.

*Mr. Fowler exited the meeting.*

Supervisor Smith said that the money left from Major Graham (~\$100k) could be allocated to Doe Run.

Chair Vaught asked for Gap of Ridge, while Supervisor Horney said people have been asking for Sheffey Town Road for much longer. The Chair reiterated that there's a safety issue with respect to Gap of Ridge but he'd be agreeable to doing just part of it.

Vice Chair Lawson said if you do 1.6 miles of Gap of Ridge (from Black Lick to Swallow Hollow) for \$352k, then you could do all of Sheffey Town and Doe Run and come in about \$9k under, right? Mr. Bear agreed.

Chair Vaught said it's the other side of Gap of Ridge Road (E. Lee Highway) where the safety concerns are.

Supervisor McRoberts stated that based on the road counts, Riverview should be at the top of the list. But Sheffey Town Road is in much worse shape.

The group discussed the possibility of doing Gap of Ridge (1.6 miles) from the other side. Mr. Bear will update Mr. Fowler with respect to Gap of Ridge, Sheffey Town and Doe Run.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mr. Bear explained that Mrs. Guynn, although not in attendance, is available by phone for any questions or concerns the Board may have. Compared to what was budgeted, tax collections are coming in at 99.4% for real estate and 103% for personal property. Mr. Bear said this is a very good result for this time of year.

### **WATER COMMITTEE REPORT**

Supervisor Horney made a motion, as recommended by the Water Committee, to approve the Mueller Agreement for the water meters and reading equipment. Mueller Systems, LLC is the same company who has provided this equipment, and we're now at the point where we need newer equipment.

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

### **BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

1. Veeam Backup Funds Transfer – Supervisor Cook made a motion, as recommended by the Building & Grounds Committee, to approve the transfer of \$632.00 from 1202-430150 to 1205-470012 for the Veeam Backup for the County's servers.

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. Courthouse Phone System – Supervisor Cook made a motion, as recommended by the Building & Grounds Committee, to proceed with MXN Corporation for the Courthouse Phone System Upgrade Project. The total cost is \$125,036.44 which includes the base system, new wiring, removal of old wiring and additional phones and installation.

May 26, 2020

Mr. Bear added that the phone system in the courthouse complex is in desperate need of an upgrade. He and Mr. Catron reviewed all the bids and MXN was the best one and came in significantly under budget.

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. Rural Retreat Lake Pool – Supervisor Cook made a motion, as recommended by the Building & Grounds Committee, not to open the Rural Retreat Lake Pool for the 2020 Season due to COVID-19 and CDC guidelines.

Mr. Bear explained that part of the issue is that it can take 3-4 weeks to get life guards and certifications and, with guidelines regularly changing, it just isn't feasible. The County doesn't want to put money into opening up the pool if, in fact, it isn't going to happen.

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

4. Rural Retreat Elementary School Hay Removal Lease – Supervisor Cook made a motion, as recommended by the Building & Grounds Committee, to enter into an agreement with Jeff Foglesong for hay removal from lots located at the Rural Retreat Elementary School property.

The roll call vote was as follows:

AYES:	Brian W. Vaught	Coy L. McRoberts
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Rolland R. Cook  
Ryan M. Lawson  
James D. "Jamie" Smith

B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.  
Stacy A. Terry

NAYS: None

5. Surplus Lights & Bulbs – Supervisor Cook made a motion, as recommended by the Building & Grounds Committee, to declare used light fixtures and bulbs surplus and sell on govdeals.com.

Mr. Bear explained that a lot of fixtures and fluorescent bulbs have been replaced with more efficient ones. It's more advantageous to sell them instead of disposing them.

The roll call vote was as follows:

AYES: Brian W. Vaught  
Rolland R. Cook  
Ryan M. Lawson  
James D. "Jamie" Smith

Coy L. McRoberts  
B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.  
Stacy A. Terry

NAYS: None

6. Progress Park Slope Drain Quotes – Supervisor Cook made a motion, as recommended by the Building & Grounds Committee, to accept R&R's bid of \$12,500 for repairs to the slope drain at Progress Park.

Mr. Bear stated that a couple of lots have retention ponds to hold stormwater and, over the years, the mouth/lip of those drains has eroded and washed out the areas rendering the pipes ineffective. This work will repair the areas around the pipes and protect the bank from further erosion.

The roll call vote was as follows:

AYES: Brian W. Vaught  
Rolland R. Cook  
Ryan M. Lawson  
James D. "Jamie" Smith

Coy L. McRoberts  
B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.  
Stacy A. Terry

NAYS: None

7. APEX Barn Water & Electrical Quotes – Supervisor Cook made a motion, as recommended by the Building & Grounds Committee, to accept Colt Simmon’s bid of \$3,750 for the electrical installation at the APEX barn.

Mr. Bear explained that the contract for the APEX barn included extending the water line out 5’ and running electric. This item is for running electricity from the AEP pole to the barn at a cost of \$3,750. Money has already been budgeted for the electricity and water.

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

NAYS: James D. “Jamie” Smith

8. APEX Restrooms & Wash Racks – Supervisor Cook made a motion, as recommended by the Building & Grounds Committee, to accept King Contractor’s bid of \$7,200 for the water line installation at the APEX barn.

Supervisor Cook stated that he is unhappy that they’re providing water to the barn (horses, cattle, etc.) instead of providing it to the citizens of Wythe County. Other board members agreed but Vice Chair Lawson said that with the barn already constructed, it would be a waste of taxpayer dollars not to approve the water line to the barn.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Brian W. Vaught	Coy L. McRoberts
	Ryan M. Lawson	B. G. “Gene” Horney, Jr.

NAYS:	James D. “Jamie” Smith	Rolland R. Cook
	Stacy A. Terry	

9. Exit 77 Development Area – Supervisor Cook made a motion, as recommended by the Building & Grounds Committee, to accept Hurt & Proffitt’s proposal

amendment for additional topographic surveying and engineering design services (left turn lane) required for the Exit 77 Lot Development Project. The cost of the amendment is \$8,480.

Mr. Bear added that Hurt & Proffitt has been working on the design of the lots and road, and based on the traffic impact analysis, it necessitated additional turn lanes that were not included in the original H&P proposal. This is necessary to finalize the design documents for the project. Mr. Bear also stated that they took the largest case volume relating to the five lots to develop the traffic impact analysis.

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
NAYS:	James D. "Jamie" Smith	

## CONSENT CALENDAR

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

### 1. PAYROLL – April 2020:

General County Fund	\$	561,323.80
Police Activity Fund		41,239.49
Courthouse Security Fund		12,822.17
Water Department Fund		21,036.47
Wythe County Wastewater Fund		23,413.41
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>659,835.34</b>

**Check Numbers:** 20000750-20000760; 20000765-20000775

**Voucher Numbers:** 11840-12012; 12019-12195

### 2. STATUS REPORTS:

- A. Animal Control – Arlan Dunford
- B. Building & Grounds/Refuse – Billy Bowers
- C. Building Inspection – Rhonda Vaught
- D. Emergency Services – Curtis Crawford

- E. Engineering – Johnny Kincer
- F. Finance – Bruce Grant
- G. Planning Commission – Michelle Cassell
- H. Public Information Office – Jeremy Farley
- I. Water & Wastewater – Don Crisp

**3. PERSONNEL:**

- A. Woods, Kelly – Hired, Full-time Accounting Technician, Annual Salary \$36,000, Effective April 16, 2020
- B. Graham, Martin – Hired, Full-time Communications Officer, Annual Salary \$26,000, Effective April 16, 2020

**4. BUDGET AMENDMENTS:**

- A. \$1,019 (32021-461250) – Auto Claim, 2003 Freightliner VIN#1124
- B. \$530 (1213-458060) – Re-Appropriation for Conventions & Education

Supervisor Smith 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

**EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN**

Mr. Curtis Crawford, Emergency Services Coordinator, presented the Board with the Emergency Operations Plan ("EOP"). Mr. Crawford explained that this is the basic plan and there are addendums currently in process. The EOP includes ESF's and each one has a designated leader and their responsibilities. Once the EOP is approved, it then goes to the State level for review/approval as well as posting on our website for the public's review. Mr. Crawford said he is working with Bland and other surrounding counties on a Family Unification Center so when there's a large-scale event, the center can reunify families and help us to disseminate information.

It should be noted that the BOS will have to approve any changes or addendums to the EOP.

Vice Chair Lawson made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Cook, to adopt the Emergency Operations Plan as presented.

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

### **FY21 BUDGET AND PUBLIC HEARING**

Mr. Bear distributed an updated expenditure budget.

The School Board received reductions in funding from State. Their budget was \$50,471,023 and the revised budget is \$49,651,487.

The County budget totals \$85,827,972 (2.9% increase over prior year). Mr. Bear said increases in the budget include: reassessment cost of \$300k, wastewater improvement projects of \$1.35M, and the County Office Building project. It should be noted that the School budget increased by \$1,121,000.

Mr. Bear explained that in order to balance the budget, we will need \$1.5M from surplus funds. He hopes that the school system will have a carryover of \$1M to \$1.5M which would offset what we need to take out of surplus.

Staff recommends advertising the County Budget of \$85,827,972 and School Board Budget of \$49,651,487 for a Public Hearing on June 11, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Supervisor Terry made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Cook, to advertise the FY21 Budget as presented and set the Public Hearing for June 11, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

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

1. Road Name Request – Mr. Bear received a request by residents to name a road in the Pleasant Pines subdivision “Rumbling Ridge Lane”. Staff has reviewed for conflicts (none exist) and recommend approving the request.

Vice Chair Lawson made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Terry, to approve naming the road off Pleasant Pine Drive to “Rumbling Ridge Lane”.

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. CSA Supplemental Funding Request – Mr. Bear referenced the letter from Ms. Kimberly Ayers, DSS Director requesting supplemental funding. He explained that each year they estimate allocations for the Children’s Services Act for taking care of children that end up in home, educational or other situations. Ms. Ayers is requesting an additional \$221,500 to cover what they anticipate our local share of expenses will be. He added that this is not uncommon from what other localities are currently experiencing.

Ms. Ayers explained that the Children’s Services Act encompasses mandated services and have done so for about 25-26 years. The localities have received a certain amount of money that has a State match to pay for services involving community children. Not all are considered DSS children as some come from special education, private day placements, Mount Rogers places kids, etc. There are also services provided at the County/community level. There is a tiered match rate depending on the type of service and their overall match rate is .2708 (below the State average). Over the past few years, we have needed additional funds around this time of year, beyond what we had estimated. Therefore, we would like to increase the allocation on the front-end. This is a County

program coordinated through her office. Ms. Ayers added that the CSA budget is included in the DSS budget, but they are two very distinct budgets. Children served through this program are not necessarily DSS kids, so she doesn't have control over the number of children served.

Mr. Bear added that FAPT and CMPT teams review all the cases to ensure that services being rendered are actually required and related funding sources. He said these groups do a very good job and that Ms. Ayers and her department work hard to minimize local costs as much as possible.

Chair Vaught concurred with Mr. Bear and noted that they have had some odd cases this year.

Ms. Ayers noted that some bad cases have hit since COVID, and that applications for benefits went up 150% in April. There's been a slight decrease in the services end in the number of cases reported but she said the intensity abuse they're seeing has increased exponentially.

Supervisor Horney made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Lawson, to amend and appropriate \$221,500 to the DSS budget for Children's Services Act funding.

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. Library Board Appointment – Mr. Bear reported a vacancy on the WGRL Board after receiving a letter of resignation, if any BOS becomes aware of a suitable replacement.

### **COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORT**

Mr. Farthing shared his weekly project status report earlier with the Board and made himself available to address any concerns.

Chair Vaught mentioned that Mr. Farthing sent a letter to Flying J regarding the trash issue and he is pleased to report that the situation has been rectified. Mr. Farthing's letter was direct and effective.

## **SUPERVISORS' REPORTS**

1. Honoring Veterans – Supervisor Terry mentioned that he too received a request to honor Mr. Weatherman, if the Board would consider a resolution to present to the family.

Chair Vaught said it's entirely up to the Board but added that Mr. Farley is currently researching this to see how best we can honor our veterans.

2. COVID-19 Restrictions – Supervisor Terry voiced concern over reopening the County immediately in order to help our citizens. Churches are opened back up but with major restrictions (half capacity, social distancing, etc.) and he feels it should be up to the churches to take the appropriate safety measures. He believes that people ought to be able to assemble in groups larger than 10 or 20. With the Governor now mandating masks, Supervisor Terry doesn't see where he has the constitutional authority to do this. He feels it's a huge deterrent for citizens and small businesses. He added that if he is refused service for not wearing a mask, he will happily take his business to Tennessee. He asked what this Board can do to effect positive change?

Chair Vaught agreed that he'd like to do something, but if there was a viable solution, he doubts we'd be the only county jumping on it. He also noted that the Governor left the enforcement up to the Health Department. The Chairman asked Mr. Farthing if he could look into this and come up with some legal recourse.

Supervisor Smith doesn't understand why the mandate now, three months after the pandemic hit. He feels the Governor is managing the State through fear.

3. Mule Hell Flooding – Supervisor Horney received a complaint about flooding. The resident told him there's a pond up there that's causing the problem. He asked if we could send our Engineer out there to assess the situation/pond. The pond is at the end of Matney Flats.

Mr. Bear asked for the address and said that he would have Mr. Kincer and/or Mr. Crawford go out there to review the situation.

4. Piney Mountain Road – Supervisor McRoberts has received complaints that tractor trailers continue to drive through on this road. He requests that a sign be put up that clearly states “Not a Thru Road” or “GPS Not Recommended”. Mr. Bear will check with VDOT to see if they can take care of it.
5. Grandview Drive – Supervisor McRoberts received a call about Grandview but the issue has already been addressed.
6. Smokin’ Guns – Vice Chair Lawson asked what the status is of putting a sign up to prevent tractor trailers from U-turning on the Smokin’ Guns property. Apparently, it continues to be a problem.

Mr. Bear will follow-up with Mr. Bowers to get signage out there.

7. Convenience Centers – Supervisor Cook has received a complaint regarding the attendants’ refusal to assist the handicapped with their trash. He asked how we can assist the handicapped citizens and protect the attendants.
8. COVID-19 Restrictions – Supervisor Cook questions the legitimacy of spending taxpayer money to have the County Attorney research an issue that they likely know the answer to.
9. Speeding on SR 94 and Lots Gap Road – Supervisor Smith continues to receive complaints concerning speeding on SR 94 from Ft. Chiswell Road up to Jewell Lane, as well as speeding on Lots Gap Road from the top of the mountain to Chapman. There are small children who live on Lots Gap so something needs to be done. He said he also reached out to the Sheriff’s Office about it.
10. Paving Schedule – Supervisor Smith is hoping that Hagers Spring Road will be on the schedule.
11. Robinson Property on Route 94 – Supervisor Smith said this issue has been corrected and he assumes it was a resident who went up to cut the brush.
12. Pine Brook Drive – Chair Vaught asked Mr. Bear if he had followed-up with Mr. Eversole. Mr. Bear said he left a message for him and will follow-up accordingly.
13. Convenience Centers – Chair Vaught asked what can be done about the issue raised by Supervisor Cook? Mr. Bear responded that he will schedule a meeting

with V&M to help address this issue. The Chairman believes they can get them puncture-proof gloves similar to what law enforcement wear.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business to come before the Board, Chair Vaught adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:37 p.m.

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Brian W. Vaught, Chair