

At the regular meeting of the Giles County Board of Supervisors on Wednesday, June 1, 2011, at 10:00 AM in the Giles County General District Courtroom, 120 North Main Street, Pearisburg, the following were present:

|                     |                                     |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Eric Gentry         | Chairman (Eastern District)         |
| Paul "Chappy" Baker | Vice Chairman (At-Large Supervisor) |
| Howard Spencer      | Western District                    |
| Richard McCoy       | At-Large Supervisor                 |
| Barbara Hobbs       | Central District                    |
| Chris McKjarney     | County Administrator                |
| Richard Chidester   | County Attorney                     |
| Susan Kidd          | Executive Assistant                 |

## CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION

Mr. Gentry called the meeting to order. Mr. McKjarney offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

***Mr. Baker moved to approve the minutes of May 4, 2011 with noted corrections. Second by Mr. McCoy. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Baker, Mr. Gentry, Mr. Spencer, Mr. McCoy.***

## CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

**Treasurer, Gerald Duncan:** Mr. Duncan presented a financial report through the end of April. He noted that the interest rate has slipped a bit but still stands at 2.55%. He stated that the revenue report is only through February, but his office has had a lot of things going on. Mr. Duncan stated that the total tax collection for this year was \$5.045 million of personal property and \$2.94 million on real estate. The first half of this year's real estate collection will begin this month so that should increase substantially. Ms. Hobbs asked if the personal property number included machinery and tools taxes; Mr. Duncan said that it did. He said the new real estate tax tickets should go out one day this week.

Mr. Duncan asked the board to consider establishing a policy on how contractors employed by the board act and dress when working for the county. He had a bad incident with contractors last week. Mr. Gentry asked if he had discussed that with the County Administrator and Mr. Duncan said he had not. Mr. McKjarney was out of the office the day it happened and he could not make contact with anyone else. He also called Mr. Belcher and Mr. Mills. Mr. Gentry asked him to talk to Mr. McKjarney and give him the details. That is where anything would need to start. Mr. Duncan said he felt contractors should go by the same rules and regulations county employees go by.

Mr. Duncan also noted he had spoken with Mr. McKjarney and Chris King (IT contractor) and wanted to also bring this to the board's attention. He said internet access is very important to his office and outages (like today) seem to occur too frequently. This hurts business a lot as they cannot process wage liens, on-line payments, etc. Mr. Duncan felt the county needed a back-up system for when Verizon fails. Mr. McKjarney and Mr. King are in agreement on that, but Mr. Duncan just wanted to bring this to the board's attention. He said an automatic back-up system would be very beneficial in order to provide good internet service 24/7. Ms. Hobbs asked if he knew of anyone who offers that back-up service that would not require the county to pay for it full-time. Mr. Duncan said there is a lot out there that he did not know about. He felt they would probably have to pay a monthly fee. PemTel is extremely reliable and he understood Mr. McKjarney is working to get their service into this area. Mr. Duncan said he was not being critical of anyone but wanted the board to be aware of the situation.

Mr. McKjarney said the system is down again this morning and it is a Verizon problem. He has approved Mr. King moving forward to have a Suddenlink connection set up for back up. When the new fiber is in the ground, the county will be going with PemTel. However, it may be some time before they get it here. Mr. Gentry said this

was handled correctly on the county's end, but Verizon made a mistake. He apologized to Mr. Duncan for any problems but did not feel anything could have been done differently. Mr. Baker said things like that happen and they are out of the county's control. He said the back-up system would be very expensive but they are working on it. Mr. Duncan said he would be willing to help with that if he could afford it.

## **VDOT REPORT – DAVID CLARKE**

Mr. Clarke said VDOT crews have been very busy taking care of damage from recent storms. They are preparing to work on Olean Road, Darnell Mountain, Elder Hollow, Kow Kamp, and Celestial Heights. They are still waiting on the water to go down so they can clean out the low water structures. Potholes have been repaired near the West Virginia line on Route 460 in Glen Lyn. VDOT still needs to work on Green Valley Road and has more to do on Dry Branch and Fairview Hill Road. Mr. Clarke said crews were working on Clendenin, installing pipe before they begin the grading work. Ms. Hobbs asked if VDOT had worked everything out with the primary landowner for right of way on Clendenin. Mr. Clarke said he thought they had and that the landowner was satisfied. There were about three things he wanted and Mr. Clarke gave a report to Mr. McKJarney. One was to put in improvements to the entrances to the railroad tracks and tie in his entrance to the improved road. Ms. Hobbs asked if there was going to be money left over since VDOT crews were doing this project. Mr. Clarke said there should be and it will be moved to the next project on the six-year plan. Mr. McKJarney suggested VDOT add a sketch or drawing to the agreement with the landowner. Mr. Gentry asked if VDOT had met with Mr. Thompson who lived on Dry Branch Road. Mr. Clarke said he believed they had.

Mr. Clarke reported there was a meeting on Route 219 bridge. West Virginia is handling this project and has begun obtaining right of way. Each state will obtain the necessary right of way on their side of the bridge.

Mr. McCoy asked where the work stood on Staffordsville Hill and Wilburn Valley Road. Mr. Clarke said Wilburn Valley was added to the slurry schedule for sometime this summer. The only means to do that was with contractors. Mr. Baker said he hoped it was not the same group that put it down before because that is what caused this mess. Mr. Clarke said they did not do slurry before. Mr. McCoy asked if they were adding gravel to some of the roads they are currently working on – they need more than just maintenance. Mr. Clarke said they were.

Mr. Spencer said that between Glen Lyn and the West Virginia line the concrete is breaking up very bad on both sides of Route 460. He asked how long it had been since the county did a Rural Addition, and would it be possible to work on Skyline Drive this year. Mr. Clarke said it was not likely. There is \$175,000 in Rural Addition funding. There is no way to do Rural Addition with state forces and it will have to be a regular project. They have to do something with the drainage onto Route 61 and that alone would eat up those funds. Mr. Spencer said the water coming off Piney Mountain where the state diverted it has caused a lot of issues with Skyline. The ditch is very deep and as about half as wide as the road. Mr. Clarke said he did not know of any other counties now that are doing Rural Additions either. There is no secondary construction money – Giles is down to about \$40,000. Mr. Spencer said there is \$175,000 in Rural Addition. Mr. Clarke said the cost to bring a road to state standards is so high he did not think anyone was doing it right now. Ms. Hobbs asked when VDOT holds the money for Rural Addition and it is not spent, does the county get interest. Mr. Clarke said they did not. Mr. McCoy asked if they could look at doing a portion of it – maybe at the entrance to get that water diverted. Could they do it a portion at a time. Mr. Clarke said they have to go through the process of making the entire road state maintained because at this time it is private property. Mr. McKJarney said one alternative is to locally administer the project – the county would do that. Mr. Clarke said that would be a good alternative; the county has already done one project that was much larger than this would be.

Ms. Hobbs reported a call from a resident on Springdale Road. Just past the entrance is a large pothole and near 1753 Springdale is a dip in the hard surface and it appears to be getting larger. Also, on Moye Road on Staffordsville Hill (she called this in to VDOT also), VDOT went in and did a little work with gravel but they did not get to the muddy part of the road. This is the only way out when Patterson Ford bridge is under water. Ms. Hobbs asked Mr. Clarke to make sure VDOT followed through on repairing that. She also noted there were

several roads with brush out on them – mostly secondary roads. Mr. Clarke said the mowing crew has already started in the county.

Mr. Baker said there were potholes on Route 460 West of Narrows all the way to Rich Creek. Virginia Line Road into Peterstown also has a lot of potholes. Brush needs cutting on Virginia Heights going into Riverbend.

Mr. Gentry said the ditches on the Little Stoney have water backing up and spilling into the road. He said about 80-100,000 people head up that road every year to the Cascades, so it is pretty important to keep it in good shape. It would also be good to have a tree crew on that road. He asked VDOT to look at the low water bridge on Old Furnace Road. Like Patterson Ford, it needs to be cleaned out in front of it when the water is down. Mr. Gentry also asked them to look at Darnell Mountain Road – it is always a problem because it is so steep.

Mr. Perkins from Wilburn Valley Road said he was not sure what was said about Wilburn Valley Road. Mr. Clarke said there is a contract that has to be used and they have not started the slurry seal work yet. Mr. Perkins asked if that was the same thing that was on it now. Mr. Clarke said this was not the same – there should be no dust with slurry seal. Mr. Gentry said the road is on the list for the contractor to do. Slurry seal is an approved method and when it is put down correctly, it is a good road. Mr. Perkins said it was not a good road now. Mr. Gentry said with the current conditions it was not, but the slurry seal should work well. He asked Mr. Perkins to have a little patience; VDOT has it on the list to do. Mr. Perkins said if they do that and they have to come back again.... Mr. Baker said this should solve the problem. Mr. Clarke said they could not put asphalt on the road. Mr. Perkins said they did have a good asphalt road there and he heard there was a law they could not put slurry seal on an asphalt road. Mr. Clarke said it is approved to use everywhere – they use it on 460. Mr. Gentry said it was put on Kow Kamp a few years ago and it is just like pavement. It is a good surface. This should fix the road right.

Mr. Spencer mentioned an article he read that the State of Washington had outlawed slurry because it was a health hazard. Mr. Clarke said he had not heard anything about that.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### **REGIONAL WATER PLAN**

Mr. Gentry opened the public hearing to take comments and consider adoption of the Local/Regional Water Supply Plan. Mr. McKJarney said he, Mr. Houck, and Mr. Bill Holt had spent some time reviewing this with PDC members and made some revisions. This public hearing is for comments and at some point in the future this should be adopted with any changes the board sees fit to make. The plan's purpose is for the Department of Environmental Quality to look at long-term water usage. Mr. Spencer noted that Section 6 stated that the "measures to be observed by residents of Giles." He said there are some Mercer County residents on the water system so it should just read something about all PSA customers. Mr. Gentry said he did not feel comfortable approving this today and it was not necessary to do so. He was not sure he agreed with some of the things in the supply plan and would like to review it further. Mr. McKJarney said it did not need to be approved until August so there was some time. Mr. McCoy said the PSA board would see it at their meeting next week. Some of the PSA board members worked on it but the whole board has not reviewed it yet. Mr. Gentry asked if the board members could have a copy of the complete (144 page) plan and then come back to this at a later meeting. There were no comments from the public and Mr. Gentry closed the public hearing.

### **CONVEYANCE OF REAL ESTATE IN RIPPLEMEAD**

Mr. Gentry opened the public hearing. Mr. McKJarney said this hearing was pursuant to Virginia Code Section 15.2-1800, the conveyance of a parcel of real estate situate in Ripplemead described as that certain reservoir site located on Edgewood Lane. The proposed conveyance of the property is to be made to Scott McGee for \$2,500, which was the highest bid received. Mr. McKJarney said staff does recommend approval of this. There were no comments and Mr. Gentry closed the public hearing.

**Mr. Spencer moved to approve the conveyance of property to Scott McGee for the sum of \$2,500 as detailed in the public hearing. Second by Mr. McCoy. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. McCoy, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Gentry, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Baker.**

### **STREET NAME AND NUMBERING ORDINANCE**

Mr. Gentry opened the public hearing to consider adoption of an amended Street Name and Numbering Ordinance. Mr. Reed noted this version has been reviewed by the County Administrator and County Attorney. This public hearing is to take comments and suggestions on the proposed revision. Mr. Reed has not received any calls or letters concerning this ordinance.

Ms. Hobbs questioned Section 4, 4-9, that stated the use of duplicate street names is not allowed and similar sounding names is discouraged, but may be allowed if approved by the Agent. Mr. Reed said the reason was to keep two roads that are next to each other from being too similar. If they are located on opposite ends of the county, then it is not as much of a problem. Ms. Hobbs said she did not think it should be allowed at all. Mr. Reed said that it is for cases like Horseshoe Bend on the eastern end of the county and Horseshoe Road in Rich Creek. In that case, it is not really a problem to allow it.

Ms. Hobbs asked about Section 6, 6-5, that street numbers will only be assigned to addressable structures provided that the agent may in his discretion assign an address to other permanent structures. She asked what those might be. Mr. Reed said cell tower sites are a good example, antennae sites on Norfolk Southern right of way is another. These need to have electricity and in order to do that they need an address. The county is trying to get away from assigning addresses to some structures and not to others. At this time, the picnic shelter in Whitt-Riverbend is waiting on this ordinance so it can have an address; because it is a place of public gathering, it needs to have an address.

Mr. Gentry asked about Section 3, 3-2 and if it was the resident's responsibility to provide the post and numbers for their structure. Mr. Reed said it was. Mr. Gentry felt that should be stated in the ordinance. It does not actually say that. Mr. Chidester said in Section 7.1 it says it is a violation of the ordinance for the property owner to fail to display the number assigned to the property so that should be sufficient. Mr. McKJarney said he did not think it would hurt to add language stating it is the owner's responsibility to post the numbers. Board members agreed to add a statement to that effect to Section 3-2.

There were no other comments from the board members or the public. Mr. Gentry closed the public hearing.

**Mr. McCoy moved to approve the Street Name and Numbering Ordinance as presented and to add wording to Section 3-2 stating it is the owner's responsibility to post the street address numbers at the residence. Second by Mr. Spencer. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. McCoy, Mr. Spencer, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Gentry, Mr. Baker.**

### **SCHOOL BOARD REPORT – TERRY ARBOGAST**

Dr. Arbogast reported that enrollment was 2,139 at the end of May; that is a decrease of 2 from April. It is a decrease of 102 from this time last year. He reported that SOL testing is continuing this week and will close next Tuesday (7<sup>th</sup>). Early results have been very positive. Dr. Arbogast provided members with an activity calendar for the remaining days of school. He reported that renovation on the Tech Center is complete with only a few very minor things and the paving remaining. Progress is being shown at Eastern during the past few weeks. Things have been much improved there.

Mr. Gentry asked how many instruction hours were required daily. Dr. Arbogast said at least 5.5 – secondary has to have 990 yearly. Mr. Gentry said the SOLs will be completed next Tuesday, so it seems the last week is nothing but "fluff" activities. He asked why not push the SOL testing forward. Dr. Arbogast said schools set up their own SOL schedules; that is not controlled out of the Central Office. Mr. Gentry said they are spending money running buses, preparing food, running A/C but they really aren't doing anything. Maybe they need to

look at it. Dr. Arbogast said they try to put SOLs where the students will have as much time to prepare for them as possible. Mr. Gentry asked them just to consider it – maybe something to get them out earlier. If they are only going to meet the required hours, then they should look at it. Dr. Arbogast said they said start the school year off with 180 days, but when they start missing days they revert back to hours. There was further discussion on optimal testing days and the social aspect of school as well as the academic portion.

Mr. Baker asked why some Three Rivers District schools allow students to participate in more than one spring sport but Giles does not. Dr. Arbogast said he would have to check. That seems to be a school decision. Mr. Chidester said he thought it was more of a coach's decision than a school policy. Mr. Baker said that needed to be cleared up with parents. Dr. Arbogast will verify that and let Mr. Baker know.

## **COOPERATIVE EXTENSION - MELISSA CHASE**

Ms. Chase shared a report summarizing programs conducted by the local Extension office. She reported there are 40 campers signed up for 4-H camp this summer as well as 22 teens who are counselors-in-training and 5 adult chaperones.

Ms. Hobbs asked Ms. Chase to explain about the staffing in the Giles County office. Ms. Chase explained that there were four part-time agents in Giles. Mr. Lytton works 20 hours a week on 4-H. Ms. Chase is 60% Giles and 40% in Bland, with her home office in Giles. Mr. Atwell is 40% in Giles and 60% in Bland, with Bland as his home office. Sarah Burkett is 60% in Pulaski (her home office) and is not required to spend time in Giles County's office. She comes to Giles to conduct programs. Amanda Sarver has Giles as a home office but covers Pulaski and Montgomery Counties also. Because her position is 100% federally funded, she is not allowed to provide any coverage for the office here. Currently, there is no administrative assistant in the office, so Ms. Chase is spending more time in Giles covering that. They do have someone from the Pulaski office coming over one day a week. She said it has been a challenge to keep the office covered. Ms. Hobbs asked if there is five-day a week coverage. Ms. Chase said there is, but roughly half or more of that will be different people depending on who has something going on any particular day. The problem is not having consistent coverage. Mr. Gentry asked if there have been problems with people trying to contact the office and no one being there. Ms. Chase said that has not been an issue yet. They are trying to keep the office as accessible as possible.

Ms. Chase said the good news is that sometime later this year or early next year, the 4-H position will be replaced full-time and they will also have an administrative assistant 30 hours per week. Mr. Gentry asked if the 4-H position would be advertised as entry level. Ms. Chase said she thought so. Mr. McKjarney said the county's funding for that is already included in the budget for the upcoming year. He said that Mr. Martin with Extension Service has asked for a letter stating that the county will provide the funding for the 4-H position. With approval of the 11-12 budget, Mr. McKjarney assumed that was okay to provide that. Board members indicated that was acceptable.

## **SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION – TODD CHRISTENSON**

Mr. Todd Christenson with SW Virginia Cultural Heritage Commission and Ms. Diana Blackburn with Round the Mountain spoke to the board about the new Heartwood Center and its promise for Giles County's tourism industry. Ms. Blackburn said they had been working since 2005 to promote the craft and cultural of this region. There are over 500 members who are artisans, artisan farmers, vendors, etc. from the 19 county/4 city region. The past three years have been spent developing 15 artisan trails throughout Southwest Virginia and have just completed those. The Giles County brochure is being printed. She noted that Debbie Loggins has worked with Giles County artisans and was complimentary of the group she worked with. There are currently 31 sites in Giles. They are very excited to have the final trail completed and about the opening of Heartwood which is working to promote the trail network. Ms. Blackburn said Round the Mountain evaluated crafts and 210 artisans passed the jury process. Those jury sessions will continue after the trail opens as well.

Mr. Christenson noted that he is very impressed with all that is going on in the county. He was with DHCD for almost 30 years mainly working with CDBG. About two years ago, the General Assembly set up the Southwest Virginia Heritage Commission, which Mr. Christenson is heading up. They are embarking on a very ambitious program planned by the Virginia Tourism Corporation. This is an international campaign to brand Southwest Virginia. They are also opening Heartwood as the gateway to the region. This facility is located in Abingdon just off Interstate 81. Visitors there will be seeing videos of the region, interactive maps, and information on all the cultural aspects of the area. There will be over 200 videos available that will provide the story of our culture to people from all over the world. Mr. Christenson also called attention to a recent article in the New York Times about the Crooked Road – this is excellent press for the region.

Mr. Christenson spoke of visitors to this region who come from all over the world. He noted that people looking to locate industry are concerned with the quality of life in an area. With technological advances, any worldwide company can be headquartered anywhere in the world and they look for two things to attract them – quality of life and high speed telecommunications. Mr. Christenson said they are trying to work with the 25 downtowns that have gone through or are embarking on downtown revitalization projects – often moving from being service oriented to becoming a cultural center for music, restaurants, art, etc. He used the example of Floyd remaking their downtown into a destination. Mr. Christenson said they were asking all counties to invest in this effort to keep the Crooked Road and Round the Mountain initiatives going.

Mr. Gentry asked if Mr. Christenson had been in contact with the county's Renew the New group. Mr. Christenson said he had. He said they are now asking all the counties that are members of the Southwest Virginia Heritage group for \$10,000. He noted that Heartwood would provide the county with exclusive use of Heartwood for several days to host a "Giles County" event. They also provide the county with extensive marketing and support. Mr. Gentry asked if there was any funding tied to this – something they could leverage regionally. Mr. McKlarney said the county tourism group has been working with Round the Mountain and matched funds to have the brochures and maps printed. The county's funds were matched with money from the tobacco fund.

Mr. Christenson noted that his role is not to oversee or control anything, but to coordinate and go to all the counties looking for assets and potential investments. When localities want to put a project together, he will be looking to see how it will fit into the overall plan. He was not saying if they don't give them money, their projects would not get funded, but they will be more tuned in to counties that partner with the commission. They are looking for strategic partnerships – looking how places like Narrows can use the New River to market themselves. There is a lot of interest in Mountain Lake also. Mr. Gentry noted that all of these tie together and there is a good network of people in the county that do an excellent job working on this. Mr. McKlarney felt that in the past 15 years, this is the best economical development program the state has come up with. This has a very targeted focus and will have a real impact on the region. The local DA and Tourism Taskforce are interested in creating some signage throughout the county to direct people to the places they want to go.

Mr. Christenson felt the region has already started attracting businesses that are not tourism related because of the quality of life here. These businesses are locating because they want to be in this county. They can develop and create revenues out of these assets but in order to do that, they have to preserve and enhance those assets. Mr. Spencer noted the county is only about 10-12 miles from Interstate 77 which is a major highway and we do very little to bring those people into our county. Mr. Christenson said Heartwood would help tie those 19 counties throughout Southwest Virginia together as a destination. They are not trying to grab tourists off Interstate 81 and immediately send them to Pearisburg. That is just not practical. Those folks visiting Heartwood will be bombarded with stories and information about Giles, Bland, Floyd, etc. They will be exposed to and find out about the entire region. Mr. Christenson invited the board members to visit Heartwood. He also noted they are always interested in developing new music venues and cultural assets. Board members told him about the weekly old time music at Anna's in Narrows and thanked him for sharing this information.

## **TOWN OF NARROWS REQUEST – MAYOR CLAYTON DAVIS**

Mr. Davis said he represented a small entity (Narrows) in the western district of the county. He is proud of what they have been able to do with their infrastructure and the fiscal responsibility they have displayed. They are also proud of the recreation program in Narrows. A few years ago they tried to expand some ball fields and came to the county with information on how many people their program served. The county provided \$5,000 for two years to help with that project. Mr. Davis said Mr. Spencer provided other board members with a list of participants in the Narrows recreation program. There were a total of 936 young people with 63% of those being outside the corporate limits and 24% outside the western district. The Town of Narrows spends a total of \$150,000 annually on the recreation department – actual expenses after income are about \$70,000. Mr. Davis said he felt they have about the premier program in the county and the area. There is a real need to expand recreation in the county, but the town has done as much as they can. The last time Mr. Davis came to the board, he told them they were not threatening to cut their program if the county can't help. They will continue to do everything possible to continue providing recreation regardless of where the participants come from. They have done that.

Mr. Davis said the rec department uses the annex – former high school building – in Narrows. They have maintained it over the years – several years ago an experimental type roof was donated and the town put it on. They have replaced windows for about \$40,000 several years ago. Now, the roof is leaking and needs to be totally replaced. They spoke to the school board and they said there are no funds to assist with this. After looking further into this, the gym floor has been cut and sanded down until it is too thin to be worked again. You can feel it sag when walking on it and some of the joists are loose from the walls. It appears that it will take about \$150,000 to get back in business on the roof and floor. The town has looked into borrowing money and many are not interested in going beyond a five-year period. They looked at amortization for \$150,000 at 4% over 12 years would cost about \$13,314 annually. That is about 2 cents in taxes for the town.

Mr. Davis said he spoke with the school board and understood that they are declaring the building surplus and turning it back over to the county. Mr. McKjarney said that was correct. Mr. Davis said he was told that the building would probably be made available to the town. The Town of Narrows is not in a position to accept the building as a gift unless they can come up with some means of having funds come in to repair it. Mr. Davis said he understood what budget workshops and hearings amount to. Mr. Davis said he thought at the time he spoke to the school board about the facility and what they could do... He also came to Mr. McKjarney and discussed their needs. He said he probably misunderstood but thought Mr. McKjarney asked how much they needed for this. Mr. Davis told him \$70,000 and would like to have \$40,000. They had expected to get some additional funds. He understands the difficulty of one member of the board asking for something over and above the others. However, it has to be based on need. Mr. Davis said then he heard that each district board member has \$8,000 for recreation and that they could not expect any more. He asked how much more was asked for and found out that there wasn't anything else asked for the town's recreation department. Mr. Davis said he could see no way for the town to continue operating the recreation department like this and have to go through the expenses of renovating the whole annex. He said he did not know if \$24,000 was all the county put into recreation in the three districts. He asked how they can subsidize a golf course to the tune of \$100,000 a year – and he asked to be corrected if he was wrong. He was not sure how many members are there but did not think that could stand against the 928 young people served just in the Town of Narrows. If all other entities were providing those same services, he would not feel justified in asking for more help. However, he felt the ones providing the means and putting forth the effort should get some additional consideration. The town needs some help from the county for their recreation department based on the numbers they are serving. If this is declared surplus and turned over to the county, he said the county is looking to see it fold in on itself.

Mr. Davis said in order to finish out the programs that had started this spring, they used school facilities. He said he did not know where the funds were coming from but would appreciate any consideration for what he basically considers the Giles County Recreation Department – which is funded by the Town of Narrows.

Mr. Spencer said he was familiar with the rec department. Mr. Gautier and his staff do a good job with the fields and other programs. It is very commendable. At this point, Mr. Spencer said he did not know what they could do. He would like to discuss an idea with Mr. Davis later and see if something comes from that.

## BUDGET AND TAX RATE APPROVAL – FISCAL YEAR 2011-12

Mr. McKJarney said the budget was presented at a public hearing at the previous meeting and there have been no comments to the county since that time.

***Ms. Hobbs moved to approve the budget for fiscal year 2011-12 as presented at the May 19<sup>th</sup> public hearing. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Gentry, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Spencer, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Baker.***

***Ms. Hobbs moved to approve the tax ordinance for fiscal year 2011-12 (attached). Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Gentry, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Spencer, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Baker.***

## PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Whittaker presented recommendations from the Planning Commission that were done as a result of the public hearings at the May recess meeting. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the special exception request for Central States Towers to construct a 175' monopole telecommunications tower with a 4' lightning rod on the Moye property.

***Ms. Hobbs moved to accept the Planning Commission's recommendations for the telecommunications tower on the Moye property. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Gentry, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Spencer, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Baker.***

Mr. Whittaker requested that it be added to the recommendations that payment of all application fees be made and the applicant would have to obtain the necessary permits. Mr. McCoy said that should be understood – if they do not pay for the application, then it is not valid. Mr. McKJarney asked the board to consider a color for the towers. Mr. Gentry said the Planning Commission discussed that. The galvanized towers bleach out over time. The Planning Commission felt it best to leave it. Mr. Gentry said they could put it in the motion, but he was not sure they had direction from the Planning Commission to do anything else. Mr. McCoy said the only site this would concern is the Patterson one. Ms. Hobbs said she did not think that would help the situation; the objection was to the structure itself. Mr. McKJarney said it just seems they blend in better if they have a color on them. Mr. Whittaker said the first six months or a year it is shiny. However, the angle you view it makes a huge difference in whether it is noticeable. He said with the developments of the bankruptcy of Cellere and not paying the fees, that was the reason for adding that. He said they would not issue a special exception notice until those are paid. Mr. McCoy suggested adding to the motion that staff can work out whether color would be helpful on those or not. Mr. Gentry said that was fine but there wasn't any final decision on that from the Planning Commission.

Mr. Whittaker presented the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve the special exception request for Central States towers/AT&T to construct a 175' monopole telecommunications tower with a 4' lightning rod on the Orr property.

***Mr. Spencer moved to accept the Planning Commission's recommendations for the telecommunications tower on the Orr property. Second by Ms. Hobbs. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Gentry, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Spencer, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Baker.***

Mr. Whittaker stated that the Planning Commission recommended approving the special exception request for Central States towers/AT&T to construct a 175' monopole telecommunications tower with a 4' lightning rod on the property of Lucille Patterson.

***Mr. McCoy moved to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve the telecommunication tower on the property of Lucille Patterson with the stipulation that if staff feels painting will help that tower blend in better, they have authority to do so. Second by Mr. Baker.***

**Discussion:** Mr. Spencer asked if they can require different things between these sites. Mr. Whittaker said a special exception can require whatever the board desires and these are all different locations – three different requests. Mr. Pace said they would paint the tower whatever color staff recommends. However, he would like to have some time frame on when this decision will be made. He asked what if staff does not come to a consensus on this with the adjoining property owners. Mr. McCoy said if there is no consensus, then the special exception is still approved and they make a decision that the tower company can go with. Mr. McKJarney said he was not talking as much about one person's view. He felt the county has done an excellent job around the county of hiding the cell towers. However, he didn't want to rush into a decision where it could easily change the impact. Mr. Gentry said he agreed but they have approved the tower location. He asked if Mr. McKJarney had a specific idea for this site. Mr. McKJarney said he just felt a color on the tower would blend in better. Mr. Whittaker said this tower is going to be visible from the highway – more so than the other two towers. Ms. Hobbs asked if color on the towers cost more. Mr. Condyles said they order those from the manufacturer in galvanized or a color. The cost of painting would be very nominal and the maintenance is no different. He said he normally made a recommendation on color or not, but did not feel painting would be anything that would help hide this one. This sits on a saddle and there is not much in the background to hide it. Mr. McKJarney said staff could have a decision on the color by Friday.

***The motion was approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Gentry, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Spencer, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Baker.***

***Ms. Hobbs moved to amend the approval of the tower on the Moyer site to include a statement that if staff feels it necessary to add color to the tower. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Gentry, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Spencer, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Baker.***

***Mr. Spencer moved to amend the approval of the tower on the Orr site to include a statement that if staff feels it necessary to add color to the tower. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Gentry, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Spencer, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Baker.***

## **NRV SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES – PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

Mr. McKJarney presented a copy of the partnership agreement on the NRV Sustainable Communities for a \$1 million grant. This is basically a long-term planning tool including transportation, affordable housing, etc. It encourages existing neighborhoods to expand and improve versus urban sprawl. Mr. McKJarney said this document helps the county score higher when going for grants. Mr. Gentry asked what the \$1 million grant went toward. Mr. McKJarney said it was used for the development of this plan. Ms. Hobbs noted Giles County is not an initial member of the consortium. Mr. McKJarney said they were not. This is just to add us to it for scoring purposes. You can only become a member if all the other members approve it. Mr. McCoy asked if it cost anything or will it cost something in the near future. Mr. McKJarney said it did not and there was language here that says it will not. The main benefit is to have the document in place when applying for future grants.

***Mr. McCoy moved to approve the partnership agreement for the New River Valley Sustainable Communities. Second by Mr. Spencer. Approved 4-0-1. Voting YES: Mr. McCoy, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Gentry, Mr. Baker; Ms. Hobbs-abstained.***

## **MARVIN GAUTIER – WILDLIFE MANAGER AWARD**

Mr. Marvin Gautier from Pembroke was recently awarded the Wildlife Manager of the Year by the National Turkey Federation for his work as a turkey biologist. He has done a lot of good work in Giles County. The board asked Mr. McKJarney to send Mr. Gautier a letter of congratulations.

## **PAYMENT OF WARRANTS**

**Mr. McCoy moved to appropriate funds in the amount of \$430,528.05 for payment of warrants as presented. Second by Mr. Spencer. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Gentry, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Spencer, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Baker.**

## **APPOINTMENTS**

Ms. Hobbs asked that the board be supplied with an up-dated list of appointments and openings.

**Ms. Hobbs moved to reappoint Mr. Spencer to the IPR Board. Second by Mr. Gentry. Approved 4-0. Voting YES: Mr. Gentry, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker, Ms. Hobbs; Mr. Spencer-abstain.**

**Mr. Spencer moved to reappoint Mr. Gentry to the IPR Board. Second by Mr. Baker. Approved 4-0. Voting YES: Mr. Spencer, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Baker, Ms. Hobbs; Mr. Gentry-abstain.**

**Mr. Baker moved to reappoint Mr. John Mills, Ms. Nancy Rader, and Mr. Frank Cahoon to the IPR board, contingent upon their acceptance. Second by Mr. McCoy. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Gentry, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Spencer, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Baker.**

**Mr. Spencer moved to reappoint Susan Kidd to the New River Community Action local board. Second by Ms. Hobbs. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Gentry, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Spencer, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Baker.**

**Mr. Spencer moved to reappoint Mr. Paul "Chappy" Baker to the NRV Police Academy Board. Second by Mr. McCoy. Approved unanimously (5-0). Voting YES: Mr. Gentry, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Spencer, Ms. Hobbs, Mr. Baker.**

## **END OF YEAR MEETING**

Mr. McClarney announced that the recess meeting is scheduled for June 16<sup>th</sup>. The board will also need to hold a close out meeting for the fiscal year on the 30<sup>th</sup>. The board agreed to hold the close out meeting on Thursday, June 30<sup>th</sup> at 3 PM in the County Administration Building. The regular meeting on July 6<sup>th</sup> will be cancelled.

## **ADJOURN**

No further business was introduced. Mr. Gentry adjourned the meeting until the recess meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 16, 2011 at 6:30 PM in the Timberlake Building, General District Courtroom. They also scheduled a close out meeting for Thursday, June 30, 2011 at 3 PM in the County Administration Building.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

June 1, 2011

**AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING LOCAL LEVIES AND BUDGET  
FOR THE COUNTY OF GILES, VIRGINIA,  
FOR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2011, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2012  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 25 OF TITLE 15.2  
OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA, 1950, AS AMENDED**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors for Giles County, Virginia, is required by Subtitle III of Title 58.1 of the Code of Virginia, (1950), as amended, to fix local tax rates and levies for fiscal year July 1, 2011, to June 30, 2012, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board is required to adopt an ordinance regarding its budget for informative and fiscal planning purposes only, by Chapter 25, Title 15.2, of the Code of Virginia, (1950), as amended; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors for Giles County, Virginia, has advertised the said budget and levies in accordance with law;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF GILES COUNTY, VIRGINIA**, that the following ordinance is hereby adopted:

**SECTION I**

That the following budget is adopted for informative and fiscal planning purposes only for fiscal year commencing on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2011, and ending on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2012.

**SECTION II**

That no appropriations for salary totals shall be changed, nor appropriations transferred between departments unless authorized by the Giles County Board of Supervisors. Appropriations other than salaries within a department may be transferred therein for the purpose of equalization when necessary by approval of the Giles County Administrator.

**SECTION III**

In accordance with Section 58.1-3001 of the Virginia Code and other applicable Virginia Code Sections the following tax rates and levies are hereby adopted and fixed for Giles County, Virginia, for the current year, calendar year 2011.

| <b>Description of Tax and Rate for FY 11-12</b> |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| Real Estate                                     | 54¢ per \$100       |
| Motor Vehicles                                  | \$1.91 per \$100    |
| Personal Property                               | \$1.91 per \$100    |
| Machinery and Tools                             | \$1.01 per \$100    |
| Transport Vehicles over 10,000 lbs.             | \$1.01 per \$100    |
| Merchants Capital                               | 81¢ per \$100       |
| Public Service Levy                             | 54¢ per \$100       |
| Mobile Home Levy                                | 54¢ per \$100       |
| Motor Vehicle Decal Fee                         | \$15.00 per Vehicle |

The percentage of tax relief established for qualifying motor vehicles pursuant to Ordinance #8-16A shall be approximately 60 percent. This percentage of relief shall be subject to amendment as reasonably necessary to fully expend the funds received for personal property tax relief.

**SECTION IV**

That all unexpended budget/appropriations, except those for capital, construction and special projects or commitments which are incomplete as of June 30, 2011, and the same are hereby cancelled as of June 30, 2011 and the County Administrator is directed to transfer all budget/appropriations credit balances to unappropriated surplus and place to the credit of all budget/appropriations accounts which show an overdraft for the fiscal year 2010-11 an amount necessary from unappropriated surplus to balance same and to close all such accounts for the fiscal year 2010-11.

**SECTION V**

The County Treasurer is directed to transfer funds from the General Fund in the amount of the budgeted figure in the General Operating Budget to the General Capital Outlay Project Fund.

**SECTION VI**

The ordinance is adopted in accordance with the aforementioned provisions of the Code of Virginia.

**SECTION VII**

This ordinance shall become effective on and after July 1, 2011.

ADOPTED ON MAY \_\_\_\_, 2011

CHAIRPERSON: \_\_\_\_\_  
Eric Gentry, Chairman  
Giles County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chris McKjarney  
County Administrator