

**VIRGINIA:** AT AN EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE TAZEWell COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HELD MARCH 24, 2020 AT THREE O'CLOCK P.M. IN THE TAZEWell COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 197 MAIN STREET, TAZEWell VIRGINIA 24651

**PRESENT:** CHARLES A. STACY, CHAIRMAN  
TOM A. LESTER, JR., VICE CHAIRMAN (*present by phone*)  
TRAVIS HACKWORTH, MEMBER (*present by phone*)  
MARGARET ASBURY, MEMBER (*present by phone*)  
D. MICHAEL HYMES, MEMBER (*present by phone*)  
C. ERIC YOUNG, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
CHASE D. COLLINS, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
DAVE WHITE, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS  
BARRY BROOKS, DIRECTOR OF FIRE AND EMS OPERATIONS  
WHITNEY PARSONS, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT  
BRIAN HIEATT, SHERIFF  
HAROLD HEATLEY, MAJOR  
MEMBERS OF THE PRESS: JIM TALBERT, CLINCH VALLEY NEWS/RICHLANDS NEWS PRESS; WARREN HINKLE, THE VOICE NEWSPAPER; CHARLIE BOOTHE, BLUEFIELD DAILY TELEGRAPH (*present by phone*)

**ABSENT:** NONE

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Chairman, Charles Stacy called the emergency meeting to order and presided, with Supervisors Hymes, Hackworth, Lester, and Asbury participating by phone.

Supervisor Lester gave the invocation followed by The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag led by Chairman Stacy.

### **SUPERVISORS ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE VIA PHONE DUE TO CORONAVIRUS CONCERNS**

Upon motion of Supervisor Hymes, seconded by Supervisor Lester and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby finds that the Governor of Virginia has declared a State of Emergency in accordance with Section 44-146.17 in the Code of Virginia, and finds that as determined by the Attorney General of Virginia on March 20, 2020 and is entered as Executive Order on March 23, 2020 the nature of the declared emergency makes it impracticable and unsafe to ensemble a quorum in a single location, and further finds that the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors members will discuss the three (3) items on the emergency meeting which solely and exclusively pertains to Covid-19.

This meeting was called in response to the Governor's order issued on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020, pertaining to his decision to discourage public gatherings more so than he already had and to close nonessential businesses. In response the County Administrator stated he would close the Administration Building to in-person visitors other than County personnel until April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020. He stated he would write a press release later that day and post the office phone number on the doors so the public would be able to contact the County with any concerns or business. Secondly, he closed Cavitt's Creek office and the Miner's Park making cabin, boat, kayaking, and picnic rentals unavailable until April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020. Supervisor Hymes clarified this just meant that the County was closing down the facilities at the parks and still allowing people to do activities like hiking or fishing as long as they keep their social distance. Thirdly, Mr. Young discussed shift splitting of his employees to correspond with social distancing recommendations from VDH.

There was much discussion regarding Spearhead Trails and whether it needed to be closed to the public like the Hatfield and McCoy Trails. The County Attorney expressed concern stating that the Governor's order prohibited all gatherings of ten (10) or more persons and it does apply to SRRA. The Board had concerns but decided to leave this decision up to the owners of Spearhead since it is not the County's system.

The County Administrator passed out a flier addressing Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Executive Order Fifty-Three. Mr. Young directed the Board and public to get all up-to-date information from the VDH website at: <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/> or the FEMA website at <https://www.fema.gov/coronavirus>. The Board decided they would meet via conference call on Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 1:00 PM to provide more updates regarding COVID-19.

Mr. Collins asked that the record reflect that pursuant to Section 2.2-3708.2 (A) 3, the emergency meeting regarding COVID-19 was held by telephonic communication as electronic communications means to discuss subjects listed on the Notice of Emergency Meeting.

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## ADJOURN

Now, there being no further business to be transacted and upon motion of Supervisor Hymes, seconded by Supervisor Hackworth and adopted by a vote of 5 to 0, with all members present and voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby adjourns this meeting until March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 1:00 PM.

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Charles A. Stacy, Chair

By: WP

Adjourn time: 3:49 p.m.