

September 14, 2021

The Wythe County Board of Supervisors held its regularly scheduled meeting at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 14, 2021. 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  
 Rolland R. Cook  
 B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.

Coy L. McRoberts  
 James D. "Jamie" Smith

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Ryan M. Lawson, Vice Chair

Stacy A. Terry

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Stephen D. Bear, County Administrator  
 Martha Collins, Administrative Assistant/Clerk  
 Scot Farthing, County Attorney  
 Matthew C. Hankins, Assistant County Administrator

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Barry Ayers  
 Brittany & Robbie Childress and daughter  
 Dee Ennis  
 Charlie Foster  
 Richie Johnson

Gus Kincer  
 Zach Lester  
 Linda Meyer  
 Jamie Wyatt  
 and one other citizen

**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 Richie Johnson, First Church of Wytheville, provided the invocation and Supervisor Cook led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF BONDS FOR \$800,000**

Chair Vaught read that notice is given that the Board of Supervisors of Wythe County, Virginia ("Board") will hold a public hearing on the proposed issuance at one time or from time to time of bonds by Wythe County. The estimated maximum amount of the bonds proposed to be issued is \$800,000 in the aggregate. The proposed use of the bond proceeds is to pay costs of acquiring fire trucks and an incident-command trailer

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and to pay costs of issuing the bonds. The public hearing, which may be continued or adjourned, and at which persons may appear and present their views on the proposed bond issue, will be held at 6:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, on September 14, 2021, before the Board in the Boardroom of the County Administration Building, located at 340 South Sixth Street in Wytheville, Virginia.

Chair Vaught hearing no comments from citizens, closed the public hearing.

Mr. Bear explained that the \$800,000 will be used for the purchase of three fire trucks and an incident-command vehicle. He said that bids were solicited and that BB&T/Truist was the low bidder at a rate of 1.44%.

Supervisor Cook made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Horney, to approve the resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of General Obligation Bond of Wythe County in a principal amount not to exceed \$800,000 and the execution and delivery of certain bond documents associated with the issuance.

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	

NAYS: None

ABSENT:	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry
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### **CITIZENS' TIME**

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

1. School Mandates – Mr. Zach Lester appeared before the Board and stated "Good evening everybody. I am Zach Lester and I've got a packet of papers for everybody. It's got a little bit of information and a little notice as well. I did the same thing at the School Board last week at the School Board meeting. And next week I'm hoping to do the same thing at the Health Department. So, I'm just going to read this first sheet, then the rest of the packet is just going to be stuff for you all to go through over the next week or so. It's going to have links to a bunch of different stuff; a bunch of different doctors. I think there's over 30 studies by the NIH and the CDC denouncing masks. The ultimate goal is to get the option of masks in school given so that we can get our kids out of the masks.

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We're offering some ways to get them out with an upgrade of an HVAC system and iWave Air. I have everything credentialed professionals going over all the information; it's not of my opinion; this is all facts cited and researched. So I'm just going to read this real quick *'Dear Everybody, under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act 2.2-3700 – 2.2-3714 and the Virginia Public Records Act 42.1-86 Essential Public Records, I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of public records that describe documentary evidence of the specific contagious disease that the Department of Health claims to exist, documentary evidence including evidence demonstrating by modern scientific standards, that this disease has been isolated and purified and not extrapolated from any computer or mathematical model. Documentary evidence that such disease is, in fact, contagious and has been proven by modern scientific standards to be contagious between people, quantitative and comprehensive report of all physicians' affidavits having been filed with the local Health Officer diagnosing people with having such contagious disease. All records demonstrating that the local Public Health Officer has petitioned the court, has obtained a court order based upon such physicians' affidavits imposing health control measures such as isolation and quarantine and describing which people or groups of people the order is imposed upon. If there are any fees for searching or copying these records, please inform me if the cost will exceed \$20.00. However, I would also like to request a waiver of all fees in that the disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest and will contribute significantly to the public's understanding of basic human rights. This information is not being sought for commercial purposes. The law requires that you respond to and fulfill this request as promptly as possible. If you expect a significant delay in responding to and fulfilling this request, please contact me with information of when I might expect copies or the ability to inspect the requested records. If you deny any or all of this request, please cite each specific exemption you feel justifies your refusal to release information and notify me of the field procedures available to me under the law. Thank you for considering my request.'* It's got all my information, email, phone number, my address. It's all listed there. Everybody take a copy; go over it over the next week. I'd love to hear from you about your opinions. I kind of know where everybody stands on this. The biggest thing is that we have to push the Health Department to take away the restriction of locking our children in masks for eight hours a day. There're doctors all over the world that are saying this is really really bad for their neurological development and for their physiological health and all kinds of stuff. We just need to look at the science, not the political agenda, and try to do what's right for our kids. I think everything should be an option. The vaccine should be an option. Masks should be an option. We should

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all have that option. This is America. So, I would just like for you all to stand behind us as we're going to the Health Department to try to make some stuff happen. Thank you all for everything you do. I do appreciate it."

2. Wythe County Public Schools – Ms. Linda Meyer appeared before the Board and stated "Good evening, gentlemen. As you know, I had interest in some very smutty books that are in our school system, and I went to the School Board meeting last week and I asked them if they had looked at the books and what was their determination. And they acquiesced to Mr. Jefferies and they told me that I had to file a KLB-E form with the information on it. Okay. So, what I have done, I got the form, I printed it off with the information. I've also attached a copy of the list of the books in the Wythe County School System and the other, all 44 books, that we are opposed to having here in our system. So, I'd like to give these to you and I hope that you will take them, fill it out, mail it back. The address is on the back, and so on. We will be doing a petition campaign through all the PTAs and the churches and so on and so forth in Wythe County, and private individuals and hopefully we can have these pornographic books taken out of our school system."
3. Cigarette Tax – Ms. Linda Meyer appeared before the Board and stated "The other thing was, what's cooking with the tobacco, the cigarette tax? I heard the other day that it's up to \$4.00 a carton in addition to it's current and that you guys had approved – I went back through the agendas and I couldn't find anything concerning the cigarette tax. There are several counties that are not in favor of this tax. I'm not in favor of people smoking, but to add an additional \$4.00 per carton tax on them, is it really worth it, and so on. It's kind of an unfortunate thing. So, I wish you'd think about that again and get to the Commission concerning the cigarette tax that they want to impose. Thank you."

With no one else signed up to speak, Chair Vaught closed Citizens' Time.

### **PAYMENT OF COUNTY INVOICES**

Supervisor McRoberts made a motion to pay the invoices for approval on September 14, 2021, for the various departments of County government. The invoices were paid on General Warrants 30110471-30110580, and three wire transfers, as follows:

**EXPENDITURES BY DEPARTMENT  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
September 14, 2021**

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<b>CHECK #</b>	<b>ISSUE DATE</b>	<b>VENDOR</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
30110471	09/01/2021	APPALACHIAN POWER	\$ 1,905.58
30110472	09/01/2021	CENTURYLINK	51.87
30110473	09/01/2021	CENTURYLINK	52.76
30110474	09/01/2021	CENTURYLINK	124.03
30110475	09/01/2021	CENTURYLINK	125.58
30110476	09/01/2021	CENTURYLINK	146.97
30110477	09/01/2021	CENTURYLINK	248.78
30110478	09/01/2021	CENTURYLINK	3,548.05
30110479	09/01/2021	CENTURYLINK	4,970.42
30110480	09/01/2021	CITIZENS TELEPHONE COOP	979.95
30110481	09/01/2021	TOWN OF RURAL RETREAT	1,369.91
30110482	09/01/2021	US CELLULAR	1,229.52
30110483	09/01/2021	WYTHE CO WATER & WASTEWAT	305.84
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES 09/01/2021</b>			<b>\$ 15,059.26</b>

<b>CHECK #</b>	<b>ISSUE DATE</b>	<b>VENDOR</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
(wire)	09/10/2021	VIRGINIA RESOURCES AUTHOR	\$ 34,246.78
(wire)	09/10/2021	VIRGINIA RESOURCES AUTHOR	57,516.49
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES 09/10/2021</b>			<b>\$ 91,763.27</b>

<b>CHECK #</b>	<b>ISSUE DATE</b>	<b>VENDOR</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
(wire)	09/14/2021	SUNTRUST	\$ 36,881.92
30110484	09/14/2021	ALPHA & OMEGA REPAR SERVI	695.91
30110485	09/14/2021	AMAZON	1,765.51
30110486	09/14/2021	APPALACHIAN POWER	25,878.01
30110487	09/14/2021	ARROWHEAD SCIENTIFIC, INC	97.55
30110488	09/14/2021	ATMOS ENERGY	11.63
30110489	09/14/2021	BINGHAM ARBITRAGE REBATE	1,200.00
30110490	09/14/2021	BLUE RIDGE ANALYTICAL, LL	2,059.00
30110491	09/14/2021	BOGGS MUNICIPAL SERVICES	380.00
30110492	09/14/2021	BUSINESS CARD	3,608.64
30110493	09/14/2021	C W WARTHEN	447.29
30110494	09/14/2021	CAVALIER SUPPLY CO	234.45
30110495	09/14/2021	CENTURYLINK	68.14
30110496	09/14/2021	CITIZENS TELEPHONE COOP	155.80
30110497	09/14/2021	CLECO CORPORATION	2,900.00
30110498	09/14/2021	COMMONWEALTH DOCUMENT MGT	373.80
30110499	09/14/2021	COMMUNITY ANIMAL CLINIC I	99.65

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30110500	09/14/2021	CREATIVE 7 CONCEPTS	76.92
30110501	09/14/2021	CSG SYSTEMS, INC	1,729.55
30110502	09/14/2021	CW WARTHEN	492.55
30110503	09/14/2021	TREASURER OF VIRGINIA	2,353.00
30110504	09/14/2021	TREASURER OF VIRGINIA	11,882.00
30110505	09/14/2021	DEPT OF MOTOR VEHICLES	4,500.00
30110506	09/14/2021	E.C. PACE COMPANY	302,489.42
30110507	09/14/2021	ENTERPRISE FM TRUST	6,405.85
30110508	09/14/2021	FERGUSON ENTERPRISES #5	1,122.08
30110509	09/14/2021	FIRE SAFETY PRODUCTS	140.00
30110510	09/14/2021	FN WHOLESALE LIGHTING & S	139.00
30110511	09/14/2021	GENUINE PARTS COMPANY	48.74
30110512	09/14/2021	HARPO'S HARDWARE & BLDG S	357.64
30110513	09/14/2021	HICOK, BROWN & COMPANY, I	1,350.00
30110514	09/14/2021	HOME DEPOT PRO	1,208.52
30110515	09/14/2021	HUFF FORD	1,991.88
30110516	09/14/2021	KING-MOORE INC	1,040.00
30110517	09/14/2021	LANE GROUP	6,525.00
30110518	09/14/2021	LEAD MINES RESCUE SQUAD	3,468.09
30110519	09/14/2021	LEXISNEXIS	724.00
30110520	09/14/2021	LOWE'S	957.81
30110521	09/14/2021	MANSFIELD OIL CO	16,515.22
30110522	09/14/2021	MATTHEW BENDER & CO INC	313.25
30110523	09/14/2021	MEADE TRACTOR	601.17
30110524	09/14/2021	MEREDITH'S GARAGE	103.00
30110525	09/14/2021	MEREDITH, DAVID M	90.00
30110526	09/14/2021	MONTY L HENRY	1,726.00
30110527	09/14/2021	MOUNT ROGERS COMMUNITY SE	41,087.25
30110528	09/14/2021	MUSSER, JEREMIAH	1,268.92
30110529	09/14/2021	QUADIENT FINANCE USA, INC	862.33
30110530	09/14/2021	NEW RIVER VALLEY JUVENILE	7,750.00
30110531	09/14/2021	NEW RIVER VALEY RESTAURA	483.94
30110532	09/14/2021	OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDIC	40.00
30110533	09/14/2021	ANN WYNN	9.96
30110534	09/14/2021	ANTHONY BOOTH	20.00
30110535	09/14/2021	DALTON ROSE	62.99
30110536	09/14/2021	DALTON ROSE	102.18
30110537	09/14/2021	DALTON ROSE	136.41
30110538	09/14/2021	DIANE PARKS	50.00

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30110539	09/14/2021	ETHAN ATWELL	122.03
30110540	09/14/2021	ETHAN ATWELL	123.30
30110541	09/14/2021	ETHAN ATWELL	666.80
30110542	09/14/2021	FRANK ATWELL	94.17
30110543	09/14/2021	FRANK EVAN ATWELL	108.23
30110544	09/14/2021	FRANK EVAN ATWELL	509.41
30110545	09/14/2021	JOSH CARTER	58.00
30110546	09/14/2021	KATHERINE ORANGE	53.00
30110547	09/14/2021	PATRICK NICOLA	75.00
30110548	09/14/2021	WILLIAM KYLE COUNTS	73.33
30110549	09/14/2021	WILLIAM KYLE COUNTS	81.74
30110550	09/14/2021	PAPER CLIP	1,071.72
30110551	09/14/2021	PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATIO	9,030.00
30110552	09/14/2021	PROTECT YOUTH SPORTS	155.95
30110553	09/14/2021	R&R ENTERPRISES INC	225.00
30110554	09/14/2021	ROANOKE PUMP SALES & SERV	651.48
30110555	09/14/2021	S & W FERTILIZER CO.	90.00
30110556	09/14/2021	SALEM STONE	141.94
30110557	09/14/2021	SALTUS TECHNOLOGIES LLC	3,212.50
30110558	09/14/2021	SOUTHERN REFRIGERATION CO	53.53
30110559	09/14/2021	SUR-TECH INC	2,963.00
30110560	09/14/2021	TACS	638.57
30110561	09/14/2021	THOMPSON TIRE	2,876.37
30110562	09/14/2021	THREE RIVERS MEDIA CORP	330.00
30110563	09/14/2021	TRACTOR SUPPLY COMPANY	31.97
30110564	09/14/2021	TRANSUNION RISK & ALTERNA	75.00
30110565	09/14/2021	TRI-CITIES / SOUTHWEST RE	2,236.53
30110566	09/14/2021	USA BLUE BOOK	1,813.24
30110567	09/14/2021	V&M RECYCLING	73,103.37
30110568	09/14/2021	VIRGINIA BUSINESS SYST	200.10
30110569	09/14/2021	VIRGINIA BUSINESS SYSTEMS	504.85
30110570	09/14/2021	VITA	147.35
30110571	09/14/2021	VITA	147.35
30110572	09/14/2021	VITA	201.36
30110573	09/14/2021	WAMPLER EANES APPRAISAL G	23,170.50
30110574	09/14/2021	WILLIAMS, KEVIN	144.33
30110575	09/14/2021	WILSON BAIT & TACKLE INC	132.60
30110576	09/14/2021	WYTHE CO WATER & WASTEWAT	30.05
30110577	09/14/2021	WYTHE TIRE AND MUFFLER	435.97

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30110578	09/14/2021	WYTHEVILLE COMMUNITY COLL	12,216.77
30110579	09/14/2021	WYTHEVILLE OFFICE SUPPLY	208.83
30110580	09/14/2021	XEROX	186.67
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES 09/14/2021</b>			<b>\$635,473.88</b>

<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES APPROVED 09/14/2021</b>			<b>\$742,296.41</b>
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Supervisor Cook 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.
	James D. "Jamie" Smith	

NAYS: None

ABSENT:	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry
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### **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Board was presented with the August 24, 2021 minutes for approval.

Supervisor Smith made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Horney, to approve the August 24, 2021 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.
	James D. "Jamie" Smith	

NAYS: None

ABSENT:	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry
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### **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN ("CIP")**

Mr. Hankins explained that although the Board previously reviewed the plan, some corrections were made. Staff recommend approving CIP now due to time constraints related to revenue sharing roads; specifically, VDOT applications are due by October 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Hankins added that approving the CIP does not obligate the County to any specific dollar amounts as many of the costs were based on estimates.

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The Chair commended County staff for their fine work putting the CIP together and for the excellent manner in which they presented the information.

Supervisor Horney made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Cook, to approve the Capital Improvement Plan 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.
	James D. "Jamie" Smith	

NAYS: None

ABSENT:	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry
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#### **BRITTANY GREEN CHILDRESS WATER ACCOUNT**

Mr. Bear commented that Ms. Brittany Childress attended the last meeting to request a waiver on her water account. The County took her to court for non-payment of her water bill. Ms. Childress asked the Judge for an exemption for mandatory connection allowed in Ordinance 97-1. Mr. Bear forwarded the Board a history of the account going back to August 2018 when billing started. He visited the site and didn't find any characteristics that would prevent Ms. Childress from being able to connect to the water. Therefore, staff and Water Committee recommend denial of Ms. Childress' request for an exemption to the mandatory hook-up.

Chair Vaught asked Ms. Childress if she was able to obtain a written quote for the work she believes is necessary to connect.

Ms. Childress obtained a quote from R&R Enterprises in the amount of \$5,000.

Mr. Bear added that the quote was based on if there was rock in the creek.

Ms. Childress stated that there is, in fact, rock and that it is a rock bed, and the estimate from R&R is to go under the creek and up to the house.

Supervisor McRoberts doesn't understand the need for concrete under the creek bed.

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It was explained to Ms. Childress that it's concrete housing to protect the water line under the creek, and she really doesn't know any more than that.

Chair Vaught said the Water Committee voted to deny the waiver request.

Supervisor Smith said that after discussing with Mr. Crisp, it was determined that one could go through the creek bed without a need for concrete.

Supervisor Cook added that it is a wet weather creek.

Chair Vaught explained that at the last meeting, the Board tabled the vote based on Ms. Childress coming back with a written quote, which she has now done. The Water Committee made a motion to deny the request for a waiver.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES: None

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

ABSENT:	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry
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There was some confusion about whether they were voting for or against granting a waiver to Ms. Childress. Mr. Farthing suggested making a new motion to clarify their position.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Bear confirmed the Board is voting to grant the waiver request.

Mr. and Mrs. Childress thanked the Board very much.

### **BARRETT MILL ROAD WATER PROJECT FUNDING RESOLUTION**

Mr. Bear commented that the Board previously approved applying for Barrett Mill Road Water Project funding. Rural Development requires Board approval of a funding resolution.

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Supervisor Cook made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Smith, to adopt the Barrett Mill Road Water Project Funding Resolution 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.
	James D. "Jamie" Smith	

NAYS: None

ABSENT:	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry
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### **REGIONAL HOUSING STUDY LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Mr. Bear stated that Mount Rogers Planning District Commission is developing a regional housing study and are currently applying for a study grant. As such, they are requesting \$3,000 in matching funds from each of the counties in the Mount Rogers area. Mr. Bear believes that all the counties have already committed to this and, therefore, recommends Board approval for this worthwhile study.

Supervisor McRoberts made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Horney, to authorize the Regional Housing Study letter of support and the \$3,000 commitment.

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	

NAYS: None

ABSENT:	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry
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### **NON-RESIDENTIAL SOLAR FEE SCHEDULE**

Mr. Bear explained that the County Engineer, Building Official and have reviewed non-residential solar rates in various localities statewide. After careful review, they recommend a commercial fee schedule based on square footage of the solar panels. Mr. Bear presented the Board with four different fee options to consider.

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Supervisor Cook made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Smith, to approve the permit fee of \$.05 per square foot for non-residential solar.

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	

NAYS: None

ABSENT:	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry
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### **2021 PPTRA RESOLUTION**

The Treasurer has requested the Board adopt the following Personal Property Tax Relief Act Resolution, decreasing the rate from the prior year from 36.08% to 33.39%.

### **WYTHE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RESOLUTION 2021-30**

**WHEREAS**, the Personal Property Tax Relief Act of 1998, Va. Code §§ 58.1–3523 *et seq.* ("PPTRA"), and subsequent revisions to the PPTRA legislation; and,

**WHEREAS**, these legislative enactments require the County to take affirmative steps to annually implement these changes, and to provide for the computation and allocation of relief provided pursuant to the PPTRA as revised; and,

**WHEREAS**, these legislative enactments provide for the appropriation to the County, of a fixed sum to be used exclusively for the provision of tax relief to owners of qualifying personal use vehicles that are subject to the personal property tax on such vehicles.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Supervisors that: Qualifying vehicles obtaining situs within the County during tax year 2021, shall receive personal property tax relief in the following manner:

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- Registered personal use vehicles valued at \$1,000 or less will be eligible for 100% tax relief;
- Registered personal use vehicles valued at \$1,001 to \$20,000 will be eligible for 33.39% tax relief;
- Registered personal use vehicles valued at \$20,001 or more shall only be eligible for 33.39% tax relief on the first \$20,000 of value; and,
- All other vehicles which do not meet the definition of "qualifying" (business use vehicles, motor homes, titled but unregistered vehicles, etc.) as determined by the Commissioner of the Revenue, will not be eligible for any form of tax relief under this program.

Supervisor Horney made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Cook, to adopt 2021 PPTRA Resolution 2021-30.

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	

NAYS: None

ABSENT:	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry
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#### **ADOPTION OF OVERTIME AND COMPENSATORY LEAVE POLICY**

Mr. Hankins explained that earlier this year, the General Assembly began requiring us to pay overtime in lieu of compensatory time. They have since corrected that requirement, at least for the time being. This amendment would restore our policy in accordance with the Fair Labor Standards Act giving employees the option to choose either overtime pay or compensatory leave, with supervisory approval. Mr. Hankins also stated that the County personnel policy is currently being updated.

Supervisor Smith made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Horney, to adopt the Overtime and Compensatory Leave Policy as presented.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Ryan M. Lawson Stacy A. Terry

### **RICKEY ROAD WATER PROJECT COSE OUT**

Mr. Bear received notification last week that Rural Development is closing out the Rickey Road Water Project. The County received \$28,090.36 which is the full draw down of remaining amounts not used for the construction project. This amount will be paid back and applied to our loan balance. The Board is asked to amend and appropriate \$28,090.36 to the Water Department project account.

Supervisor Cook made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Horney, to amend and appropriate \$28,090.36 from 50003-341207 to 4401-489231.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Ryan M. Lawson Stacy A. Terry

### **SHERIFF'S OFFICE STIPEND REQUEST**

Sheriff Charlie Foster announced that the General Assembly passed legislation to fund Comp Board-funded Deputy Sheriffs a \$3,000 stipend due to the pandemic. He said while the County was gracious enough to fund nine positions in the Sheriff's Office, this stipend will only be awarded to the Comp Board-funded positions even though they all perform the same duties. Sheriff Foster requests consideration of using available COVID relief funding to award the same stipend to the nine County-funded positions.

Mr. Bear confirmed that approximately \$33,000 remains in CARES Act funding sufficient to cover the subject stipend for the nine County-funded positions, with Board approval.

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Supervisor Smith made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Horney, to pay nine County-funded deputies a \$3,000 stipend using CARES Act funds.

The roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Rolland R. Cook	Coy L. McRoberts
	James D. "Jamie" Smith	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Brian W. Vaught

ABSENT:	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry
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### **GRANTS UPDATE**

Mr. Hankins submitted today the grant application for Virginia Telecommunications Infrastructure ("VATI") for Broadband, and said that funding could be awarded in December.

Mr. Hankins also said that tomorrow they will be submitting a grant application for \$100,000 for Rescue Squad Assistance Fund to get our dispatchers trained in emergency medical dispatch to meet State requirements.

### **ANIMAL CONTROL**

Mr. Hankins reported that late last week, the County Animal Shelter announced on Facebook that the shelter was full and that if dogs were not adopted/fostered immediately, they may be put down. A number of dogs were adopted although the negative responses on social media were plentiful. Mr. Hankins said the fact is that the pandemic prompted many people to get dogs when they were stuck at home. But now that people are getting out and going back to work, they don't have the time to devote to the pet, resulting in the increase in owner-surrendered dogs. Animal Control deserves respect for the hard job they do and the difficult situations they face, and they do a great job caring for and trying to place these animals. Mr. Hankins also said that it's been nearly five years since a dog was put down (except for court-ordered euthanasia).

Chair Vaught agreed that Animal Control and their volunteers do a great job trying to get these dogs adopted.



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and, unfortunately, it sold before the County could formally accept the bid. Mr. Hankins said that although the revised bid is higher, it is still more than \$50k less than the next best bid. Staff and Budget Committee recommend moving forward with this purchase using bond money and CARES Act funding.

The roll call vote was as follows:

AYES:	Brian W. Vaught Rolland R. Cook James D. "Jamie" Smith	Coy L. McRoberts B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
NAYS:	None	
ABSENT:	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry

## **SUPERVISORS' REPORTS**

1. Rescue Rock Boat – Supervisor McRoberts stated that over Labor Day weekend, firemen were called to go out in the river. The boats are not safe and are unnecessarily putting our guys at risk. Supervisor McRoberts would like the County to consider acquiring a rescue rock boat that is safe to use in the river. The approximate cost is \$50k but it would take a year to have it delivered. The Supervisor also said that all agencies could use the boat.

Chair Vaught would like to see this go to the Fire & Rescue Committee for consideration.

2. Childress Water Account – Supervisor Cook commented that although the Board granted Ms. Childress a waiver, he does not want to set a precedent for others to request waivers. Ms. Childress satisfied the Board's request with a written quote for \$5,000 that helped to support her case and circumstance.
3. Rural Retreat vs Fort Chiswell Football Wager – Chair Vaught and Supervisor Smith comically traded jabs about their school's rivalry. Having lost the wager, Supervisor Smith wore the colors of Rural Retreat Indians and congratulated them on their win.
4. Max Meadows Fire Department – Supervisor Smith asked for an update regarding paid part-time personnel at Max Meadows Fire Department.

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Mr. Hankins responded they are discussing how best to manage paid personnel. They are currently drafting a Memorandum of Understanding that will outline how the operations will work, and they need to meet with the Chief first to go over that.

5. FCHS Track – Supervisor Smith has received a number of complaints about vehicles on the track. He will reach out to the School Board but he wanted the Board to be aware of the issue.
6. Youth League Football – Chair Vaught received complaints about the Youth League Football Schedule that the Town of Wytheville put out. Apparently, it was a “draft” schedule, unapproved, and it did not have Rural Retreat Youth League on it. Parents and grandparents were justifiably upset about this.
7. Early Voting – Chair Vaught commented that Early Voting begins on September 17<sup>th</sup> and asked the status of a court order prohibiting signage on the courthouse grounds.

Mr. Bear said that no court order has been entered yet but the request did go to the Judge.

Mr. Farthing will follow-up with Judge Showalter.

### **CLOSED MEETING**

Supervisor McRoberts made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Smith, to enter into Closed Meeting under Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711-A.5, Prospective Business or Industry (Project Palm).

The vote on the motion was unanimous.

Supervisor Cook made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Smith, to return to open meeting.

The vote on the motion was unanimous.

Upon returning to open meeting, Supervisor McRoberts made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Cook, 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
	Rolland R. Cook	B. G. "Gene" Horney, Jr.
	James D. "Jamie" Smith	

NAYS: None

ABSENT:	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry
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**ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business to come before the Board of Supervisors, Chair Vaught adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:25 p.m.

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Brian W. Vaught, Chair