

VIRGINIA: AT THE RECESSED MEETING OF THE TAZEWELL COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HELD APRIL 21, 2026 AT SIX O'CLOCK P.M. IN THE TAZEWELL COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 197 MAIN STREET, TAZEWELL, VIRGINIA 24651

PRESENT: CHUCK PRESLEY, CHAIRMAN
SHANNA PLASTER, VICE-CHAIRPERSON
CURTIS BREEDING, MEMBER
JOHN RHUDY, MEMBER
KYLE CRUEY, MEMBER
C. ERIC YOUNG, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
AARON M. GILLESPIE, COUNTY ATTORNEY
STEPHANIE RUSSELL, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
MEMBERS OF THE PRESS:
JIM TALBERT, RICHLANDS NEWS PRESS

ABSENT: NONE

MINUTES

Chairman, Chuck Presley, reconvened the meeting from April 7, 2026, calling it to order and presided over the meeting.

The Chairman welcomed those in attendance and citizens who were participating by conference call. Citizens were able to call in and participate in the meeting by calling (425) 436-6388 and entering the access code 836650.

AGENDA

Chairman Presley then turned the meeting over to County Administrator Eric Young.

Administrator Eric Young explained, since this is a recessed meeting, the revised agenda from our April 7th meeting will be used. Mr. Young further explained that Executive Assistant, Stephanie Russell, has highlighted the individual items carried over from the last meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCIAL/COUNTY PROJECTS UPDATE

Bottom Road Flood Study grant match

County Administrator Eric Young reminded the Board that the County was awarded an \$800,000 grant to design a remedy for flooding in Doran Bottom. Mr. Young stated that the grant requires a 10% match and the County would be required to contribute \$80,000. However, he said we do have until the end of May to notify the Department of Conservation and Recreation whether we want to accept that grant. Administrator Young advised the Board that the engineers believe the cost of actually building the design would be somewhere around \$10 million dollars. Mr. Young clarified, we may be able to get a grant to build the design, but the question remains if the Board wants to put up the \$80,000 for a project, we may never complete. Mr. Young noted there were millions in resiliency projects/grants due to Helene and the President's Day flood which the County did not qualify for since we did not have the designs already in place.

Supervisor Plaster inquired whether fixing the flooding in Doran Bottom would fix the flooding in Richlands? Administrator Young responded, he did not think it would help flooding upstream.

Supervisor Plaster mentioned that fixing the flood problem would remove Raven Elementary and all of the neighboring properties out of the flood zone. Supervisor Cruey agreed, citing the historic landmark Raven Assembly of God would be taken out of the flood zone as well.

County Administrator Eric Young advised the Board that since the project would take approximately two (2) years to complete; the \$80,000 could be divided, lessening the amount to \$40,000 each year.

Supervisor Breeding interjected that at \$40,000 per year, he felt the project would be well worth it. Anytime the citizens can be saved from that kind of heart ache and trouble, I think we should, Supervisor Breeding stated.

Supervisor Cruey agreed; stating even though the project is estimated at \$10 million, over the long term we would end up saving due to property damage, emergency responses and using state resources.

Administrator Young inserted that currently in the proposed budget, there is an assumption that the County is going to receive a \$1 million subsidiary from the State to assist in paying our school number. The proposal from the House is \$2 million, by splitting the difference finance came up with a matrix listing possible cuts and/or additional expenditures depending on the amount received, Mr. Young stated.

Discussions commenced between Board members with the consensus, if the full \$2 million is received then we should consider funding this project. The Board decided since a decision was not needed until the end of May, this matter should be deferred to the May 5, 2026 meeting.

Consider approving lease of Sheriff's Office Interceptors FY26 (ratify email poll)

Administrator Eric Young stated he had previously polled the Board, in order to execute a lease agreement for the Sheriff's Office totaling \$363,000.00 for fourteen (14) Interceptors. The Board; with the exception of Supervisors Rhudy and Cruey due to a potential conflict, voted and approved the lease three to zero (3/0).

Upon motion of Supervisor Plaster seconded by Supervisor Breeding and adopted by a vote of 3 to 0 to 2, with all members present and Supervisors Cruey and Rhudy abstaining and all others voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby ratifies the email poll approving the lease agreement for the Sheriff's Office for fourteen (14) Interceptors totaling \$363,000.00.

Consider approving categorical transfers of school funds

Mr. Young advised the Board that the Tazewell County School Board requested a transfer of their funds from debt service category to capital projects fund; he reminded the board, this is the School Board's money they are just requesting to move the funds from one account to another account. Mr. Young continued that the transfer of funds will cover the attached invoices found in your agenda packet totaling \$202,087.06, to cover IT services, an excavator, tables and chairs for the cafeteria, classroom desks/chairs for Tazewell Middle School and testing lab desks for Richlands Middle School.

Upon motion of Supervisor Plaster, seconded by Supervisor Rhudy 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 approves transferring \$202,087.06 from the Tazewell County School Board's debt service category to their capital projects fund to cover IT services, an excavator, tables and chairs for the cafeteria, classroom desks/chairs for Tazewell Middle School and testing lab desks for Richlands Middle School.

Consider buying cargo van for Commonwealth Attorney's work release program

County Administrator Eric Young explained that the Commonwealth Attorney's Office has a work release program for non-violent incarcerated individuals who are close to being released. Mr. Young further explained that these inmates perform work for the County; such as collecting trash at the lake, they mulch, help clean up the animal shelter, etc. Mr. Young petitioned the Board for up to \$50,000 from contingency to purchase a cargo van, since the previous ten (10) year old bus we had been using for this program is no longer working.

Upon motion of Supervisor Rhudy seconded by Supervisor Cruvey and adopted by a vote of 4 to 0 to 1, with all members present and Supervisor Plaster abstaining and all others voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby approves transferring up to \$50,000 from contingency in order to purchase a cargo van for the Commonwealth Attorney's work release program.

Victory Life International Center's second draw request - \$50,892

Administrator Young directed the Board's attention to a handout provided by Victory Life International Center, wherein they are requesting a second draw in the amount of \$50,892 on their Opioid Abuse Abatement Grant.

Supervisor Plaster notified the Board that the owner of Victory Life International Center, Regina Roberts, had reached out to her explaining that this draw would be an advance of funds in order to purchase washer and dryer units.

Mr. Young informed the Board that Victory Life International Center had been approved for a grant under the Opioid Abuse and Abatement Fund, for a facility to house and provide therapy for individuals which are recovering from opioid addiction. Mr. Young continued that the award is on a draw basis, which means they pay for the work up front and the grant reimburses them once receipts are provided. They were awarded a total of \$132,000; which included an initial payment of \$33,000 (25% of the grant) to cover invoices and receipts for onsite upgrades to the electrical and sewer (totaling \$30,000). Mr. Young stated, furthermore Ms. Roberts has already submitted an advance payment request for \$25,000 to cover electrical work, that request is currently pending payment. Mr. Young deciphered from Mrs. Roberts' letter that they are having trouble paying for all of the services upfront and have requested an advance payment totaling \$50,892.00, which includes \$17,000 (plumbing/sewer invoice), \$30,392 (eight (8) commercial washer/dryer combos) and \$3,500 (engineering/architectural project fees). The terms of the grant agreement does not authorize Mr. Young to advance payments without Board approval, Mr. Young said.

Upon motion of Supervisor Plaster, seconded by Supervisor Cruvey and adopted by a vote of 4 to 1 with Supervisor Breeding voting against and all others voting in favor thereof, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes a second draw in the amount of \$50,892.00, for Victory Life International Center.

Appointments

Planning Commission

Upon motion of Supervisor Cruvey, seconded by Supervisor Rhudy 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 moves to appoint Harry Cundiff to the Planning Commission.

Clinch Valley Community Action

The Chairman directed that this matter be deferred to the May 5, 2026 meeting.

Animal Shelter

The Chairman directed that this matter be deferred to the May 5, 2026 meeting.

Emergency Services Committee

Upon motion of Supervisor Cruey, seconded by Supervisor Breeding 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 moves to appoint Darryl Thomas to the Emergency Services Committee.

Recreation and Parks Facility Authority

County Administrator Eric Young clarified for the Board that under the Recreation and Parks Facility Authority's (RDA) bylaws only one (1) Supervisor can serve on the board; since Supervisor Cruey was appointed to replace Suzanne Brinegar at the April 7th meeting, with Supervisor Breeding already serving on the RDA, the vote needs to be rescinded and Supervisor Cruey replaced, Mr. Young suggested.

The Chairman directed that this matter be deferred to the May 5, 2026 meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Kid's Fish Day

Administrator Young notified the Board that the Kid's Fish Day at Cavitt's Creek Park is coming up and requested \$5,000 from contingency to pay for the event.

Upon motion of Supervisor Cruey, seconded by Supervisor Plaster 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 approves transferring \$5,000 from contingency to pay for Kid's Fish Day at Cavitt's Creek Park.

Veteran's Flag Memorial

Mr. Young advised that he and David White inspected the Veteran's Monument outside the Courthouse; recalling that Tazewell's Rotary Club previously requested the installation of flagpoles to showcase the flags identifying each branch of the military, along with minimal landscaping (shrubs/trees/greenery). The Board previously approved \$2,500 towards the project; but based upon Mr. White's calculations in order to extend the concrete pad, build up the ground and put in the landscaping, we are going to need an additional \$2,500.

Upon motion of Supervisor Cruey, seconded by Supervisor Plaster 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 approves transferring \$2,500 from contingency to cover costs for the Veteran's Flag Memorial.

Capital Waste Services

Administrator Young informed the Board that the insurance carrier for Capital Waste Services will no longer insure them for burning brush at the landfill and since it is not specifically in their contract, they are no longer willing to conduct the burnings. Mr. Young said he has spoken to Barry Brooks, Director of Fire and Rescue, and Mr. Brooks believes he can schedule the volunteer fire departments to conduct the controlled burns twice a month. I would like to pay a monthly stipend of \$2,000, to the volunteer firefighters for undertaking the additional responsibility, Mr. Young requested.

Upon motion of Supervisor Cruey, seconded by Supervisor Plaster 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 approves paying a \$2,000 stipend per month to the volunteer firefighters who conduct the bi-monthly controlled burns at the landfill.

PSA Proposal

County Administrator Eric Young stated that the PSA has requested to meet with the Board to discuss in detail the plans regarding our solicitation for proposals. The PSA met with American Water in a series of meetings last fall; they went over their presentation and had some of their questions answered, although they understand conceptually what is happening, they are needing clarity on the details, i.e. timelines, what their function would be should the PSA be sold, if the assets are also being sold, etc., Mr. Young said. While speaking to Jan Cordle, Director of the PSA, I let her know there were other jobs the employees can work on such as building a natural gas line or operating the landfill, Mr. Young concluded.

Supervisor Presley stated he would be on the joint committee among the PSA and Board of Supervisors, which is currently being organized. Mr. Presley said the details still need to be worked out, insofar as day and time and I believe another BOS member should be present.

Supervisor Cruey exclaimed that he would also join the joint committee.

Supervisor Presley and Supervisor Rhudy discussed the rumors/gossip relating to the possible sale, both agreeing that it would take 2-3 years to complete the sale process even if the PSA was sold today.

Mr. Young stated that since American Water's proposal was unsolicited, by law the County had to advertise the bid in order to notify other potential buyers in order to negotiate, with the best proposer if in fact the County does decide to move forward with the sale.

Safer Streets for All Plan

Administrator Young advised that the Safer Streets for All Plan was adopted at the April 7th board meeting and we are going to apply for a safer streets grant, so we went to the Coal Severance Committee (CST) and asked for help with our required matching contribution. Mr. Young continued, the CST Committee agreed to match it with \$200,000; \$100,000, a year for two (2) years. However; after speaking with our grant consultants the minimum grant award for this program is 2.5 million with a 20% match, which leaves \$300,000 after CST's \$200,000 pledge, stated Mr. Young.

The Board conferred and invited Mr. Young's recommendation.

Mr. Young replied, we could go back to the CST Committee and request additional funds.

Supervisor Plaster implored the Chairman of the CST Committee, Supervisor Breeding, to increase their contribution to \$300,000 since the amount could be divided over two (2) years?

Supervisor Breeding responded that he felt the amount could be increased to \$300,000, especially with what was presented to us about everything the grant will be covering. Mr. Breeding expressed how extremely important he felt the project to be, considering it's for the safety of the community and we should do everything we can to keep the project moving forward.

The Board members and County Engineer Ken Dunford briefly discussed some of the riskier secondary roads which the grant would benefit by installing reflectors on the roads and increased signage.

The Board then requested County Administrator Eric Young to reconvene the CST Committee before the upcoming May 5th meeting, to address the Board's request for an increased contribution.

Upon motion of Supervisor Plaster, seconded by Supervisor Crucey 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 moves to contribute \$100,000 a year over two (2) years to the Safer Streets for all grant match program, on the condition that the CST approve a contribution from the coal severance tax funds of \$300,000 over the same two (2) year period.

BOARD CONCERNS

Supervisor Plaster

Jewell Ridge Community Center

Upon motion of Supervisor Plaster, seconded by Supervisor Crucey 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 moves to contribute \$1850.00 to the Jewell Ridge Community Center from the Northwestern District's Capital Improvement Fund to pay for a water pump.

Executive Assistant to the Board Stephanie Russell

Juneteenth contribution

Stephanie Russell reminded the Board they had requested at the April 7th meeting, to provide the details of the 2025 donation to the Friends of Juneteenth. Mrs. Russell notified the Board that Tina Altizer in Accounts Payable, confirmed the 2025 donation to Tazewell Today (on behalf of Friends of Juneteenth) was \$1200 paid from district funds.

Upon motion of Supervisor Rhudy, seconded by Supervisor Breeding 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 moves to contribute \$1200 from contingency to Tazewell Today for the 2026 Juneteenth celebration.

Supervisor Breeding

Governor Spanberger Appointment

Supervisor Breeding advised the Board that Governor Spanberger is appointing an Authority in the State of Virginia for timbering and logging; how to market the sale of timber, transport safely, etc.

Administrator Young agreed he had also heard about the potential Authority and stated he would reach out to Senator Hackworth's office for the details.

Gas Project

Supervisor Breeding inquired if more discussion was needed for the gas project, such as possible funding sources, next steps, etc.?

County Administrator Young stated he could reconvene the Advisory Committee for the next steps, using the current members.

Timmons Group

Supervisor Breeding stated that he received an email from the Timmons Group; evidently, the Timmons Group received a grant from VCEDA on how to market the coal field counties. Mr. Breeding said he reached out to Mr. Young and Ken Dunford to discuss our current GIS site, since the Timmons Group felt we were lax on our PSA data.

Mr. Young agreed and stated for years we have been hoping to get more of an interactive map for public use, so people in the County can see where the water and sewer lines are located. The PSA did recently give us some data points on some water/sewer line projects and we have now made that public. However, it is by no means complete, Mr. Young said.

Kid's Fish Day

Mr. Breeding stated the Kid's Fish Day at Tazewell Country Club was a huge success, we had about 300 people in attendance.

Supervisor Rhudy

Burke's Garden Volunteer Fire Department

Supervisor Rhudy stated he received a request from the Burke's Garden Fire Department for \$2,000 to purchase fireworks. Mr. Rhudy said no decision has to be made tonight; I just wanted to make everyone aware of what they are requesting.

Basic skills for youth

Mr. Rhudy advised the Board that due to weather changes and inexperience, there were 4 youths who had to be rescued from the Peak. Mr. Rhudy suggested possibly starting a program for local youth maybe a basic skills weekend, to teach first aid or explain survival packs, so something like this doesn't occur in the future.

Supervisor Plaster suggested partnering with Roots to Reals since they were already in the school system and it coincides with what they are trying to teach the kids.

Extension Office

Supervisor Rhudy stated he attended the Volunteer Appreciation Program last night and it was a great turnout.

EXECUTIVE/CLOSED MEETING – 7:01 pm

Upon motion of Supervisor Rhudy, seconded by Supervisor Cruet 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 Board enters into an Executive/Closed meeting and invites any other persons necessary to conduct business in this session, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711.

Executive/Closed Meeting – Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711

- ▶ A(3) Property acquisition in Richlands for proposed new school
- ▶ A(1) Personnel in Engineering
- ▶ A(29) Contract negotiations with PSA
- ▶ A(29) Contract modifications – landfill construction

RETURN/CERTIFICATION/REPORT OF ACTION – 9:01 pm

The Board of Supervisors returned to public session and Supervisor Cruey read the following certification:

**CERTIFICATION OF
EXECUTIVE/CLOSED MEETING
TAZEWELL COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

WHEREAS, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors has convened an executive/closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative vote and in accordance with The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board of Supervisors that such executive/closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) that only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the executive/closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors. The Chairman called for a roll call vote with the following votes hereby recorded.

The Chair called for a roll call vote on the Certification:

Ayes: Five (5)

Nays: None (0)

Absent: None (0)

Absent during vote: None (0)

Report of Action: Three (3)

ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

Personnel in Engineering

Upon motion of Supervisor Plaster, seconded by Supervisor Rhudy 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 authorizes an increase in the Addressing Coordinator's rate of pay by \$2,500 annually for an increase in duties for reviewing erosion and sediment control plans after he receives his certification.

Contract modifications – Landfill construction

Upon motion of Supervisor Rhudy, seconded by Supervisor Breeding 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 approves and authorizes the County Administrator and the Chairman of the Board to sign into contracts titled "Fourth Amendment to Sanitary Landfill Operation Agreement" and the "Claims Preservation and Tolling Agreement" between Tazewell County, Virginia and Santek Environmental of Virginia, LLC and further moves to make both contracts a part of the record. A copy of each contract is available in the County Administration Office, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

Recessed / Joint meeting with the Tazewell County School Board

Upon motion of Supervisor Cruey, seconded by Supervisor Plaster 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 moves to recess until April 28, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., for a joint meeting with the Tazewell County School Board. The joint meeting will be held at the Tazewell County Career and Technical Center, located

at 260 Advantage Drive, Tazewell, Virginia and further moves to make the Resolution changing the date, time and location of a scheduled recessed meeting a part of the record. A copy of the Resolution is available in the County Administration Office, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

RECESSED MEETING / ADJOURN @ 9:08 p.m.

A copy teste:



Charles "Chuck" Presley Jr., Chairman

