

VIRGINIA: County of Lee, to-wit:

At the Regular Meeting of the Lee County Board of Supervisors in the General District Courtroom of the Lee County Courthouse on July 16, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. thereof.

MEMBERS PRESENT: D.D. Leonard, Chairman
Josh Flanary
Mike Kidwell
Brian Shoemaker
Robert Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Dane Poe, County Administrator
Robby Wright, Assistant County Administrator
Angie Thomas, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS ABSENT: Stacy Munsey, County Attorney

INVOCATION

Dane Poe, County Administrator, led the invocation.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Brian Shoemaker led the Pledge to the Flag.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

REZONING REQUEST DEMAS YODER

The Lee County Board of Supervisors held a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the General District Courtroom of the Lee County Courthouse

located in Jonesville, Virginia to solicit input on a Rezoning request. Demas Yoder has applied to rezone property from A-1, Agricultural to M-2, General Industrial. The property consists of approximately 40.674 acres of land and is located on the South side of Route 679 (Beech Grove Rd) approximately 0.4 mile west of Route 833 (Longleaf Rd) in the Flatwoods Community, Tax Parcel #86-(A)-8C.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comment and advised that each speaker would be limited to a three-minute time-period for individuals, and five-minute time-period for a group.

Randy Hensley, Longleaf Road, stated he lives adjacent to Mr. Yoder's property and opposes the rezoning request. He stated the road is not feasible for the log trucks to use adding the road has two culverts where cattle used to be run through. He stated the road is going to cave in and with school starting he fears someone is going to get hurt. He asked the Board before making a decision to come out and see what he is talking about.

Mr. Kidwell stated he received a call concerning this matter today from one of the Planning Commission Board members and asked the Board to table this until further discussion can be done.

Mr. Poe stated Mr. Yoder has a portable sawmill that he moved from property to property and this is allowed in the A-1, Agricultural area but currently Mr. Yoder has the sawmill sitting on his property and would like to leave it there permanently. He stated permanent sawmills are not allowed in A-1 Agricultural Zone therefore he is requesting to rezone his property to M-2, General Industrial which would allow the permanent sawmills.

It was moved by Mr. Waddell to approve the request.

The motion died due to lack of a second.

There was no further public comment.

The Chairman closed the floor for public comment.

It was moved by Mr. Leonard, seconded by Mr. Flanary, to table this matter until further discussion can take place. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell

Mr. Leonard asked if the sawmill is still being used.

Mr. Poe stated he doesn't know but he will have the Zoning Administrator check on that.

Mr. Flanary asked Mr. Hensley if the sawmill is being used.

Mr. Hensley stated yes but not every day.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SECTION 15-2 OF THE CODE OF LEE
COUNTY REGARDING THE DUE DATE FOR TAXES ON REAL ESTATE**

The Lee County Board of Supervisors held a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the General District Courtroom of the Lee County Courthouse located in Jonesville, Virginia to solicit input on a proposed amendment to Section 15-2 of the Code of Lee County regarding the due date for taxes on real estate beginning in 2025. The proposed amendment would implement semi-annual payments for real estate taxes in 2025 with taxes being due in two equal installments. The first installment would be due on May 31, 2025 and the second installment would be due on October 31, 2025 and on May 31 and October 31 of each subsequent tax year.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comment and advised that each speaker would be limited to a three-minute time-period for individuals, and five-minute time-period for a group.

There was no public comment.

The Chairman closed the floor for public comment.

AMEND DUE DATE ON REAL ESTATE TAXES

It was moved by Mr. Shoemaker, seconded by Mr. Waddell, to approve the proposed amendment to Section 15-2 of the Code of Lee County regarding the due date for taxes on Real Estate. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell

PROPOSED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

The Lee County Board of Supervisors conducted a public hearing on Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., in the General District Courtroom of the Lee County Courthouse, Jonesville, to solicit public input on a proposed Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) proposal to be submitted to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development for the Western Lee Sewer Phase I-A project. The proposed project will involve the installation of wastewater collection and treatment infrastructure in the western portion of Lee County.

Jimmy Adkins, Director of Planning at LENOWISCO Planning District Commission, gave an update on the current Lee County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Open Submission Regional Water Wastewater Project Funding Application for the Western Lee Sewer Phase 1A. He stated this is the second of two required public hearings of the CDBG as required by the Department of Housing and Community Development. He stated local stake holders led by the County and PSA have been working on this project since 2013 with the US Army Core of Engineers. He added the current scope of the work includes about 32.4 miles of new waste water collection treatment lines and a new 300,000 gallon pr day wastewater treatment plant. With the current design they are looking at 750 possible future connections. The current project request for this application is \$3 million which is the administrative cap that's eligible for this type of regional project. He stated additional funding sources are being sought to match the previous awards and future allocations with an overall total project cost of non-

construction and construction at \$40million. He stated this project does not count against the CBDG cap.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comment and advised that each speaker would be limited to a three-minute time-period for individuals, and five-minute time-period for a group.

There was no public comment.

The Chairman closed the floor for public comment.

The Chairman amended the agenda to take up Lee County Public Schools.

LEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD REQUEST FOR RE-APPROPRIATIONS

Brian Dean, Lee County Schools Superintendant, is requesting re-appropriation of state funds to carry over to FY2025 in the amount of \$4,089,855.69 and due to the amount he believes it will require a public hearing. He stated it is a combination of the Flexible Funding Supplement which is the all in tutoring, Infrastructure and Operation Funds and State Direct Aid.

Mr. Poe stated anything over \$500,000 requires a public hearing prior to approval.

Mr. Dean stated the handout has a breakdown of how much each category has and the code section from the budget bill where the State sets the carry-over.

Mr. Leonard asked if the Board has any questions.

Mr. Kidwell asked about the inclusion for tutoring.

Mr. Dean stated it's the All-In Tutoring Funds the State gave during FY24 to be used during FY24-26.

Mr. Kidwell asked if it was for summer school tutoring or year around.

Mr. Dean stated either.

Mr. Kidwell asked how much tutoring paid.

Mr. Dean stated \$50 per hour.

Mr. Kidwell asked if that was \$50 per hour per kid.

Mr. Dean stated \$50 per hour for 6 hours up to 5 kids.

Mr. Kidwell stated \$250 per hour for 5 kids.

Mr. Dean stated correct.

Mr. Waddell asked if transportation is furnished.

Mr. Dean stated no this was during the summer and added the tutoring through the school year is usually done before or after school and occasionally during a resource period.

Mr. Kidwell asked if tutoring was offered to everyone.

Mr. Dean stated yes and every employee that was interested in tutoring.

Mr. Kidwell asked if the tutoring is taking place in schools or on playgrounds.

Mr. Dean stated the library and schools are used however it was left up to the parents and individual doing the tutoring to work it out with their schedules. He added they have received some positive feedback from parents.

Mr. Kidwell asked if this was from the \$1.4million.

Mr. Dean stated the \$1.4million is the All-In Flexible Funding that goes through FY2026.

Mr. Kidwell asked if the total of \$4million goes in the General Fund.

Mr. Dean stated yes.

Mr. Kidwell asked if the Class Reduction K-12 can be funded out of the \$4million.

Mr. Dean stated they are planning on funding everything in place and the 3% employee raises with the carry-over funds and funding received this year.

Mr. Kidwell stated the total funding from the County for the school system is \$6.9million and asked if the Required Local Match has ever been that high before.

Mr. Dean stated no.

Mr. Kidwell stated \$1.4million more than last year.

Mr. Dean stated he believes that is correct and added as the state funding goes up the localities portion goes up.

Mr. Kidwell stated the highest in the history of the County.

Mr. Dean stated as far as he knows yes and added he believes this is the first time the school system requested money and did not receive it.

Mr. Kidwell asked if the County matched everything that was asked for and increased the Real Estate Tax to cover it the tax-rate would increase to \$1.16 per \$100.

Mr. Poe stated in order to balance the budget on the tax-rate yes.

Mr. Dean asked how much the tax-rate would have to increase to cover the \$580,000.

Mr. Leonard stated somewhere around \$.06.

Mr. Dean stated \$.80 instead of the approved \$.74.

Mr. Kidwell stated the total original request was what he was referring to.

Mr. Poe stated in order to fully fund everything the tax-rate would need to be increased to \$1.16.

Mr. Poe gave a detailed breakdown of the County's Budget. He stated it actually shows a budgeted surplus of over \$1.8million but \$1.5million of that was to balance the budget from the remaining ARPA funds. He stated additionally the Ordinance change to go to split- billing is for a one-time cash windfall collecting 150% of the tax base in one fiscal year. He stated if nothing else changes the Board will be facing a minimum of \$3.3million deficit for FY2025-26. He added more work will need to be done for the next 2-4 years.

Mr. Dean stated the total increase is not solely due to the school system increase other departments budgets increased also.

Mr. Poe stated the additional \$1.4million is roughly \$.14 of the tax-rate increase and the Board didn't go that high.

Mr. Dean stated a lot of budgets went up this year.

Mr. Kidwell stated several line items were cut.

Mr. Dean asked if DSS budget went up.

Mr. Poe stated yes.

Mr. Kidwell stated DSS asked for over \$600,000 last Board meeting but the fact of the matter is the County doesn't have the money.

Mr. Leonard stated that Mr. Dean was present at almost every budget meeting and the Board went through the budget thoroughly. He stated one of the School Board members made a misleading statement on social media that the Board cut the school system \$580,000 but that actually is not a cut the Board just chose not to match the \$580,000. Also in the post she included all the negatives and threw everyone on the Board under the bus but failed to include that the school system actually received \$57,000,000 last year and will receive \$65,000,000 not counting the \$4.1million carry-over. He stated this was a very misleading and unprofessional thing to do and that School Board member should make a public apology for the misleading statement.

Mr. Dean stated while the Board didn't cut the funds he asked if this is the first time the school system requested a match for a program that they didn't receive it.

Mr. Poe stated they have requested additional above the local minimum but most years the Board has always provided the minimum.

Mr. Dean stated you have the local required effort and the local required match for the programs the Board did the effort but he is asking about the match. He stated they have always asked for A3 Reduction and normally receive those.

Mr. Poe stated typically yes.

Mr. Leonard stated no one is happy to turn down money if you can get extra money. He added we are all in this together and he doesn't think anyone on the Board

would have any intentions to hurt a child with their education. He stated if the Board could find a way to eat this \$580,000 he is ok with getting all the money we can get for our school system. He stated our Regional Jail has State Inmates that the County has to pay for on a daily basis and if we can get together without getting on social media and tearing people down then maybe we can get some of our State Representatives to dig in and find the money to cover this. He added this year alone with the number of inmates we have in the system it would have easily covered the \$580,000.

Mr. Poe stated it won't quite cover it and added the state will provide \$15 a day this year and that's up from \$12 a day. He stated this has been an ongoing issue for 12 or more years. It used to be any inmate sentenced to more than one year was considered state responsible and subject to be moved from local jails to State Prisons. Around 15 years ago the General Assembly changed the procedure and said anyone over 2 years was state responsible and anyone under that was reverted back to the local jails. The total per diem to house inmates is between \$52 and \$53 a day there for the County is losing around \$37 a day. He added at 30 inmates per day that would come close to the \$580,000 per year.

Mr. Leonard stated this is an example of things the Counties are facing.

Mr. Dean stated the school system is competing with Scott County and Wise County and when we are starting out at \$41,000 per year and they are starting out at \$45,000 per year we are losing people.

Mr. Leonard stated the Sheriff's Office is competing with Scott and Wise County also and we don't subsidize them because we can't do it.

The Chairman allowed Brandy Cole to speak.

Brandy Cole, Dryden, stated she is a Lee High Graduate and she is proud to have received her foundation of education from Lee County Public School System. She is disheartened due to recent events and actions of some. She stated a surplus is the goal and asked if that wasn't what the Board is trying to do. She understands inflation, maintaining older buildings and the need to be economically competitive with surrounding areas. She

stated she sees how the community is hurting due to poor economic growth and that our teachers are the lowest paid in Southwest Virginia. There hasn't been any work done to change the direction of our Counties Economy in a positive manner. Some choices have hurt our County in the past this current one is detrimental. She stated if you aren't sitting in your seat for the right reason, have personal gain, or don't want better opportunities, have no skin in the game, or are out of Lee County more than in it then maybe it's time to do what a civil servant is truly there to do step away from the table and let others push for progress and growth.

**PUBLIC HEARING RE-APPROPRIATION OF STATE FUNDS FY2024
FOR LEE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM**

It was the consensus of the Board to advertise for a Public Hearing for re-appropriation of State Funds from FY2024 for the Lee County School System.

Mr. Kidwell stated he watched the School Board Meeting and Mr. Dean mentioned the school system received more state and local funds this year than any previous year. He added something was mentioned about Plan B he asked what Plan B was.

Mr. Dean stated he didn't want to speak for the Board but what they were referring to was next year they won't receive Covid money and probably won't have as much carry-over money and if they don't receive the full requested funding they would have to look at every option including possible closing of schools.

Mr. Kidwell stated to set the record straight the schools are getting more money than ever and carrying over \$4million and talking about closing schools.

Mr. Dean stated if they don't receive the requested funds next year and don't have as much as they have this year they would have to look at that. He asked if that makes since.

Mr. Kidwell stated no.

Mr. Dean stated there is \$4million of Covid funding and \$4million of carry-over that won't be there next year.

Mr. Kidwell stated in competing with Wise County he asked if they pay \$250 per hour for tutoring.

Mr. Dean stated he doesn't know what Wise County pays but he can find out.

Mr. Leonard stated he knows Mr. Dean didn't request the additional \$8million that was handed to the schools.

Mr. Dean stated they didn't request the \$12milliom of Covid funds that was handed but didn't turn it away. He stated they are not wasting the money and added after years of neglect to the school buildings they can't be fixed over night and it costs money. He stated he knows it is a lot of money.

Mr. Kidwell stated it is a lot of money when you don't have it to give and he can't set up there with a clear conscience and put the County in debt and he's not going to.

Mr. Leonard stated if all this money hadn't been given from the state this conversation wouldn't be taken place.

Mr. Dean stated he didn't ask for all this money.

Mr. Leonard stated the Board has taken a lot of blame that they have no control over and the school system was blessed with a pretty good gift this year and should be thankful and not be greedy. There are other citizens in the County that don't work in the school system.

Mr. Kidwell stated they are still working to get the County employees a raise and haven't been able to do that.

Mr. Leonard stated if someone in the County wants to donate the money he would be glad to hand it to the school system.

Brandy Cole spoke from the bench and asked what the Board of Supervisors job was.

Mr. Leonard stated someone has to manage the funds that come through the County.

Mr. Kidwell stated they set the tax-rates and added the County doesn't make money just like the school system doesn't.

Mr. Waddell stated we aren't here for the pay.

Ms. Cole asked who is responsible for bringing businesses into the County.

Mr. Kidwell stated the EDA Board.

There was a discussion about bringing businesses into the County.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Written departmental reports for Building Inspector, E-911, Extension Office, Litter Control and Works Program were included in the packet.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report for the month of July 2024 was submitted as follows:

Revenues	\$ 9,592,885.79
Expenditures	\$13,269,794.91
General Fund	\$ 3,678,938.00
Total Assets and Liabilities	\$10,446,578.89

PUBLIC EXPRESSION

The Chairman opened the floor for public comment and advised that each speaker would be limited to a three-minute time-period for individuals, and five-minute time-period for a group.

There was no public comment.

The Chairman closed the floor for public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Shoemaker, seconded by Mr. Flanary, to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2024 Recessed Meeting, June 6, 2024 Recessed Meeting, June 18, Public Hearing with VDOT and June 18, 2024 Regular Meeting. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell

Prior to the second there was a commit from the bench, Roberta Thacker stated Wise County Schools pay \$28 per hour regardless of the number of students for tutoring.

PAYROLL

The County Administrator reports that payroll warrants have been issued.

APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENTS

It was moved by Mr. Leonard, seconded by Mr. Flanary, to approve the disbursements for the month of July in the amount of \$834,339.35. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell

OLD BUSINESS

TRANSFER STATION WELDING REPAIR BIDS

Mr. Poe stated this matter was tabled at the June meeting.

There was a brief discussion about this matter.

It was consensus of the Board to have Mr. Poe check with the Transfer Station Superintendant and see if he can attend the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

BUILDING CODE APPEALS

It was moved by Mr. Leonard, seconded by Mr. Kidwell, to table this appointment. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

It was moved by Mr. Leonard, seconded by Mr. Shoemaker, to re-appoint Joyce Williams to the five-year term on the Board of Zoning Appeals. Ms. William's term will expire on July 31, 2029. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

It was moved by Mr. Leonard, seconded by Mr. Flanary, to re-appoint Greg Edwards to the four-year term on the Economic Development Board. Mr. Edward's term will expire on July 31, 2028. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

It was moved by Mr. Flanary, seconded by Mr. Kidwell, to table this appointment. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell

LONESOME PINE OFFICE ON YOUTH

It was moved by Mr. Leonard, seconded by Mr. Shoemaker, to table these appointments. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell

UPPER TENNESSEE RIVER ROUND TABLE

It was moved by Mr. Shoemaker, seconded by Mr. Leonard, to table this appointment. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell

WESTERN LEE SEWER CDBG APPLICATION REQUEST

It was moved by Mr. Kidwell, seconded by Mr. Leonard, to approve the following Resolution. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
APPLICATION WESTERN LEE SEWER PHASE 1-A PROJECT
24-008**

WHEREAS, the County of Lee, Virginia, wishes to apply for up to \$3,500,000 in Virginia Community Development Block Grant (VCDBG) Regional Water/Wastewater Fund (RW/WWF) funding for the "Western Lee Sewer Phase I-A" project; and

WHEREAS, any additional funding secured will be noted within the application to provide any balance above the anticipated total project cost of \$35,000,000; and

WHEREAS, citizen participation requirements have been met through two duly advertised public hearings; and

WHEREAS, the project will meet the VCDBG National Objective of providing benefit to low- or moderate-income (LMI) persons by providing improved public water service to the County's existing customer base, documented to be in excess of the required 51 percent LMI.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Lee County, Virginia, that the County Administrator of Lee County is hereby authorized to sign and submit any and all appropriate documents relevant to this Virginia Community Development Block Grant proposal.

Prior to the vote there was a discussion about the Western Lee Sewer Phase 1-A Project.

**MATTHEW TUMLIN
UPDATE ON REASSESSMENTS**

Matthew Tumlin gave an update on the County Reassessments and stated currently they are estimating a 58% increase in Personal Property value based on sales study and that is what the value of property is verses our assessments. He stated prices are going up and they are expecting to complete the surveys around the first week of September. He stated his job is to equally appraise everyone's property.

Mr. Kidwell asked when Mr. Tumlin was hired.

Mr. Poe stated September or October of 2023.

There was a discussion about the previous company's hired to do the reassessment.

AIRPORT ELECTRICAL REHAB PROJECT PAY REQUEST NO.1

Mr. Poe stated Appalachian Foothills Contracting, Inc. has requested the first payment in the amount of \$366,673.38 for work completed through June 24, 2024 on the Airfield Electrical Rehabilitation project at the airport. He stated the engineer has reviewed the pay request and recommends payment be approved and he concurs. He advised the project is 98% funded by the Federal Aviation Administration and the Virginia Department of Aviation.

It was moved by Mr. Leonard, seconded by Mr. Flanary, to approve the payment request from Appalachian Foothills Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$366,673.38. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell

VDOT SMARTSCALE APPLICATION

Mr. Poe stated thanks to Mr. Adkins and Mr. Rasnic at LENOWISCO we have two projects in the system for Smart Scale submission they will be finalized the first of August. One project is for an additional 1500 feet of truck climbing lane on Eastbound 58 on Powell Mountain as you head toward Duffield out of Stickleyville, this will add an additional 1500 feet to the existing 2000 feet already there. Also there was a project submitted in Pennington Gap last year at that time for a round-a-bout at the hospital and a left turn lane. The round-a-bout has been removed but will have a median to try to slow traffic. The project has been modified with the eastern portion of that being deleted due to a business acquisition required that drove the cost way up. He stated the Dollar Tree and Family Dollar went in at that intersection problems are anticipated but they don't exist now. There will be a left turn lane from North Combs Road out to Calvary Street and that should relieve some of the rear end collisions. He stated a Resolution of Support will be needed to submit with the application.

It was moved by Mr. Leonard, seconded by Mr. Flanary, to approve the following Resolution. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR LEE COUNTY SMART SCALE PROJECT SUBMISSIONS 24-009

WHEREAS, Lee County has prepared and submitted two projects into the Smart Scale Six Year Primary Road Improvement Program for the current year; and

WHEREAS, the Smart Scale projects identified are the Route 58 Truck Climbing Lane Phase III project and the Alternate US 58 at N Combs Road Corridor Improvements project; and

WHEREAS, the Route 58 Truck Climbing Lane Phase III project scope currently consists of constructing approximately 1,500ft of a truck climbing lane on eastbound Route 58. Eastern project limits will tie in at the end of the completed Phase II truck climbing lane approximately 2,800ft west of the Scott County/Lee County line (Powell Mountain). Western end of the project will terminate approximately 1,000ft east of Big Bend Drive. Proposed truck climbing lane will consist of a 12ft travel lane and an 8ft paved shoulder over 1,500ft with approximately 1,500ft of guardrail; and

WHEREAS, the ALT US 58 at N Combs Road Corridor Improvements project scope currently consists of constructing approximately 3000' of new 5' sidewalk with 2 mid-block high- vis crossings on ALTUS 58; 1 signalized crossing at N Combs Rd

intersection & 1 unsignalized crossing at Sunoco. 1 unsignalized high-vis crossing at Calvary St. Install approximately 365' landscaped median on ALTUS 58 at intersection of N Combs Rd. Modify existing RTL on ALTUS 58 to N Combs Rd to 100'S/100'T. Construct TWLTL on ALTUS 58 approximately 350' west of the Sunoco mid-block crossing to approximately 275' east of Sunoco mid-block crossing; and

WHEREAS, each of these projects is considered to be vital to improving and enhancing the safety of the transportation system in Lee County; and

WHEREAS, the description of the scope is its current iteration, with the understanding of the potential for minor modifications or adjustments possible up to application submission, as well as the acknowledgement of any significant changes that alters the project's primary benefits will include a new resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Supervisors has determined that each of these projects meet the established guidelines for submission;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Lee County Board of Supervisors hereby acknowledges and affirms its full support for these projects for the FY2026 Six Year Improvement Program Cycle;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this Board does encourage and request the Commonwealth Transportation Board and Virginia Department of Transportation to fund the submitted projects and does support any and all such efforts.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY

None.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Poe stated the New Holland Tractor and scraper blade will be listed for Surplus sale if no objections from the Board along with some used electrical equipment at the airport he will be checking with the state about selling.

Mr. Wright stated Joe Hobbs went to the Spearhead Trails meeting with him and expressed interest in that organization. He stated due to his position changing soon it may be good to appoint Mr. Hobbs as the voting member and he will remain on the Board.

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL RECREATION AUTHORITY

It was moved by Mr. Leonard, seconded by Mr. Shoemaker, to appoint Joe Hobbs to the unfulfilled term on the Southwest Regional Recreation Authority as the voting member. Mr. Hobbs' term will expire on June 30, 2026. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BOARD

Mr. Kidwell thanked the Board for working together on the budget. He stated the Board spent countless hours looking at numbers and it's going to be a tough four years. He added its going to be ok and he appreciates the Board working with common sense for the tax payer's interest.

REQUEST FOR CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Waddell stated that he has a request for closed session under personnel.

CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Mr. Shoemaker, seconded by Mr. Flanary, to enter Closed Session pursuant to Code Section 2.2-3711 A.1. Discussion, consideration or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining or resignation of specific public officers, appointees or employees of any public body. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell

It was moved by Mr. Shoemaker, seconded by Mr. Kidwell, to exit Closed Session. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell

CERTIFICATE OF CLOSED SESSION

It was unanimously agreed as follows.

WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Supervisors has convened a Closed Meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provision of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia requires a Certification by this Lee County Board of Supervisors that such Closed Meeting was conducted within Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lee County Board of Supervisors hereby certified that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from Closed Meeting in 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 Lee County Board of Supervisors.

SUNDAY HOURS AT CONVENIENCE CENTERS

It was moved by Mr. Waddell, seconded by Mr. Shoemaker, to open Convenience Centers from 1:00pm-5:00pm on Sunday's with Jasper remaining closed and Convenience Center workers will be off on Sunday's. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell

Mr. Flanary stated he would like District 4 sites open all day on Sunday's.

Mr. Collingsworth stated the site workers said on Monday none of the dumpsters in the County were running over.

There was a discussion about the convenience centers hours on Sunday's.

Mr. Flanary asked about closing the sites on Wednesday's.

Mr. Collingsworth stated they can adjust the hours to make it work.

TRANSFER STATION WELDING REPAIR BIDS

Mr. Collingsworth gave handouts and explained the welding repairs needed at the Transfer Station.

There was a discussion about the repairs.

It was consensus of the Board to have the 3 bidders revise their bids.

Mr. Collingsworth stated the new contractor is working out great.

TRANSFER STATION WELDING REPAIR BIDS

It was moved by Mr. Flanary, seconded by Mr. Kidwell, to revise the motion to ½ inch plate top to bottom with 1"x12" at the base. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell

MEETING WITH DSS REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Mr. Poe recommended the Board take advantage of the DSS Regional Director's offer to meet and discuss the issues with DSS and Children's Services Act (CSA). He stated the issue needs to be resolved and the CSA would have more ramifications with state actions than DSS. He advised if the bills they have incurred already are not paid and services are cancelled because vendors won't provide services and they are court ordered the State will intervene and they have powers to withhold funding. He stated the problem isn't going away quickly.

Mr. Kidwell stated DSS has overspent their budget by over \$200,000.

There was a discussion about the DSS and CSA and meeting with the DSS Regional Director.

Mr. Poe stated he will contact the DSS Regional Director and get some dates and times he can meet with the Board.

AT&T RIBBON CUTTING AT ROBBINS CHAPEL

Mr. Leonard stated there is a ribbon cutting at Robbins Chapel concerning the AT&T MBO's.

Mr. Poe stated Mr. Leonard is making the opening remarks and giving an overview of the project.

DISCONTINUE PAYING FOR STATE RESPONSIBLE INMATES

It was moved by Mr. Shoemaker, seconded by Mr. Flanary, for the County to suspend payment for State responsible inmates on a quarterly basis and use the prior quarter's numbers to reduce the next quarter's payment and send the bill to the Department of Corrections. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell

Prior to the vote there was a discussion.

It was moved by Mr. Shoemaker, seconded by Mr. Kidwell, to adjourn. Upon the question being put the vote was as follows.

VOTING AYE: Mr. Flanary, Mr. Kidwell, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Shoemaker, Mr. Waddell