

**November 9, 2021**

The Wythe County Board of Supervisors held its regularly scheduled meeting at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 9, 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

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

Martha Collins, Administrative Assistant/Clerk

Scot Farthing, Assistant County Attorney

Matthew C. Hankins, Assistant County Administrator

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Barry Ayers

Jesse Burnett

Anthony Cline

Sarah Cook

Lennon Counts

Keith & Tammy Dunagan

Dan Ferrell

Andy Fowler

Lori Guynn

Pam Heath

Charles Herring

Mike Ingo

Zach Lester

John Matthews

Linda Meyer

Beth Taylor

Kathy Vaught

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 Mike Ingo, Draper Valley Pentecostal Holiness Church, provided the invocation and Supervisor Cook led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENTATION OF RETIREMENT PLAQUE – KEITH DUNAGAN**

Chair Vaught read the following resolution that was presented to Sheriff Keith Dunagan:

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**WYTHE COUNTY RESOLUTION 2021-34**  
**A RESOLUTION HONORING**  
**SHERIFF KEITH DUNAGAN**

**WHEREAS**, Keith Dunagan began his career with the Wythe County Sheriff's Office in 1983, first as a Jailer, then Patrol Sargent, then worked his way up to Narcotics Captain (receiving Top Cop Award), then became Lieutenant in Investigations. In 2005, Mr. Dunagan was promoted to Chief Deputy then was elected as Wythe County Sheriff in January, 2015; and,

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Dunagan created the Sheriff's Office Dive Team that goes underwater to collect evidence and/or recover bodies; and,

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Dunagan was instrumental in expanding the School Resource Officer program so that every school in Wythe County has an SRO. More recently, he assisted in placing police vehicles in front of the schools in order to deter criminal activity; and,

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Dunagan has written several million dollars in grants to fund positions for additional officers, primarily for drug enforcement and for the SROs; and,

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Dunagan has been involved in the Virginia Police Benevolent Association, the Police Association of Virginia, both the Virginia Sheriffs' Association as well as the Foundation, Virginia Chiefs of Police, New River Valley Regional Jail Advisory Board, Mount Rogers ASAP Board of Directors, and is past President of the New River Valley Chapter of VA PBA, past President of the Mountain Empire Chapter of the VA PBA, and past State Vice President of the Virginia PBA. In addition, Mr. Dunagan was a former Adjunct Faculty at Wytheville Community College and a member of the WCC Law Enforcement Advisory Committee.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Wythe County Board of Supervisors assembled in regular session this 9<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2021, does hereby express its appreciation on behalf of the citizens of Wythe County to this distinguished gentleman for a job well done and does convey its best wishes to him and his family for continued success, happiness, and good health in the years to come; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Wythe County Board of Supervisors does hereby direct that this resolution be incorporated in the official minutes of this Board and that a framed copy be given to Keith Dunagan as a token of their high regard.

Adopted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2021.

Supervisor Smith made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Horney, to adopt Resolution 2021-34 Honoring Sheriff Keith Dunagan.

The vote on the motion was unanimous.

Chair Vaught commented that he first met Mr. Dunagan when he was his teacher at Wytheville Community College and was later honored to work with him at the Sheriff's Office. The Chair presented Mr. Dunagan with a plaque honoring his service to Wythe County along with a token of the County's appreciation.

Mr. Dunagan considers himself very fortunate to have had the opportunity to work alongside so many good people in his career. He is grateful for a good Board of Supervisors and he also thanked Mr. Bear and Mrs. Collins for their support over the years.

#### **INTRODUCTION OF JESSE BURNETT**

Supervisor McRoberts introduced and congratulated Jesse Burnett as the newest Board member effective January 1<sup>st</sup>. He said that Mr. Burnett will do very well on the Board of Supervisors because he loves Wythe County.

Mr. Burnett will be replacing Supervisor McRoberts in the Lead Mines District.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING – ENTERPRISE ZONE BOUNDARY AMENDMENT**

Chair Vaught stated that the Wythe County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing to consider amending the Wythe County Enterprise Zone boundaries. Public comment regarding the proposed amendment will be heard at this hearing. The public hearing will be held on Tuesday, November 9, 2021, at 6 p.m. in the Board Room of the County Administration Building, 340 South Sixth Street, Wytheville, Virginia.

The Chair, hearing no comments from citizens, closed the comment period of the public hearing.

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Mr. John Matthews of the Joint Industrial Development Authority referenced the boundary maps (included in board package) along with a summary of companies to be added to the Enterprise Zone as well as deletions. Crossroads Social House, DMV Shopping Plaza, Dutch Pantry and Rural Retreat Grab N Go are all being added to the Enterprise Zone making them eligible for State incentives, and any local incentives our governing bodies choose to make. Deletions include Grubb Funeral Home, Huff Ford and 4<sup>th</sup> Street McDonalds, all of whom have exhausted their grant eligibility through their projects.

Mr. Matthews will prepare a resolution for consideration at the next Board meeting.

Supervisor Cook noted an error on the total deletions. The total should be 4.7 acres and not 3.7 acres. Mr. Matthews will correct that number.

### **CITIZENS' TIME**

1. APEX Center – Mr. Charles Herring appeared before the Board and stated “Thank you for having me. I appreciate it. I sent an email a while back just stating the future of the APEX Center. I’m not sure what y’all’s resolution is going forward for the new year but this is just my suggestion and observation from the citizens of Wythe County to address you guys. Going forward, it needs to have new board members or even make some changes and have a better management team. There needs to be changes to the facility and the ground; get rid of the dirt floor inside of the Center and put concrete in. That way, I did read some past things that y’all had mentioned about a gun show or something and having a dirt floor that wouldn’t be feasible for something like that. Build a dirt strip for events like Monster Truck, tractor pull, and other outdoor events. If you have an indoor event that requires dirt, bring in the dirt, you know, build something on the outside, to throw the dirt in and just bring it in when you need it. Of course build new parking, build another way into the site to eliminate congestion at the current entrance, sell off some of the property for hotels, restaurants, future businesses, even apartments. Look around other counties and we get ideas from them you know ‘cause there’s other options for that 90 acres that you guys got sitting there. My closing is there are so many opportunities for this area to grow and prosper for many years. This place could have many events and draw in enough revenue for Wythe County plus payoff the debt that this place accumulated. It will take some time but it is possible putting the right people in the right place will

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make a huge difference. We want Wythe County to prosper and keep the younger generations around here. Anybody got any questions?"

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

### **PAYMENT OF COUNTY INVOICES**

Supervisor Cook made a motion to pay the invoices for approval on November 9, 2021, for the various departments of County government. The invoices were paid on General Warrants 30110948-30111033 and three wire transfers, as follows:

#### **EXPENDITURES BY DEPARTMENT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS November 9, 2021**

<b>CHECK #</b>	<b>ISSUE DATE</b>	<b>VENDOR</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
wire	10/26/2021	SKYLINE NATL BANK	\$ 416,820.54
wire	10/26/2021	JP MORGAN CHASE BANK	332,755.75
wire	10/26/2021	JP MORGAN CHASE BANK	1,283,374.02
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES 10/26/2021</b>			<b>\$2,032,950.31</b>

<b>CHECK #</b>	<b>ISSUE DATE</b>	<b>VENDOR</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
30110948	11/03/2021	APPALACHIAN POWER	\$ 9,939.43
30110949	11/03/2021	ATMOS ENERGY	5.83
30110950	11/03/2021	CENTURYLINK	4,948.68
30110951	11/03/2021	SEGRA	61.60
30110952	11/03/2021	TOWN OF RURAL RETREAT	617.10
30110953	11/03/2021	VERIZON WIRELESS	120.05
30110954	11/03/2021	WYTHE CO WATER & WASTEWAT	293.88
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES 11/03/2021</b>			<b>\$15,986.57</b>

<b>CHECK #</b>	<b>ISSUE DATE</b>	<b>VENDOR</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
30110955	11/09/2021	ALLIED INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT	\$ 271.35
30110956	11/09/2021	AMAZON	1,386.43
30110957	11/09/2021	APPALACHIAN JUVENILE COMM	175.00
30110958	11/09/2021	BKT UNIFORMS	672.67
30110959	11/09/2021	BLUE RIDGE ANALYTICAL, LL	1,999.00
03010960	11/09/2021	BRENTAG MID-SOUTH INC	2,801.25
30110961	11/09/2021	BUSINESS CARD	3,305.08
30110962	11/09/2021	CARILION HEALTHCARE CORP	120.00
30110963	11/09/2021	CAVALIER SUPPLY CO	1,175.45

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30110964	11/09/2021	CDW GOVERNMENT INC	1,032.56
30110965	11/09/2021	CITIZENS TELEPHONE COOP	979.95
30110966	11/09/2021	COLLINS AUTO REPAIR INC	20.00
30110967	11/09/2021	COMMUNITY ANIMAL CLINIC I	25.00
30110968	11/09/2021	COMPUTER PROJECTS OF IL I	720.00
30110969	11/09/2021	EMORY WILSON PROCESS	14,050.16
30110970	11/09/2021	ENVIRODYNE SYSTEMS INC	1,014.00
30110971	11/09/2021	F&R ELECTRIC INC	6,890.00
30110972	11/09/2021	FARTHING, SCOT S	4,527.50
30110973	11/09/2021	FEEDING AMERICA SOUTHWEST	1,000.00
30110974	11/09/2021	FOOD COUNTRY	66.00
30110975	11/09/2021	GENUINE PARTS COMPANY	28.68
30110976	11/09/2021	GUN SHOP	599.90
30110977	11/09/2021	HARPO'S HARDWARE & BLDG S	19.98
30110978	11/09/2021	HOME DEPOT PRO	2,617.95
30110979	11/09/2021	HURT & PROFFITT INC	5,500.00
30110980	11/09/2021	J.S. HAREN COMPANY	14,320.89
30110981	11/09/2021	JOINT PUBLIC SERVICE AUTH	42,784.04
30110982	11/09/2021	KC AUTOMOTIVE	49.13
30110983	11/09/2021	KETCHUM MFG CO INC	584.04
30110984	11/09/2021	KING-MOORE INC	1,163.50
30110985	11/09/2021	LANE GROUP	4,785.00
30110986	11/09/2021	MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERVI	228.25
30110987	11/09/2021	LEXISNEXIS	724.00
30110988	11/09/2021	LOWE'S	558.47
30110989	11/09/2021	MANSFIELD OIL CO	8,961.39
30110990	11/09/2021	MOUNT ROGERS PLANNING DIS	4,727.35
30110991	11/09/2021	QUADIENET FINANCE USA, INC	561.01
30110992	11/09/2021	MAILFINANCE INC	474.00
30110993	11/09/2021	NEW RIVER VALLEY JUVENILE	7,500.00
30110994	11/09/2021	OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDIC	60.00
30110995	11/09/2021	AMANDA SHELTON	16.80
30110996	11/09/2021	DALTON ROSE	49.04
30110997	11/09/2021	DALTON ROSE	88.20
30110998	11/09/2021	ETHAN ATWELL	67.80
30110999	11/09/2021	ETHAN ATWELL	70.48
30111000	11/09/2021	ETHAN ATWELL	99.65
30111001	11/09/2021	FRANK EVAN ATWELL	7.29
30111002	11/09/2021	FRANK EVAN ATWELL	67.50

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30111003	11/09/2021	FRANK EVAN ATWELL	78.89
30111004	11/09/2021	JEFFERY & BRIANNA HARRIS	250.88
30111005	11/09/2021	MARGARET BOWERS	16.83
30111006	11/09/2021	SERVICE ELECTRIC COMPANY	3,571.00
30111007	11/09/2021	WILLIAM KYLE COUNTS	49.21
30111008	11/09/2021	WILLIAM KYLE COUNTS	72.28
30111009	11/09/2021	PAPER CLIP	341.34
30111010	11/09/2021	PARTNERSHIP SCREENING INT	14.40
30111011	11/09/2021	PROTECT YOUTH SPORTS	15.95
30111012	11/09/2021	R.E. MICHEL COMPANY, LLC	151.84
30111013	11/09/2021	ROANOKE PUMP SALES & SERV	265.00
30111014	11/09/2021	SOUTHERN REFRIGERATION CO	53.53
30111015	11/09/2021	SPILMAN THOMAS & BATTLE P	7,550.00
30111016	11/09/2021	STATE ELECTRIC SUPPLY CO	32.76
30111017	11/09/2021	TESLA ELECTRIC SERV	852.64
30111018	11/09/2021	TOWN OF WYTHEVILLE	200.93
30111019	11/09/2021	TOWN OF WYTHEVILLE	1,250.00
30111020	11/09/2021	TYLER TECHNOLOGIES INC	57,231.25
30111021	11/09/2021	US CELLULAR	1,244.52
30111022	11/09/2021	USA BLUE BOOK	2,764.63
30111023	11/09/2021	V&M RECYCLING	77,068.16
30111024	11/09/2021	VGFOA	50.00
30111025	11/09/2021	VIRGINIA BUSINESS SYST	86.74
30111026	11/09/2021	VIRGINIA BUSINESS SYSTEMS	96.51
30111027	11/09/2021	VITA	174.77
30111028	11/09/2021	VML/VACO AEP STEERING COM	1,298.00
30111029	11/09/2021	WYTHE CO WATER & WASTEWAT	23.81
30111030	11/09/2021	WYTHE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OF	272.00
30111031	11/09/2021	WYTHEVILLE CONV & VISITOR	385.00
30111032	11/09/2021	WYTHEVILLE OFFICE SUPPLY	1,128.39
30111033	11/09/2021	XEROX	186.67
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES 11/09/2021</b>			<b>\$295,723.67</b>

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES APPROVED 11/09/2021** **\$2,344,660.55**

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.

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Ryan M. Lawson  
James D. "Jamie" Smith

Stacy A. Terry

NAYS: None

### **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Board was presented with the October 26, 2021 minutes for approval.

Supervisor McRoberts made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Terry, to approve the October 26, 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.
	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry
	James D. "Jamie" Smith	

NAYS: None

### **VDOT UPDATE – ANDY FOWLER AND PAM HEATH**

Ms. Pam Heath appeared before the Board and provided the following updates:

- Salem Stone – Salem Stone is working to pave the entrance in the Spring to prevent accumulation of sand in the road.
- Route 619 Retention Ponds – Ms. Heath reported they were cleaned out on July 9<sup>th</sup> and will be cleaned out once a year.
- Conners Valley Road – VDOT is moving forward with drainage improvements and are considering installation of a box culvert and raising the road a few inches.
- Reed Creek Drive – The pipe that the property owner has that allows cattle to cross under the road, will be replaced.
- East Lee Highway – They have a pipe that is beginning to fail so they plan to replace it possibly in the Spring.

Supervisor Smith thanked Ms. Heath for the updates on Lots Gap and Conners Valley, and for the patch work done on Reed Creek Drive.



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Mr. Andy Fowler also appeared before the Board to provide an update on the Secondary Six Year Plan projects as follows:

Routes Completed in 2021 (seven miles of road way)

- Major Graham (Rt 619,) completed final phase
- Pope Road (Rt 642), 2.5 mile project completed in August
- Back Road (Rt 602), 1.1 mile section in Speedwell area completed in July
- Glade Road (Rt 664) .43 mile section in Speedwell completed in October
- Gullion Ford Road (Rt 686), .2 mile section completed in May
- Hog Back Road, 1.3 miles completed in October
- Kings Chapel, .2 mile section in Wytheville area completed in September

Mr. Fowler commented that the workers at the area headquarters do a great job completing this work quite well and in a timely fashion, in addition to their regular maintenance work and they are to be commended.

Roadwork Beginning in 2021

- Jonas Town Road (Rt 738), mobilizing now then starting pipe installation and drainage work
- Millers Creek Road, next .5 mile section will be starting soon
- Walters Road (Rt 662), mobilizing to begin work soon

Roadwork to Begin Spring, 2022

- Walton Furnace Road in Wytheville area
- Pine View Drive in Speedwell area
- Raccoon Run in Wytheville area
- Earles Road in Speedwell area
- Shadow Lane in Wytheville area

Chair Vaught agreed that the VDOT crew are doing a very good job and their efforts are greatly appreciated.

Mr. Bear expressed his appreciation of the work done in Progress Park.

Supervisor McRoberts asked about the Crockett residence on Blair Road. Ms. Heath responded that the Drainage Engineer is currently working on recommendations.

Chair Vaught hopes that soon the trustees will be back helping the County with trash detail.

Mr. Fowler responded they are working toward that goal, and that they were able to get crews to clean up Progress Park in preparation for the groundbreaking ceremony.

Supervisor Smith asked if Doe Run could stay on their radar due to water runoff issues primarily at the end where the Nester residence is. He understands it's on the Six Year Plan, but asks if it could be done any sooner.

Chair Vaught said that while Pine Glade is not perfect, it is much better than it was.

Supervisor Horney said they did an excellent job on Back Road but asked, regarding Jonas Town Road, will VDOT go all the way up and around the tree, or only to the state maintenance? He added that it's a school bus turnaround.

Mr. Fowler believes they will only go to the end of state maintenance but he will look into it further.

Supervisor Horney was asked about the Progress Park Connector Road; specifically, the 100 foot section that has been moved to the north which seems to be dividing someone's farm. Is VDOT going to compensate the land owner for loss of this land?

Ms. Heath responded that the designer in Bristol spoke to the landowner but she does not know the outcome of that conversation. However, she will follow-up.

Mr. Bear mentioned that VDOT is holding a Virtual Public Hearing on the Progress Park Connector Road on Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. There is more information on the VDOT website but the Board is encouraged to share this information with concerned residents.

### **GENERAL AND SPECIAL ELECTION – LENNON COUNTS**

Mr. Lennon Counts, Registrar, appeared before the Board to provide an update on the recent elections.

Mr. Counts reported that there were 3,000 more voters this year than the last gubernatorial election. There was a total of 11,600 voters which is approximately 54% of all registered voters. The absentee numbers remain high and the early voters kept his office busy.

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Mr. Counts thanked Ben and Ricky (B&G Department) who assisted with transporting items before and after the election. Their help was very much appreciated.

The Registrar stated they used 44 Officers of Election and that Rural Retreat again pulled in the most votes with 1,300 people voting. The early voting space they utilized this year was greatly appreciated, and they also had a lot of curbside voters which worked out much better than last year. There were some complaints, however, about the lack of handrails going up the steps on Spring Street.

Supervisor Smith made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Terry, to accept the Abstract of Votes from the November 2, 2021 General and Special Elections.

The vote on the motion was unanimous.

### **BANKING CHANGES – LORI GUYNN**

Mrs. Lori Guynn, Treasurer, appeared before the Board to provide information about recent banking changes. The National Bank of Blacksburg has always absorbed the fee associated with credit card payments (Treasurer's Office, Water Department, Building Inspection, and Parks & Recreation). However, effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, they will no longer be covering this fee. The Bank has partnered with Thrive Payments to provide credit card servicing, and Thrive was notified of this change as well. Mrs. Guynn asked if the County wants to absorb these credit card fees or pass them along to the citizens (as a "convenience fee")? If the County absorbs these costs, it will require procurement and RFPs. If we pass the fee on to the customer, procurement or RFP is not required. In 2020, the credit card fees totaled \$91,452 (19,430 transactions). From January through August of this year, credit card fees totaled \$44,740 (13,000 transactions). Mrs. Guynn estimates \$100k in fees if the County decides to absorb these costs.

It should be noted that there is a lower fee if a customer uses their credit card in person (chip read), and a higher fee if it's a phone payment (due to increased liability). Mrs. Guynn said that much of the collections, for all departments, are done over the phone. If the County implements a convenience fee, we will either have to establish a flat fee per transaction or it has to be a set percentage. She said the minimum fee we can charge is 3% and VISA/MC will not allow anything over 4%.

Supervisor Cook asked if the Treasurer contacted any other banks.

Mrs. Guynn responded that she knows of no other banks that will cover these costs. While other financial institutions would like our business, none of them are willing to absorb these fees. The County can look at other providers/programs, but since not all departments are on Munis, that creates a separate issue.

The Treasurer said if we set a fee or charge a set percentage, we may still end up absorbing some (minimal) costs at the end of the month. The credit card machines that we use will no longer work after December 31<sup>st</sup>. There are nine machines between the departments, at \$575 per machine. Mrs. Guynn added that new machines were not budgeted for this fiscal year.

Mrs. Guynn stated that we cannot charge a fee for debit cards use so we would have to absorb that fee. A consideration would be to only accept credit cards; most debit cards also act as a credit card. Machines can be programmed to accept credit cards only (no debit). Machines can also be programmed to charge either a flat fee or a set percentage.

Mr. Bear mentioned that the Board does not need to decide tonight. He and the Treasurer will further discuss and come up with a proposal for the Board to consider.

Vice Chair Lawson asked if the Town of Wytheville has made a decision yet on what fee they will charge?

Mrs. Guynn replied that the Town hasn't made a final decision yet but are considering a 3% charge. The expense to volume last year for the Water Department was around 2.7%; Building Inspection and Parks & Recreation was over 3%; and the Treasurer's Office was around 1.7%. The Treasurer said we should go straight across the board, one set rate for all departments so, basically, one department will end up carrying the other.

Vice Chair Lawson doesn't believe we should ever do away with telephone payments.

Mrs. Guynn reported that since 2016, her office has accepted online payments through a third-party provider that charges a flat 2.75% fee and her office has to manually key in all those transactions. In 2020, they had over \$444k collected in taxes through the online provider and customers paid that fee. While other businesses don't charge customers for credit card transactions, the customer is most certainly paying for it in the increased cost of items purchased.

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Mrs. Guynn stated that the bank has been really great to the County not charging us those transaction fees, nor have they charged us for wire transfers, reordering checks or deposit tickets, returned checks, etc. so we've been very fortunate for a long time.

Mr. Counts commented that the courts charge a 3% fee.

**DMV ANIMAL FRIENDLY LICENSE PLATES**

Mr. Bear received a letter today from DMV indicating the amount we are to receive for the subject license plates should be \$450.00 and not \$390.00. He requests acceptance of this money and that the funds be assigned to the Wythe Bland Animal Welfare League for use in their sterilization program.

Supervisor Cook made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Lawson, to accept \$450.00 from the Department of Motor Vehicles and direct to the Wythe Bland Animal Welfare League.

The roll call vote on the motion 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
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NAYS: None

**LEAD MINES RESCUE SQUAD ROCK BOAT**

Mr. Hankins reported that proposals were solicited for Lead Mines Rescue Squad rock boat and that two proposals were received. He recommends the lower priced which was from the manufacturer and with a shorter delivery time. The cost of the boat (less taxes) is \$50,387 of which Lead Mines has raised \$14k in donations. The County's maximum contribution for the rock boat is \$36,387. He recommends the Board authorize the County Administrator or his designee to negotiate a final contract and agreement with the manufacturer for this purchase.

Supervisor McRoberts made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Smith, to authorize County Administrator/Designee to negotiate with River Road Jet Boats for the purchase of the rock boat, County portion not to exceed \$36,387.

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

**BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT**

1.     New Water Department Fund Account – Supervisor Smith made a motion, as recommended by the Budget Committee, to set up new Water Department fund account for ARPA projects and transfer/amend and appropriate the following amounts:

44016-470436 (Piney Pump Station Piping)	\$ 30,000
44016-470437 (Water Reservoir Repairs)	\$ 250,000
44016-470438 (Portable Generator & Switch Gear)	\$ 100,000
44016-470439 (SCADA System)	\$ 125,000

Mr. Bear explained that this is merely setting up an ARPA fund account under the Water Account so it can be tracked under the Enterprise Fund and not the General Fund.

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.     Vehicle Transfer to Sheriff's Office – Supervisor Smith made a motion, as recommended by the Budget Committee, to transfer the Ivanhoe Volunteer Command Vehicle to the Sheriff's Office for use with the special operation team and dive team.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Brian W. Vaught Ryan M. Lawson

3. Vehicle Transfer to Mount Rogers Cigarette Taxing Board – Supervisor Smith made a motion, as recommended by the Budget Committee, to transfer a 2015 Chevrolet Impala (VIN 2G1WA5E31F1116143) from the Sheriff's Office surplus to the Mount Rogers Cigarette Taxing Board.

Mr. Bear said that the Cigarette Tax Board has hired a new employee (enforcement) who could certainly use this vehicle for work.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Brian W. Vaught

4. Virginia Local Law Enforcement Block Grant – Supervisor Smith made a motion, as recommended by the Budget Committee, to accept the Virginia Local Law Enforcement Block Grant in the amount of \$1,274 contingent upon the Sheriff's Office agreeing to the terms and conditions of the grant.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Brian W. Vaught

Ryan M. Lawson

## **WATER COMMITTEE REPORT**

1. Wastewater Expansion Projects – Supervisor Horney stated that the Water Committee conducted engineering interviews on October 29, 2021 for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion and Wastewater Conveyance System Expansion projects. Supervisor Horney made a motion, as recommended by the Water Committee, to enter into negotiations with Thrasher Group for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion project and Peed & Bortz for the Wastewater Conveyance System Expansion.

Mr. Bear added that representatives from Thrasher visited the site today to review everything and are in attendance this evening if anyone has questions.

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

## **SUPERVISORS' REPORTS**

1. Cigarette Tax – Supervisor Horney has been asked when the cigarette tax goes into effect, and Mr. Bear replied January 1, 2022.
2. Comprehensive Plan – Supervisor Horney asked about the Comprehensive Plan and why it doesn't include agriculture.

Mr. Hankins responded that an economist working with Hill Studios presented an analysis to the Planning Commission, but that Mr. Hankins is directing them to include agriculture as part of their review.

3. Gas Tax on County Vehicles – Supervisor Horney was told that years ago the school board did not collect gas taxes back that they had paid. He asked if the County pays this and, if so, can we get it back?



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Mr. Hankins explained that the County pays a reduced rate through Voyager since we are not taxable.

4. LMRS Rock Boat – Supervisor McRoberts expressed his sincere appreciation to the Board for the much needed rock boat.
5. Jesse Burnett – Vice Chair Lawson welcomed Mr. Burnett and she looks forward to working with him, although she will miss Supervisor McRoberts.
6. Jesse Burnett – Supervisor Cook would like to invite Mr. Burnett to attend the Closed Meeting to get him better acquainted.
7. LMRS Rock Boat – Supervisor Smith also appreciates the work done to get Lead Mines Rescue Squad the rock boat.
8. Jesse Burnett and Coy McRoberts – Supervisor Smith congratulated Mr. Burnett and said he will miss Supervisor McRoberts. He thanked him for all his help over the years.
9. Ivanhoe Road Complaints – Supervisor Smith asked for an update on complaints received regarding Ivanhoe Road (maintenance/upkeep of property, things sitting in the right of way).

Mr. Bear has not heard anything but said he will follow-up on that.

10. Topaz Lane – Supervisor Smith said that a lot of people have asked him when they're going to get water on Topaz Lane from Exit 84 to Exit 86.
11. Veterans Day – Chair Vaught said that this Thursday is Veterans Day and he would like to recognize and thank Supervisor Cook and Mr. Ayers for their service. Also, the Town of Wytheville is having a ceremony Thursday at 11:00 a.m., Life Changers is having a ceremony at 10:30 a.m., and Rural Retreat will have a ceremony on Sunday.
12. Coy McRoberts – Chair Vaught added that he too is going to miss Supervisor McRoberts. He has known him for a very long time and Supervisor McRoberts has been very good to the Chair and has helped him learn a lot. He has also done a lot of good for the people of Wythe County.

Supervisor McRoberts said he plans on doing some travelling. When he was a young man, he worked on the railroad in Ohio, so he may very well relocate back there. He is not sure at this point, but his mobile home is ready to go and so is he.

### **CLOSED MEETING**

Supervisor Terry made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Lawson, to enter into Closed Meeting under Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711-A.3, Disposition of Industrial or Commercial Property, Acquisition of Easements.

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 Terry, to adopt the following Resolution certifying the business conducted in closed meeting as follows:

### **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.
	Ryan M. Lawson	Stacy A. Terry
	James D. "Jamie" Smith	

NAYS:           None

#### **LEAD MINES RESCUE SQUAD UPDATE**

Mr. Hankins reported they had a pre-construction meeting today with the contractor for the LMRS expansion. They will start pouring footers and get ready for the slab in late November. Delivery of the building is scheduled in December with project complete by April.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business to come before the Board of Supervisors, Chair Vaught adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:42 p.m.

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Brian W. Vaught, Chair