

At the regular meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors on Wednesday, November 3, 2010, at 10:00 AM in the Giles County General District Courtroom, 120 North Main Street, Pearisburg, the following were present:

Barbara Hobbs	Chairman (Central District)
Eric Gentry	Vice Chairman (Eastern District)
Howard Spencer	Western District
Paul "Chappy" Baker	At-Large Supervisor
Chris McKlarney	County Administrator
Richard Chidester	County Attorney
Susan Kidd	Board Secretary

CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION

Ms. Hobbs called the meeting to order. Mr. McKlarney offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Gentry moved to approve the minutes of October 6, 2010. Second by Mr. McCoy. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Spencer, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Gentry, Mr. Baker.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Anne Chambers, Commissioner of Revenue: Mr. Gentry asked Ms. Chambers about the NADA book used to assess vehicles and if that was the standard one. Ms. Chambers said it was the standard book and her office uses the average retail value. Mr. Gentry said he has received calls from people whose vehicles now have higher mileage than the year before and the value increased. Mr. McKlarney shared information on NADA price trends with the board that show how the value of used vehicles has increased over the last several years. Ms. Chambers said that several years ago (either in 2004 or 2005) after the PPTRA method of assessing vehicles was locked in – the first year that method came out, she wanted to change. She did not like using the method of assessing at retail value. She noted that her office did an extensive 2-3 week study to see if there was any set percentage of difference that the board could use. There was none – the values jumped all over. Mr. McKlarney figured that it would require a 45% tax rate increase to cover that value change. Ms. Chambers acknowledged it was difficult to explain the value change and hard to explain the method they use because it is tied to that retail value set by NADA. The only thing she could tell them was what NADA told them. The vehicle market plummeted in 2008 after the gas prices increased to \$4.50 a gallon. Everyone wanted to trade in SUVs and trucks to get rid of high gas consumption vehicles. Then in 2009, the price of gasoline dropped to just under \$2 and leveled off at about \$2.85 a gallon. As the price per gallon dropped, the demand for SUVs and trucks increased. Also, the federal government offered a "cash for clunkers" program in 2009. People traded in vehicles for those that got better gas mileage. The vehicles they traded in (primarily SUVs and trucks) had to be destroyed. This removed them from the market and decreased availability. The increased demand and decreased supply caused values to increase. The other reason there was an increase in the tax this year is that the PPTRA value improved from 60% to 61.28%. That is the amount the county gets from the state. Every time there is another car added to the list, that amount of money has to be divided equally between all vehicles. This year got to 61.28%. As long as the growth of vehicles coming in – and Ms. Chambers said she saw there that growth factor for vehicles went from 5% to 8% this year. Mr. Gentry asked if that was new vehicles or all of them. Ms. Chambers said it was just additional vehicles. She said she knew there were some question about going with last years' values, but her office cannot do that.

Ms. Hobbs said that is what she did not understand. The tax year is July 1 through June 30th. The year is half way through before they collect the personal property. Ms. Chambers said they have to use the date of January 1st. Mr. Chidester said the tax year is January 1 through December 31. Ms. Chambers said that is why it is so hard on them. They have to have the books ready in January right in the middle of income tax season. They have about 6 weeks to get all of real estate; it has to be effective as of January 1. Ms. Hobbs asked if it was

based on what they own January 1, 2010 but assessed at the rate for 2011. Ms. Chambers said no it was assessed at the January 1, 2010 rates. They get a January book every year. Ms. Hobbs said that was what she did not understand. If the Commissioner's office has the values on January 1 and that is what they assess at, but then another NADA book comes out with a new set of values in October. Ms. Chambers said she gets a new set of values every single month, but by law they have to use the January 1 values. When someone goes on-line today and looks at the assessed value, it is 11 months old because those are January 1, 2010 values. Ms. Hobbs said if they use values from January 1, 2010 why does it take so long to get the total values of personal property in the county. Ms. Chambers said her office has to do state income tax and don't really get started on personal property until after that. There are 17,000 files that have to be looked at individually; this cannot just be downloaded and done overnight. There is a lot of work that has to go into it. They had asked for an extension this year because of not having enough people. They barely got the work done by October 15th.

Mr. Gentry said Ms. Chambers mentioned something that could be done to allow for high mileage. Ms. Chambers said they can bring in proof of a vehicle having over 100,000 miles they will prorate it according to the NADA values. Mr. Gentry asked how they could let the public know that is available. Ms. Chambers said she could put that in the paper and she tells everyone who comes into the office. It is up to the individual to bring that in; that information cannot be accessed from DMV records. Those are assessed according to values for high mileage vehicles in the book and there are also different values for older model vehicles. Ms. Hobbs asked if NADA shows values going down in the latter part of this year. Ms. Chambers said she had not received the report for the end of this year yet, but she thought they were staying about the same. Mr. Gentry said it doesn't make sense. The NADA that he checks on line is significantly different from the assessed value. Even with high mileage it is still several thousand dollars under the assessed value. Ms. Chambers said their assessments also include any extras that are on the vehicles. Ms. Hobbs asked how they know what is on a car. Ms. Chambers explained that the Vehicle Identification Number of the vehicle shows that information.

Ms. Hobbs asked how old vehicles have to be before they are considered too old. Ms. Chambers said she did not have the book with her but would check and let them know. She said it was not that they wanted to assess at higher values. She would be glad to go to a different assessment method but couldn't look at a 45% tax increase. Ms. Hobbs said people were very confused and she understood why. Ms. Chambers said she realized that. Everyone in her office experienced the same thing. One employee's vehicle value jumped from \$9,800 to \$12,400 on an Expedition. It is difficult to explain. Ms. Hobbs said someone got the impression from speaking with an employee in Ms. Chamber's office that it was all because of the "cash for clunkers" program. That is only part of it. Ms. Chambers said when car dealers fill out the forms on sales, it is input into NADA and the values are based on what people actually paid for vehicles. She gave the board a print out of information they could share with people who call about this. Ms. Hobbs thanked Ms. Chambers for the information. She asked her to please let people know that it was NADA values and that the board did not raise taxes that much.

Sheriff Millirons: Sheriff Millirons presented the October report for his department. There were 145 warrants served, 15 traffic summons, 682 civil papers and 42 offense reports. Animal Control picked up 128 animals; 55 dogs and 73 cats. The grand jury met on October 12th and issued 140 true bill indictments. Fifty of those were miscellaneous felonies and 90 were drug related involving cocaine, marijuana, meth and prescription drugs.

Sheriff Millirons noted that the K2 (synthetic marijuana) is still legal in the state of Virginia at this time. However, several of the delegates are planning to take action on this after the first of the year. Hopefully they will take care of that problem. Ms. Hobbs asked if that would actually help or are people going to use it anyway. Sheriff Millirons said it will make it illegal but he has been arresting people for 25 years for marijuana and many are repeat offenders.

Sheriff Millirons report that Halloween was celebrated on Saturday night and no real problems were reported. The cell phone program for seniors is going very well and they have collected 46 cell phones and are in the process of distributing those to seniors in the county who need them. These phones are not programmed but can be used in emergency situations to call 911. His department is still working with senior citizens on the ID cards and should have that up and running in a few weeks. They are also continuing to offer safety programs in schools and to community groups. The RAD program is still going strong. There are several Neighborhood Watch is also going well. Sheriff Millirons report there was a vandalism case in Broad Hollow in August. There were several victims in that area. Someone has confessed to that and the department is trying to get all of the

victims' information before issuing charges. The sheriff's department is still working on obtaining grants and has received a \$16,000 DMV enforcement/equipment grant.

Last Friday, the department issued a call on CodeRED that a person was being pursued. The chase started in Pembroke and the suspect ended up on Eggleston Road and ran from the vehicle. The call was placed to alert citizens. The subject was caught and another call was issued to let citizens know that also.

Sheriff Millirons said he has received several complaints about two areas of the county. On Route 100 south bound near Wilburn Valley Grocery, there have been several instances of people pulling out and going the wrong way. Also, on Route 219 at Grant's Supermarket, tractor/trailers are blocking traffic onto Glory Lane. VDOT will be looking at these. Sheriff Millirons said his department has had several deer and auto accidents with the patrol cars. The brush guards on the front really help. He said last Monday between 6 and 8 AM, there were six deer/auto accidents. These were on Routes 460 and 100. Sheriff Millirons said he had received several calls about the coyote bounty. He would appreciate getting word out about the bounty no longer being offered in Giles.

Ms. Hobbs asked if the Sheriff still had the truck that was shown in the paper. Sheriff Millirons said it was a seized vehicle and they had to wait until the court awarded it. Ms. Hobbs asked him not to give it away until they can talk about it; the county really needs a truck. Sheriff Millirons said forfeited vehicles can be used for law enforcement or it has to be sold. Ms. Hobbs said the sheriff's department could keep it and the county could use it during the week and the Sheriff would have it on nights and weekends. She asked him to think about that.

Mr. Gentry asked if the department was including the danger of mixing energy drinks and alcohol in their talks with students. Sheriff Millirons said they are including that in talks with students.

VDOT REPORT – DAVID CLARKE

Mr. Clarke reported they had finished up most of the mowing in the county. VDOT took care of the stone on Sinking Creek area. He said the signs requested near Wal-Mart are not on VDOT roads. Mr. Gentry said that had been taken care of with the developer. Mr. Clarke said VDOT is proceeding with some of the latter part of the engineering on Clendenin Road. They are going with the reduced width in the area that had right-of-way issues. He verified that the county understands they are not getting right of way and will have a 14 foot wide paved section with narrows shoulders. There is not room for guardrail there at all. He said that is about the only way to do it. Ms. Hobbs asked if they have approval to do it that way. Mr. Clarke said they did but he wanted them to understand there could be no guardrail there. Ms. Hobbs asked if only the section with the right of way issue will be narrow with no guardrail. Mr. Clarke said they will try not to do it for too much of the area. They will basically pave what is there in that area. Ms. Hobbs said they could live with that; something is better than nothing. She asked when they plan to start work. Mr. Clarke said in the spring. Mr. Thompson said they may have to get a Rural Rustic resolution on that road also. Mr. Clarke said he would send the county something on that.

Mr. Baker asked Mr. Clarke to have someone look at repairs on Route 460 at the signal in Narrows. There are several large holes in the intersection there. Mr. Gentry said he noticed VDOT was putting up guardrail in the eastern end of the county and that is appreciated. He asked about the work on Bear Springs where they are waiting on environmental clearance. Mr. Clarke said they took a look there and may need to make sure they are looking at the right area. They may need to raise the road there and that would be a major environmental procedure. In the meantime they will work on erosion issues and maybe replace the pipe. Mr. Gentry said there are things that could be done there without raising the road. VDOT will try to meet with Mr. Gentry and discuss that. Mr. Gentry also noted that Rose Lane in Newport is completed covered with brush and pavement is cracked and falling apart. It is a secondary road but may need to be placed on a list for spring for maintenance work.

Mr. Spencer said with the congestion and accidents on Route 219 near Grant's, he wondered if there was something VDOT could do to help out there. Mr. Clarke said they could take a look. The problem is a lot of pavement is in that area and it is confusing. They could put up no parking signs if it is in an area that would allow that. Mr. Spencer said someone was fencing in the road at the back; he wondered if that was VDOT. Mr.

Clarke said probably not but he would check. Mr. Spencer also noted that trees are growing up around the street lights on East River Mountain Road. Mr. Clarke said that was an AEP issue.

Mr. McCoy said they really need to revise the VDOT mowing schedule a bit and mow the first time before August when it is 4-5 feet tall. In November and December, it will fall over. They have been mowing the last two weeks and it was the first week of August before they mowed some areas for the first time. If they could hit it in mid-June and then again in August, it would be better. Just starting earlier in the year would be more beneficial. Mr. Clarke said the problem is that mowing needs to be done everywhere at the same time. The contractors VDOT uses have a lot of areas to cover. Mr. McCoy said maybe they could start earlier and even do away with the late October/November mowing.

Ms. Hobbs said she realized there is nothing they could do on the Patterson Ford bridge. However, the maintenance department needs to check on it before it floods so they can keep the brush cleared out before it gets so bad. If they check while the water is low, it might keep it from flooding as often. Mr. McCoy asked about the status of the Route 61 bridge. Mr. Clarke said it was awarded to a contractor for a design/build project. They are working on it. The actual work will probably not start until next year. Mr. McKlarney said he had received information about a meeting to discuss maintaining river access during the construction of that bridge. It was not really clear who was conducting the meeting. Mr. Clarke was not aware of it and Mr. McKlarney said he would forward the e-mail to him. Mr. Clarke said he was sure there will be times when they will have to close the river, such as when they are taking down the old bridge but it should only be for short periods of time.

Mr. Mullins asked if the road in Clendenin was good to go. He thanked everyone involved in getting that done. Mr. Clarke said they would primarily be paving the existing road and widening it just a bit.

Mr. McKlarney conveyed a request from Britt Stoudenmire for guardrail near his business on Route 460 in Pembroke. Mr. Gentry said that was where the truck went over into the field near Patrick Enterprises. Mr. Clarke said VDOT looked at that and did not think guardrail was necessary. They will take another look.

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT – TERRY ARBOGAST

Dr. Arbogast reported that enrollment at the end of October was 2,500 – a decrease of 12 from September and a decrease of 64 from this time last year. He said the losses were 22 from Eastern, 3 from Macy, 25 at Narrows Elementary, 18 at Narrows High and 2 from Giles High. Ms. Hobbs said they built more on to Narrows Elementary at one time because of increased school population. Now that school seems to be decreasing. Dr. Arbogast said Narrows Elementary has 514 students. It is the second largest school. Eastern has 476 and Macy 525. He said there are 314 students at Narrows High. Ms. Hobbs asked what happened to them when they get to high school. Dr. Arbogast said there are more grades at the elementary level (8) and only 5 grades in high school. The high school population varies up and down depending on how many kindergartners come in. The group now in 4th grade at Narrows was over 100 students when they entered kindergarten and are still at 94 students. He said the enrollment in high school at Narrows will probably drop next year but within 2-3 years it will be increasing because the upcoming classes are larger.

Dr. Arbogast distributed monthly calendars for activities for November. He noted that parent/teacher conferences will be held this week. He also reminded members of a craft fair at Narrows High this Saturday. Macy's PTO will also hold their Fall Festival this Saturday evening. Dr. Arbogast noted Narrows High would also be holding another Pride Day Clean-Up event this month. Those have been very successful the last two months.

Dr. Arbogast said the Tech Center construction was basically complete except for a few items on the punch list. The paving needs to be done there but otherwise things are done. They are working to come up with an open house date. He said they are very pleased with the work out there. He felt that Tech Center can be favorably compared with others anywhere around. Dr. Arbogast said the 5th through 7th grade classes at Eastern will be back in the building this week. The health inspector was there again on Monday. They are also dealing with some issues on the grout on the floor tile. It just doesn't look as it should for a new school. Mr. Mills has been involved and met with them about it at 6 AM this morning. He said they hope to meet with the architect this afternoon and get things straight on the tile in the kitchen – everything else there seems to be okay. Dr.

Arbogast said they probably noticed that the gym wall has been removed. They hope to start putting block back in there today. Mr. Gentry noted the basketball goals are still in the grass. Dr. Arbogast said those should have been put up but the contractor said they are waiting on someone to tell them where to put the gate before they put up the fence.

Ms. Hobbs thanked Dr. Arbogast and the school board for saying “no” to releasing information on any child in Giles County to media without a court order. Dr. Arbogast said they just thought that was the right thing to do. Mr. Spencer asked if the schools had seen an increase in out-of-county enrollment this year. Dr. Arbogast said it was about the same –no large increases.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION REPORT

Melissa Chase and Charles Lytton were present to discuss a proposed plan for restructuring cooperative extension in the state. Ms. Chase provided members with both an overview of this proposal and a summary of programs they are currently working on.

Ms. Chase said on the restructuring, there is a lot of information that they just do not have yet. They are in the beginning stages of what they are calling a “blue print” for restructuring. She was going to try to recap what is in progress though and see what questions and comments came from that. Mr. Gentry asked if she knew how the counties could be grouped yet. Ms. Chase said they did not. Mr. Gentry said personally he did not want to be grouped with Pulaski or Montgomery. He felt Giles County was more closely aligned with the needs of Craig and Bland Counties. Ms. Chase said she would make note of that. At this time, she does not know where the agents would be housed. There would be educators at the regional office, but they may also keep them in the county they are working in. Ms. Hobbs said that was a big consideration. Ms. Chase said that is one of the things they will be working on at their next meetings. Mr. Gentry asked if Ms. Chase or Mr. Lytton has any ideas on what the board should be looking for out of this. Mr. Lytton said he thought they were looking at something that was put forth in the early 1990’s. That is when this philosophy was first mentioned and it just did not fly. What it meant was central grouping – planning district wise – and an individual that excelled in one area. They might work three counties doing nothing but orchards, turf grass, nutrition, etc. They would only concentrate on what their specialty was. Mr. Lytton said the catch here was 4H and how many hours it takes to do the program and work with the kids. One person cannot do that in four counties. Mr. Lytton said he was not opposed to the idea of centralizing work units as long as they plan out how to cover the needs in Giles County. Mr. Lytton said Mr. Atwell works two counties now and so does Ms. Chase – those are working very well. There is nothing wrong with that, but the new model allows for fewer people to broaden the service based on expertise. The bottom line is how it is organized and put together.

Ms. Chase said they assured them that 4H will be represented in each county. She said they will make sure to keep the board up to date on what is going on. They will be working with Mr. McKlarney to make sure the county’s needs are met and that the board is informed. They just wanted to give them a heads up on what is coming. Ms. Hobbs said she lived on the theory if it’s not broke, don’t fix it.

Mr. Lytton reported he is starting a group of “Clover Buds” – 5-8 year olds. This is an experiential program to focus on families and kids. He has two adult volunteers who will be working with that. They will be doing things as families – maybe go to the Senior Center at Christmas or have a program to talk about after-school nutrition or things families can do to save energy in the winter. Mr. Gentry asked if he already had the two adult volunteers. Mr. Lytton said he did and his goal was not to have to be the only person doing this. Ms. Hobbs asked if eventually they would go to using more and more volunteers, and that is a great thing but volunteers still need guidance.

Mr. McCoy said looking at the funding model, it is very vague. It looks like there is one co-funded position and anything else there is totally locally funded. He asked if the business center will still be state funded. Ms. Chase said they have been told it will be 100% state funded. Mr. McCoy asked how that mirrored what the county currently does. Mr. McKlarney said currently the county gets more help than one co-funded position. He said he had conversations with others from extension and they really don’t know what will happen – it is very vague at this point. Ms. Chase said the thought process behind the co-funded position is they will ask for level funding and the money will be used to co-fund one position that would be here full-time. They should know

something by April, 2011 and it is supposed to be implemented by July, 2011. Mr. McKlarney said he felt they are going to ask the county for money and structure a plan based on how much the county is willing to put up. That seems to be the reason for this timing.

Mr. Gentry also acknowledged that Mr. Lytton has a book published that is for sale. He said he read it and it was very good.

GILES COUNTY WELLNESS CENTER REPORT – ADAM HARMAN

Mr. Adam Harman, Director at the Giles County Wellness Center, gave a report on first quarter financials. The revenue for the first quarter was \$42,640 and expenses were \$24,803.59. Staff payroll for that period was \$21,285.13 which reflects salaries for both Ms. Gillespie and Mr. Harman. That should be lower for the second quarter. The loss for the first quarter was \$2,448. Mr. Harman felt that numbers would be better for the second quarter as first and fourth quarters are usually the slowest times. Mr. Gentry asked if Mr. Harman felt comfortable in his new position. Mr. Harman said he did; he has not heard too much bad feedback. He did have a couple issues to discuss. He may possibly want to hire someone else there in the future but still felt the overall payroll would decrease. Ms. Hobbs asked if he was talking about another person with some control or adding additional programs. Mr. Harman said since the facility is open so much, he is not always there in the evenings as much as he would like. Another person with the same type of control he has would be good to have. Just knowing that there are two people with the same vision for the facility would be good for continuity. He said he would like to have this position in place by January -- that is when the biggest rush happens. Ms. Hobbs said they need to see some more revenue then. Mr. McCoy said they get second quarter numbers in December and then things should start to pick up. Mr. McKlarney said with equal revenue they are still looking at about \$11,000 savings – approximately \$9,000 profit for the quarter. That is a good position to be in. Ms. Hobbs said there are also capital needs and equipment that needs to be replaced. Mr. Harman said he was looking at a couple companies that lease or lease/purchase heavy-duty equipment. He is also talking to someone with a gym near Claytor Lake that is going out of business. He is checking on the quality of that equipment though. Ms. Hobbs said it was worth looking into, but cautiously.

Mr. Gentry asked if it would be possible to open the gym at 5 AM instead of 5:30 AM. Mr. Harman said he has a pretty stable staff in the mornings, so it may be possible. He would check into that. Ms. Hobbs said the board would like to see a financial report at least every quarter. Mr. McKlarney said he had asked Mr. Harman and Mr. Freel to provide monthly financial reports and then to present a report quarterly.

Mr. Harman also noted that membership has increased with the Giles Rescue Squad now paying for tier people to join. Ms. Hobbs asked if the Wellness Center offered special deals to organizations. Mr. Harman said it just depended on the organization. The school board has payroll deduction for their employees. Carilion has something similar to the school and their employee's rates are subsidized by Carilion. The big difference is rescue/fire versus other folks – fire department volunteers get a special rate.

CASTLE ROCK REPORT – MIKE FREEL

Mr. Freel reported that membership was currently 160 people with some type of membership. Active numbers show about 149 people who are paid up and using the facility. Eighteen new members were gained in 2010 and six were lost. The losses were not due to dissatisfaction but most were just not playing enough to justify the cost. Of course there are also members who are still paying dues but play very little. Membership has remained fairly steady compared to 2009. Mr. Freel also noted that no one has resigned yet due to the impending increases.

Revenue for the first quarter was \$117,827. The same period last year was \$96,851. Last year the 19th Hole revenue was not included in that figure so that was added for July and August. The facility is running ahead revenue wise. He said the pool and 19th Hole obviously do have expenses associated with them, but this year there was no budget number in those lines. They are operating at a loss currently; Mr. Freel said he was open to any ideas. The loss is about \$13,200. He said he has tried to do some things to increase awareness, such as the Junior Tournament. However, that did not happen because of a lack of participants. He has had 12-18

participants in that the last two years. Some of the reason for that could be that it just was not advertised enough. Also, he ran out of dates to hold it before school golf teams started playing. June and July were extremely busy months and there was something going on every week.

Mr. Freel reported that Mr. Belcher has helped to identify a possible way to “reinventing” the Classic Tournament because that did not happen this year either. It would involve getting a third club to participate. This is an established benefit tournament out there and they have approached those folks to ask if they would want to make this larger than it currently is. This is a very large tournament with nearly 200 players. Mr. Freel said it would not necessarily be a lot more income for Castle Rock, but would be a great thing from a possible relationship with other clubs.

Mr. Freel said they still offer the Wednesday Scramble and tried a Summer Evening Scramble this year. Participation in that ranged from 12-20 players and most of those were non-members. He said the Junior Golf Clinics did not have huge numbers but were well liked and appreciated by those who participated. The established tournaments are continuing and are doing well. Several new ones have been added in the last few years and they are picking up newer ones all the time. Mr. Freel said the Jarrett Lane Memorial Tournament is getting established and should grow each year. The Thompson-Mann Tournament is very well attended. He complimented the folks who work to put that one on. When they set their mind to something, they get it done and do it very well. He also had several other smaller groups using 20-24 people or less, and the regular club events also took place throughout the year.

Mr. Freel said he has been thinking of ways to increase the revenue streams. One of things he thought about is the people who have carts in the cart shed, but would rather not. However, they don't want to carry their clubs back and forth. He thought about building lockers in the open cart storage bins – rough plywood type – to store clubs. They would basically be behind two locks – the cart shed locked and the actual locker area locked. Mr. Gentry said he would worry about that because it is not in a building that is a heavily locked facility. Mr. Freel said they had thought about doing it in the old clubhouse but employees are in and out of there a lot and may not keep the doors locked. Ms. Hobbs asked about the basement of the current clubhouse. Mr. Freel said that was only used for random storage so it may be a possibility. Ms. Hobbs said as long as the county did not have a lot of liability, she did not see a problem with it. Mr. Gentry agreed and said as long as they sign off on liability, he had no objection. Mr. Freel said he would just have to keep it separate from what is stored there. He said he was disappointed in the cart sheds anyway. The people there said if the county would fix them up, they would come back and use them. There are still several empty.

Mr. Freel asked the board's opinion of allowing current members to pay 2-3 years in advance at the current rate, before the increase goes into effect. Mr. McCoy said that really gets around the rate increase and that is what they were interested in getting. It is good for them and the balance sheet would look good this year, but it would take a hit the next two years. The purpose of having a rate increase is that it is a rate increase for the patrons of Castle Rock and they pay it beginning in January. Mr. Freel said if they locked in for a year or two, he would make them pay all of that upfront. Ms. Hobbs said it really would not help the county or help hold on to members because you could not make them honor the contract. Mr. Freel said he was trying to lessen the blow of the rate increase. Mr. Gentry said from the number of people at the public hearing, it did not seem to be a problem. Mr. McCoy said other clubs had an issue with people being able to pay the yearly amount, so they were allowed to pay on a quarterly basis. He said maybe they could look at something like that. Some people could probably come up with the amount for a month at a time easier than for a quarter at a time. Mr. Freel said he considered that – they already allow quarterly, but maybe do a monthly rate. Mr. McCoy said it would burden them having to track it. They would have to weigh if it was worth keeping the members. If they do it monthly, they could probably add a small fee for doing that. Mr. McClarney said he could foresee people paying monthly for May through October and then dropping out in the winter months. That has always been the sticking point on monthly membership. If they drop out in the winter and want to come back in the spring, they would have to catch up those months they did not pay. Ms. Hobbs said she had no issue with them paying monthly as long as it is upfront and begins in January and continues through December. If they stop paying, then the monthly alternative is no longer offered for that person.

Ms. Hobbs asked Mr. Freel to outline those and other options and let the board consider them for a longer period of time. Mr. Gentry said he was definitely not in favor of extending it 2-3 years. Keeping up with the

money would be one thing and also they are just getting around the rate increase. Mr. Freel said he does have some current members who know the increase is coming who have asked about paying a year in advance. They are already current on this year. Mr. Gentry said that was not the intent of the rate increase – it was to ask all players to pay more. Ms. Hobbs said they also need to be careful taking anything beyond the year they are in because if things get too bad, they will have to look at locking the gates there. If they did not need this money to operate Castle Rock, they would not have raised the rates to begin with. To allow them to pay in advance nullifies the intent. Mr. Gentry and Mr. Baker agreed. Mr. McCoy said it is just like the fee increases on vehicle tags and other things; you just have to pay it. It is still the cheapest course anywhere around. Ms. Hobbs asked if the rates increase with the next quarter. Mr. Freel said they did.

Mr. McKlarney said both Mr. Freel and Mr. Harman have been in charge of looking for ways to lessen the financial burden and have done a good job. They are constantly coming up with new ideas, but there is only so much that can be done. Mr. Gentry asked how the cart trails were. Mr. Freel said they were in poor condition. With the increase in rates, he felt they should take a look at that soon. He said they will also have look at some work on the pool. Mr. McKlarney agreed the deck around it is in poor condition also. Mr. Freel said he would email a list of things for the board to consider for Castle Rock.

PPTRA RESOLUTION

Mr. McKlarney presented a copy of the proposed resolution showing the PPTRA rate set at 61.28% as provided by the Commissioner's office. It was advertised in the budget ordinance as approximately 60%.

Mr. McCoy moved to approve the PPTRA resolution with a rate of 61.28% as presented. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. McCoy, Mr. Spencer, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Gentry, Mr. Baker.

Ms. Hobbs commented that it bothered her that the board sets a tax rate on one set of figures and when it comes out for billing there is another set of figures sent to the tax payers. Mr. McCoy said those are the same figures used nationwide. Mr. Gentry said he wasn't sure about that. If you check on the internet and check the number using average retail, the numbers all match on several sites. Then if you go to the book the county uses, there are large increases. Ms. Hobbs said that wasn't really what she meant. She was concerned that the board doesn't have those values when they set the tax rate. It is set on last year's values then the tax tickets are billed on these new rates. Mr. Gentry said the NADA book comes out in January and those are the rates Ms. Chambers uses. Mr. McCoy said she does use January rates but just does not get it done until October. He said he understood what Ms. Hobbs was saying, but that gap is an internal issue pertinent to this county. It is not NADA's problem, those numbers are available before the board builds the budget. Ms. Hobbs said they should have those numbers.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Mr. McKlarney noted that the numbers on this contract have stayed the same for several years -- \$121,000 of county funds. They work very well with the county offices that are located in the basement of the Timberlake Building. Mr. Gentry said his only comment was they need a phone system. People call in and it is busy for hours at a time. Mr. McKlarney said he would like to consider VOIP for all county offices, but funding the issue. That would allow one person to set anywhere and answer phones for all the buildings. Those systems range from \$40-50,000.

Mr. Gentry moved to approve the contract amendment with the Health Department for \$121,000 in local funds. Second by Mr. McCoy. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. McCoy, Mr. Spencer, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Gentry, Mr. Baker.

DAY REPORTING CENTER

Mr. Gentry asked if Grayson County opted out of using our help for their Day Report Center in June. Mr. McKlarney said they did. Once they were up and running and had personnel trained, they could do it

themselves. We were aware that would happen and continue to have a good relationship with those folks. He noted that the majority of the savings comes from the jail. Even with the per diem increase, the bills are staying fairly consistent. The board and the county attorney discussed magistrates holding people unnecessarily long periods before they are released by the judge. Someone can file a complaint and a subject picked up on Thursday would not see a judge until Monday. That person is held at the jail all weekend and then sees a judge Monday who immediately releases them, but if the judge has to appoint an attorney, it could even be another week. The people involved in the process use no judgment whatsoever. Mr. Gentry said it seems the system is broken. Mr. Chidester said there are some that need to be held, but there are a lot that are held unnecessarily.

Mr. McKlarney noted that the participant fees billed are listed in the report. The county has received very little of that money because most in the program do not have money or assets. There is about \$28,000 outstanding and it is very difficult to collect those fees. Mr. Gentry asked if they were actually participating in the program and doing what they need to do. Mr. McKlarney said they were.

Mr. Gentry said he noticed the trash pick-up along the roads has fallen off a lot. Mr. McKlarney said the mowing has uncovered a lot of it. With the new indictments, there are possibly new participants coming on. If the board sees areas that need to be covered, just let staff know where they are. Ms. Hobbs asked how these people support themselves or families on this program. Mr. McKlarney said they would be in jail otherwise. There is an incentive in the program for them to go to work. If they get full-time employment, then they do not have to report as often to county staff and can remain in the program. He said the majority of savings in this program are realized from regional jail savings. Ms. Hobbs said they are also trying to help people. Mr. McKlarney agreed and said the majority of these are drug related, some are bad checks or shoplifting, and there is also a lot of alcohol abuse that is still prevalent in the county.

APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Gentry moved to reappoint Mr. Roger "Butch" Mullins to the Fairview District Home Board for a one-year term ending December 31, 2011. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Baker, Mr. Gentry, Mr. Spencer, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. McCoy.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Gentry moved to go into Executive Session as permitted by Virginia Code 2.2-3711 A(1) Personnel and A(3) disposition of real property. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously 5-0). Voting YES: Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Baker, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Gentry, Mr. McCoy.

Mr. Gentry moved to certify that in the closed session just concluded, the Board discussed nothing except the matters specifically identified in the motion to convene and lawfully permitted to be discussed under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act cited in that motion. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously by roll call vote – Voting YES: Mr. Spencer, Mr. Gentry, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Baker, Mr. McCoy.

WATER PROJECTS

Mr. McKlarney reminded board members that the change over from the old Ripplemead System to the county system will occur on November 12th.

Mr. McCoy moved to allow a connection rate of \$100 for the initial connections to the Board Hollow water for a set period of time. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. McCoy, Mr. Spencer, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Gentry, Mr. Baker.

ELM TREE

Mr. McKlarney received a call yesterday stating that New River Community Services is considering closing Elm Tree. Residents there would be moved into apartments in two or three groups. NRVCBS says that these

residents would do better in small group settings. There are 14 beds in the Elm Tree facility and 10 are currently occupied. They would like to convert that to a center for troubled youth – this would be a short-term evaluation center. Mr. McKlarney told them they need to discuss that with the Town of Pearisburg. He said he was personally very familiar with Elm Tree and was concerned about the people who have been there for many years and are completely unable to take care of themselves. All of the Elm Tree residents are Giles County citizens and Mr. McKlarney asked if they would be moved to apartments in the county. Mr. Barker at Community Services said they were making every effort to do so.

Mr. McKlarney recommended the board ask NRV Community Services personnel to come before them to explain what is going on. They really need to provide more details at least to the families of those residents. Mr. McCoy said the board really doesn't have a lot of say in that. Ms. Hobbs said they do have some budget funds and those are county residents. Mr. McKlarney will ask them to bring information to a future board meeting.

No further business was introduced. Ms. Hobbs adjourned the meeting until the recess meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 18, 2010 at 6:30 PM.

APPROVED:

Chairperson

ATTEST:

Clerk