

VIRGINIA: AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TAZEVELL COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HELD SEPTEMBER 1, 2026 AT FOUR O'CLOCK P.M. IN THE TAZEVELL COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 197 MAIN STREET, TAZEVELL, VIRGINIA 24651

PRESENT: CHUCK PRESLEY, CHAIRMAN
SHANNA PLASTER, VICE-CHAIRPERSON
CURTIS BREEDING, MEMBER
JOHN RHUDY, MEMBER
KYLE CRUEY, MEMBER (*arrived 4:07*)
C. ERIC YOUNG, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
AARON M. GILLESPIE, COUNTY ATTORNEY
STEPHANIE RUSSELL, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS:
JIM TALBERT, RICHLANDS NEWS PRESS
WARREN HINKLE, THE VOICE

ABSENT: NONE

MINUTES

Chairman, Chuck Presley, called the regular meeting to order and presided with all members present.

Supervisor John Rhudy led The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag followed by the invocation given by Supervisor Shanna Plaster.

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 APPROVED AS AMENDED

The Chairman called for any additions/deletions to the agenda.

County Administrator Eric Young requested four (4) additions to the agenda; under Executive Session- A(29) Contract negotiations re: polystyrene enforcement agreements with the Towns of Richlands, Bluefield, Cedar Bluff, Pocahontas & Tazewell; A(3) Property acquisition – Pounding Mill; A(1) Personnel – Appointment of Fire Company Board Member; and Special Presentations – David Larimer – Annual Financial Report as of June 30, 2026.

Upon motion of Supervisor Rhudy, seconded by Supervisor Breeding and adopted by a vote of 4 to 0, with Supervisor Cruey being absent from the vote and all others voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the agenda format incorporating the requested additions. A copy of which is available in the County Administration Office, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

MINUTES APPROVED AS WRITTEN

Upon motion of Supervisor Rhudy, seconded by Supervisor Breeding and adopted by a vote of 4 to 0, with Supervisor Cruely being absent from the vote and all others voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the August 4th meeting minutes. A copy of which is available in the County Administration Office, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Chairman Presley and Administrator Young requested to defer item G from the Consent Calendar until further clarification can be provided.

Upon motion of Supervisor Breeding, seconded by Supervisor Plaster and adopted by a vote of 4 to 0, with Supervisor Cruely being absent from the vote and all others voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby approves deferring item G of the Consent Calendar.

Upon motion of Supervisor Plaster, seconded by Supervisor Rhudy and adopted by a vote of 4 to 0, with Supervisor Cruely being absent from the vote and all others voting in favor thereof and no one against, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby approves items A, B, C, D, E, F and H of the Consent Calendar. The County Administrator is authorized to issue warrants in accordance with this action and said warrants shall be converted to negotiable checks by the Treasurer of Tazewell County, Virginia.

1. Consent Calendar

(All items on the consent calendar are considered to be routine matters. The following items may be enacted by one motion, with the concurrence of the Board of Supervisors, a member may request that an item be removed for further discussion)

- A. Approval of Warrants
- B. County Departments - Transfer the following amounts from the Contingent Expenditures and Grant Account No. 91050-7041 to various department accounts as shown on the attached table:
- C. Consider ratifying poll to donate \$2,500 from Northwestern District funds to the Town of Cedar Bluff for the fall festival
- D. Consider approving poll to transfer \$7,000 from contingency to Tazewell County Public Library for cost overrun on HVAC purchase
- E. Consider approving funding from FY26 that was not received prior to June 30th for AASC
- F. Consider ratifying change to June 25th minutes / financial orders
- G. Consider transferring \$76,477.50 from Contingent Expenditures and Grant Account 091050-7041 to the Fire Departments New Vehicle Purchase 32010-8105.
- H. Consider ratifying poll to transfer \$15,000 from Capital Projects Raven/Doran Flood Mitigation Grant Match to Buildings and Grounds to improve the hiking trail at Raven Elementary

**Consent Calendar Items
September 1, 2026 Meeting**

Source	Check #	Accounts	Amount	Description
Verizon	1110289488	31020-5230	\$114.16	Reimbursement – closed acct
VAcorp	13792	31020-6009	\$812.80	23 Ford Explorer damage from a lawnmower
A&P Trucking	19520	35600-3310	\$500.00	Donation for stove
CMCS	253725	31020-1150	\$1,233.65	Reimbursement for overtime for CITAC officers

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Treasurer of Tazewell County - Annual Financial Report

Treasurer David Larimer presented Tazewell County's Annual Settlement Statement, showing the financial condition of the County as of June 30, 2026. Mr. Larimer also provided the delinquent/uncollected real estate tax summary as of June 30, 2026 for tax years 2021-2026. Copies of which are available in the County Administration Office, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

Supervisor Breeding questioned the amount of interest collected?

Mr. Larimer replied that the interest averaged approximately 3.8% overall and that he will follow up via e-mail with the actual amount.

Administrator Young clarified that any interest received/collected is budgeted into the county's annual budget as a revenue and it is spent each year.

Supervisor Presley expressed gratitude for the ability to pay real estate property taxes on a pro-rata monthly basis should citizens or businesses choose to pay twelve (12) smaller payments throughout the year, instead of the semi-yearly option.

Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates – Audit Presentation FY25

Scott Wickham was in attendance to deliver the Audit Presentation for fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. Mr. Wickham explained that while the audit results had been emailed earlier this year, his schedule did not allow for an in-person presentation until recently. A copy of which is available in the County Administration Office, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

Mr. Wickham advised that the auditors are currently working on the FY2026 audit.

Davenport – School Construction Financing Presentation

Administrator Eric Young prefaced Davenport's presentation by providing context; mentioning this plan began in 2022 in order to upgrade the school facilities and reduce the footprint of the school system. Mr. Young reminded the Board of the County's plan to build three (3) new K-8 schools; one (1) in each school district, financed in part using the anticipated revenues from Corando Mining. Mr. Young indicated that due to cost estimates provided by engineers in 2024, the construction plans shifted from building K-8 to 4th-7th grade schools. Mr. Young advised the estimate received from SEH totaled 63-million-dollars, so even with the State's 13-million-dollar grant award, the anticipated revenues from Corando Mining needed revisiting. Mr. Young explained that while the County has been altering construction plans; the State amended the Code allowing a 1% sales tax to be used for school construction, which led to discussions with Davenport in order to explore this option.

Kyle Laux provided the Capital Funding Analysis to the Board, in reference to the County's future school capital funding capacity should the 1% sales tax be enacted. Mr. Laux presented possible scenarios incorporating the estimated impact of the coal revenues, increased property taxes and the proposed School Local Option Sales Tax, for the school financings. Mr. Laux highlighted the existing School Fund Debt Service, while taking into account additional future projects which will require financing. A copy of the report is available in the County Administration Office, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

Administrator Eric Young clarified in order to build the new school at the current cost of 63-million-dollars, the Board would have to raise property taxes by 7¢ (seven cents) or the public would have to approve/pass a 20-year referendum allowing the 1% sales tax be enacted. Should the public choose to pass the 1% sales tax; together with the coal revenues, the construction of the first school would be completely covered with funds remaining to begin construction on a subsequent school, concluded Mr. Young.

The Board agreed with Mr. Young stating further discussions with the school system were needed before a decision could be reached.

Brad Pyott – Billy Wagner Park

Brad Pyott returned to inform the Board of current updates on the Billy Wagner Park project including fund raising opportunities, while also providing a timeline for the completion. Mr. Pyott thanked the Board for their \$12,500 donation last year and requested additional funding for the park project.

The Board thanked Mr. Pyott along with the project committee for their continued hard work and bringing the project to fruition. The Board briefly discussed the funding request, advising Mr. Pyott the Board would consider the request and a board member would reach out once a decision was made.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Engineering – Kenneth Dunford

Landfill

Mr. Dunford updated the Board on the new cell construction currently underway at the landfill. Mr. Dunford advised that the contractor is working on grading the floor and beginning next week the liner should start being put in place.

Mr. Dunford informed the Board of a cave being hit while drilling the monitoring well at the old Animal Shelter, which isn't uncommon for the area. However, this did increase the quote of \$109,250 to \$113,181, a difference of \$3,931 which will require approval to pay, stated Mr. Dunford.

Upon motion of Supervisor Breeding, seconded by Supervisor Cruey 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 an additional \$3,931 on the monitoring well contract for the landfill.

Cedar Bluff Transfer Station

Mr. Dunford advised the permit was submitted to DEQ, but a variance is required due to the dumpster being closer than 50' from the property line. Mr. Dunford stated that once DEQ tentatively approves the variance, a public notice will be advertised in the newspaper thus starting a 30-day public comment period. At the end of the 30-day comment period DEQ will provide a full review and provide any comments, once DEQ's comments are addressed (if any), we advertise the comments for an additional 30 days, hold the public hearing and finally advertise for construction bids, stated Mr. Dunford.

Questions/Comments

Supervisor Rhudy inquired about the ditch along 5154 Burkes Garden Road, wherein drivers keep running into the ditch causing instability for the hill/bank and it collapses.

Mr. Dunford replied, he would get with VDOT and have the area in question inspected.

Supervisor Breeding requested that the ditches along 389 Hickory Drive, Cedar Bluff, be cleaned out and if someone could look into 610 (the road going across Paintlick) wherein the grading has caused large rocks to fall into the roadway.

Mr. Dunford responded, he would look into the matter.

Supervisor Presley also requested the ditches be cleaned out in Lakeview subdivision.

EXECUTIVE/CLOSED MEETING – 5:22 pm

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 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(1) Personnel in Administration
- ▶ A(1) Personnel in Tourism
- ▶ A(1) Personnel in Economic Development
- ▶ A(1) County Administrator's Annual Evaluation
- ▶ A(1) Personnel in Registrar's Office
- ▶ A(3) Property acquisition – Cavitt's Creek
- ▶ A(3) Property acquisition – Richlands
- ▶ A(29) Contract negotiations SEH/RMMA school design
- ▶ A(29) Contract negotiations re: polystyrene with the Towns of Richlands, Bluefield, Cedar Bluff, Pocahontas & Tazewell
- ▶ A(3) Property acquisition – Pounding Mill
- ▶ A(1) Personnel – Appointment of Fire Co. Board Member

RETURN/CERTIFICATION/REPORT OF ACTION – 6:36 pm

The Board of Supervisors returned to public session and County Attorney Aaron Gillespie 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: Four (4)

ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

Property acquisition – Cavitts Creek

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; based on the recommendation of the Opioid Abuse Abatement Committee, to authorize the County Attorney to negotiate a lease agreement with Hope and Future to operate a short term residential rehabilitation facility to house five to twelve women; recovering from opioid addiction, at a property located at 520 Mountain Lake Drive, near Cavitts Creek Park, containing a house, garage and 12 acres, being Parcel No. 055A 0028A; and moves that final approval of the lease will be contingent upon the property owner agreeing to sell the same parcel to the County for the purchase price discussed in executive session or less, which will be paid from opioid settlement funds; and further moves that both the lease and property purchase be subject to final approval of the purchase contract with the owner and the lease agreement with Hope and Future by the Board at the October meeting.

Property acquisition – Cavitts Creek

Upon motion of Supervisor Cruey, 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 authorize the County Administrator to negotiate the purchase of Parcel No. 055A 0028D containing approximately 42 acres, located adjacent to Cavitts Creek Park, for an amount not to exceed \$75,000, to be purchased with contingency funds, contingent on approval of the final sales contract by the Board at the October meeting.

Supervisor Cruey explained for benefit of the public, that the opioid abatement funds were monies received from lawsuits with the various pharmaceutical companies in which the Courts had placed stipulations on what/how the money could be spent.

Administrator Young agreed, stating that the Opioid Abuse Abatement Committee had been enacted by the Board several years ago in order to manage the funds received from the lawsuits. Mr. Young also stated that thus far the funds have been used for workforce development, to fund communities and schools, SECOR and now the Hope and Future residential rehabilitation facility, once a purchase price can be negotiated.

Property acquisition – Pounding Mill

Upon motion of Supervisor Breeding, 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 approve the resolution regarding property acquisition in Pounding Mill. A copy of which is available in the County Administration Office, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

Personnel – Appointment of Fire Company Board Member

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 delay the effective date of the Fire Protection Services Ordinance approved last December until October 15, 2026, so that we may be sure all members of the new Fire Company are properly included on the roster and insured, prior to service; and to authorize the distribution of up to \$10,000.00 of funds previously budgeted for the Fire Company to the Tazewell County Fire Company, Inc. to pay the Administrative Chief a stipend for the first quarter of the fiscal year for his efforts in organizing the Fire Company in the amount of \$6,250.00 to pay for office supplies in the amount of \$750.00 and to pay for initial insurances for the Corporate Board members, the costs of incorporation with the SCC and other incidentals in the amount of \$3,000.00.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Notice of Public Hearing for an Ordinance to Approve a Bonus for Employees of the Tazewell County Department of Social Services

Supervisor Presley opened the floor for public comments either in person or over the phone. Hearing none, Supervisor Presley called a second time for public comments. With no response, Supervisor Presley called a third and final time for public comments.

County Attorney Aaron Gillespie explained for benefit of the public, that the bonus for employees of the Tazewell County Department of Social Services was a one-time bonus for 85 employees. Mr. Gillespie further explained that the State is contributing 84.5% of the total cost (\$60,826.51), with the Board proving a matching contribution of 15.5% (\$11,157.53).

Upon motion of Supervisor Rhudy, seconded by Supervisor Cruey 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 adopt an Ordinance to approve a bonus for employees of the Tazewell County Department of Social Services, in the amount of \$11,157.53. A copy of which is available in the County Administration Office, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

Notice of Public Hearing to enact Ordinance pursuant to VA Code §10.1-1424.3 (Polystyrene Exemption)

Supervisor Presley opened the floor for public comments either in person or over the phone. Hearing none, Supervisor Presley called a second time for public comments. With no response, Supervisor Presley called a third and final time for public comments.

County Attorney Aaron Gillespie informed the Board of the General Assembly's enactment of an Expanded Polystyrene Food Service Container Ban, which prohibited the use of any Styrofoam food containers, cups or utensils unless the food vendor applied to the locality for an exemption. Mr. Gillespie stated the Ordinance before the Board outlines the application process for vendors.

Upon motion of Supervisor Plaster, seconded by Supervisor Cruey 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 adopt the Ordinance establishing a process for considering exemption requests from the Expanded Polystyrene Food Service Container Ban pursuant to Virginia Code §10.1-1424.3 as presented, with an amendment eliminating the \$25.00 application fee and further moves to allow the County Attorney to condense the application process pending legal review. A copy of which is available in the County Administration Office, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

CITIZEN COMMENTS – SCHEDULED

► ***Jackie Dawson – 124 Sparrow Drive, Bluefield, VA***

Jackie Dawson addressed the Board to voice her concerns over drainage issues along Sparrow Drive. Ms. Dawson stated when the road was recently paved the burr was not replaced and now when it rains water comes up to her back door. Ms. Dawson also wanted to discuss the possibility of water lines being installed in the area along with a fire hydrant.

Supervisor Cruey responded that he and County Engineer Ken Dunford did visit the area in order to address the drainage issue. Mr. Cruey stated originally the project cost was estimated to be around \$100,000, which the Coal Severance Committee approved to fund, but it was discovered that we can't fix the drainage issue without first addressing the sewer line problem. Mr. Cruey apologized for the time delay and stated he will be meeting with the PSA to get the sewer issue resolved, so work can begin on the roads which in turn takes care of the drainage issue.

CITIZEN COMMENTS – UNSCHEDULED

Chairman Presley opened the floor for any unscheduled citizen comments.

► ***Chris Wearmouth - Tazewell Community Foundation***

On behalf of the Tazewell Community Foundation, Chris Wearmouth wished to thank the Board for granting tax exempt status for the new medical center. Mr. Wearmouth advised the Board that prior to the Board granting the tax-exempt status, the property taxes had been paid for the first half of 2026 and requested the possibility of the \$10,743.50 payment being returned to the Foundation.

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 donating \$10,743.50 from contingency to the Tazewell Community Foundation, upon verification of their payment for the first half of the 2026 property taxes.

Supervisor Presley made a second call for an unscheduled citizen comments. Hearing none, Supervisor Presley called a third and final time for unscheduled citizen comments.

ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCIAL/COUNTY PROJECTS UPDATE

Consider approving CMCS Contract for FY27

County Administrator Eric Young stated that the Cumberland Mountain Community Services (CMCS) contract for fiscal year 2027 had been deferred from last month, in order to allow the members an opportunity to review the contract in its entirety. Mr. Young explained the State requires the County to fund CMCS between \$700,000 and \$800,000 per year, but the County usually manages to contribute approximately \$300,000 per year. However, CMCS must have this contract signed before they receive their funding from the State, said Young.

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 the Cumberland Mountain Community Services (CMCS) contract for fiscal year 2027. A copy of which is available in the County Administration Office, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

Consider approving Amendment to RES Flood Study Services Master Agreement for Raven/Doran flood mitigation design

Administrator Young reminded the Board of last month's grant acceptance on the Raven/Doran flood mitigation design. Mr. Young stated the Amendment to our RES Flood Study Services Master Agreement requires approval, so the County can pay for the design using the grant and our matching contribution.

Upon motion of Supervisor Plaster, seconded by Supervisor Cruey 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 the amendment to our contract with RES Engineering for the flood study mitigation design. A copy of which is available in the County Administration Office, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

Consider approving Private Crossing Agreement / Notice of License Fee Adjustment with Norfolk Southern

Mr. Young expressed that the Bishop Fire Department requires a private railroad crossing and in order to use that crossing the railroad charges an annual license fee. Mr. Young said initially the fee was \$300 a year, but has now increased to \$1,000, but Barry Brooks with Fire and Rescue was able to get the fee reduced to \$500 per year.

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 the Private Crossing Agreement / Notice of License Fee Adjustment with Norfolk Southern. A copy of which is available in the County Administration Office, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

Consider funding request for Tazewell Community Foundation - \$10,743.50

The Chairman noted that this matter was discussed and voted on during the unscheduled citizen comments section.

Polystyrene Exemption Request – Joe’s Pizza, Bluefield VA and Polystyrene Exemption Request – TCPS, Tazewell VA

County Attorney Aaron Gillespie advised that currently there are two (2) polystyrene exemption requests before the Board; Joe’s Pizza and the Tazewell County Public School System. Mr. Gillespie explained that both parties made the request for exemption prior to the Ordinance being enacted, so they will require a separate vote.

Upon motion of Supervisor Plaster, seconded by Supervisor Cruey 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 polystyrene exemptions for Joe’s Pizza in Bluefield, Virginia and the Tazewell County Public School System beginning September 1, 2026 and ending August 31, 2027, having no reasonable alternatives to the Expanded Polystyrene Food Service Container Ban pursuant to Virginia Code §10.1-1424.3.

Consider approving Hurricane Helene individual supplemental relief (United Way)

Administrator Young highlighted the remaining Hurricane Helene individual (TOB2) who was still needing approval on their application for flood/storm relief.

Upon motion of Supervisor Plaster, seconded by Supervisor Rhudy and adopted by a vote of 4 to 0, with Supervisor Cruey being absent from the vote and all other members voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby approves payment in the amount of \$4,000; using the United Way funds, to applicant TOB2 for damages caused by Hurricane Helene.

Consider approving WSA Gigabeam grants

Mr. Young recollected that the Board approved awarding up to \$250.00 for individuals who lost their Gigabeam coverage, using Wireless Service Authority funds. Currently, we have five (5) applications which need approval, said Young.

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 paying from contingency \$250.00, for each of the five (5) individuals who lost their Gigabeam coverage. A list of awardees is available in the County Administration Office, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

RDA ATV Lease Rent Funding Request FY26 & FY27

Mr. Young explained the RDA leases ATV trails from Pocahontas Land Company at an annual rate of \$2500.00, with the FY2026 payment currently due and they have also submitted their invoice for FY2027.

Upon motion of Supervisor Plaster, 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 \$5,000 from contingency to the RDA to pay for the ATV Lease with Pocahontas Land Company for FY26 and FY27.

Proposed Lake Whitten Beach Plan

Mr. Young provided a short presentation outlining the proposed Lake Whitten beach plan with the accompanying budget.

Upon motion of Supervisor Plaster, seconded by Supervisor Cruey 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 the proposed Lake Whitten beach plan / budget as presented. A copy of which is available in the County Administration Office, 197 Main Street, Tazewell, Virginia 24651.

Consider approving Cavitt's Creek cabin bids

Mr. Young requested that the matter be deferred until October because the bids were not due until September 8th. The Chairman deferred this matter to the October 6, 2026 meeting.

Consider purchase of van for Commonwealth Attorney's work release program

Mr. Young reminded the board that last Spring the Board approved to purchase a van for the Commonwealth Attorney's work release program, and appropriated \$49,000 from contingency for that purchase. Mr. Young explained that since the van was not purchased before the end of the fiscal year, those funds rolled back over, so we found a used Chevrolet Express 3500 for \$27,686.00. I am requesting approval of up to \$29,000 from contingency, in order to purchase the Chevy 3500 van from Shelor Motors in Christiansburg, said Young.

Upon motion of Supervisor Rhudy, seconded by Supervisor Cruey and adopted by a vote of 4 to 0 to 1, with all members present and with Supervisor Plaster abstaining due to conflict and all others voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby approves up to \$29,000 from contingency to purchase a van for the Commonwealth Attorney's work release program.

Consider rescheduling November board meeting to November 5th

Administrator Young informed the Board that this year's VACo conference is being held November 8-10, which currently conflicts with our November board meeting currently scheduled for the 10th. Since we have four (4) people planning to attend the VACo conference, I believe we should consider rescheduling the November board meeting, Mr. Young suggested.

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 rescheduling the November board meeting to November 5th at 4:00 p.m.

Appointments

Animal Shelter

The Chairman directed that this matter be deferred to the October 6, 2026 meeting.

Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens

The Chairman directed that this matter be deferred to the October 6, 2026 meeting.

Clinch Valley Community Action

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 moves to approve the appointment of Stephanie Webb to the Clinch Valley Community Action.

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 approve the appointment of Heather Davis to the Clinch Valley Community Action Board.

Enterprise Zone Committee

The Chairman directed that this matter be deferred to the October 6, 2026 meeting.

Tazewell County Tourism Development Committee

The Chairman directed that this matter be deferred to the October 6, 2026 meeting.

Tazewell County Transportation Safety Commission

Upon motion of Supervisor Plaster, 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 approve the reappointment of Allen Whited to the Tazewell County Transportation Safety Commission.

Wireless Service Authority

The Chairman directed that this matter be deferred to the October 6, 2026 meeting.

BOARD CONCERNS

Supervisor Plaster

Supervisor Plaster informed the Board that a community in her district, had issues with an overgrown, dilapidated house. Ms. Plaster stated the taxes are current on the property, but the house is in really bad shape.

County Administrator Eric Young responded that this particular property in question, has been assigned to Dave White. Once Mr. White has had a chance to go and take a look at the property, we can discuss future steps, Mr. Young offered.

Supervisor Rhudy

Supervisor Rhudy advised that several people have come to him over issues with Verizon. Apparently, Verizon is wanting to do away with the land lines, the copper lines within Tazewell County. Mr. Rhudy stated he has many people afraid they are going to lose their land line phone service.

County Attorney Aaron Gillespie conveyed that the Local Government Attorney's Association has also been discussing this matter. Mr. Gillespie surmised that Verizon has formally applied with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to eliminate and cease operations that utilize copper land lines in the entire Commonwealth. Mr. Gillespie continued, that should the FCC approve Verizon's petition; Verizon is claiming that the tax assessed values of the property and the real estate where the copper lines lay would be of little to no value. Mr. Gillespie advised that after speaking with the Commissioner of Revenue, Dave Anderson, Tazewell County could possibly suffer between \$90,000 to \$100,000 in lost tax revenue per year. Of course, the County does have the option to obtain outside counsel or have my office draft a letter to the FCC on this matter.

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 authorize the County Administrator and/or County Attorney's Office to draft a possible response to Verizon's Petition to the FCC.

Supervisor Presley

Supervisor Presley wanted to update everyone on his recent trip with AJ Robinson and Supervisor Rhudy to EO (daycare center).

Supervisors Presley and Rhudy agreed the facility was amazing and look forward to having one in Tazewell County.

COMMITTEE LIAISON

PSA - Supervisor Presley – A lot of projects are ongoing; I believe Virginia American Water is still doing their due diligence.

IDA - Supervisor Breeding – The IDA is busy contemplating the next moves for Ponderosa and Project RESORT.

CPPDC - Supervisor Plaster – The CPPDC is having the ribbon cutting ceremony for the 460 corridor on September 18th.

RDA - Supervisor Breeding – I would like to have Mr. Young speak on the RDA meeting we recently attended together.

Administrator Young stated that the RDA met last week to convey the property where Trailhead Lodging is located in Boissevain, to the IDA. Currently, the IDA is negotiating for a sale of that property that will hopefully be a tremendous expansion in that community.

County Attorney Aaron Gillespie interjected that the closing date was just set today and is scheduled for September 23rd.

EXECUTIVE/CLOSED MEETING – 8:12 pm

Upon motion of Supervisor Breeding, 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 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(1) Personnel in Administration
- ▶ A(1) Personnel in Tourism
- ▶ A(1) Personnel in Economic Development
- ▶ A(1) County Administrator's Annual Evaluation
- ▶ A(1) Personnel in Registrar's Office
- ▶ A(3) Property acquisition – Cavitt's Creek
- ▶ A(3) Property acquisition – Richlands
- ▶ A(29) Contract negotiations SEH/RMMA school design
- ▶ A(29) Contract negotiations re: polystyrene with the Towns of Richlands, Bluefield, Cedar Bluff, Pocahontas & Tazewell
- ▶ A(3) Property acquisition – Pounding Mill
- ▶ A(1) Personnel – Appointment of Fire Co. Board Member

❖ *Supervisor Cruey left during Executive Session, due to work commitments.*

RETURN/CERTIFICATION/REPORT OF ACTION – 10:40 pm

The Board of Supervisors returned to public session and Supervisor Presley 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: Four (4)

Nays: None (0)

Absent: One (1)

Absent during vote: None (0)

Report of Action: Three (3)

ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

Personnel in Tourism

Upon motion of Supervisor Rhudy, seconded by Supervisor Plaster and adopted by a vote of 4 to 0, with Supervisor Cruey being absent from the vote and all others voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby approves an increase to the compensation for the Tourism and Public Communications Director from \$70,600 to \$75,000 annually effective July 1, 2026.

Personnel in Administration

Upon motion of Supervisor Plaster, seconded by Supervisor Rhudy and adopted by a vote of 4 to 0, with Supervisor Cruey being absent from the vote and all others voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby moves to increase the Executive Assistant to the Board's annual pay by \$1,883.00 annually; effective July 1, 2026, and include maintaining minutes for the WSA and CST Committees in her job duties.

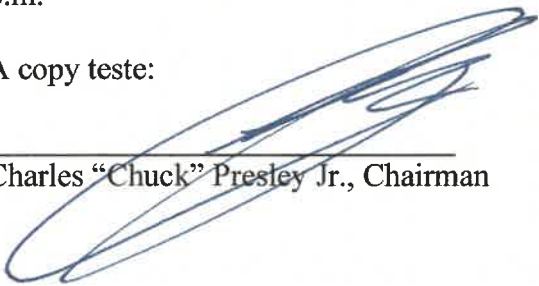
County Administrator's Annual Evaluation

Upon motion of Supervisor Plaster, seconded by Supervisor Rhudy and adopted by a vote of 4 to 0, with Supervisor Cruey being absent from the vote and all others voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby moves to increase the County Administrator's pay by 3%, in addition to the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) approved in June.

ADJOURN @ 10:53 p.m.

Upon motion of Supervisor Rhudy, seconded by Supervisor Plaster and adopted by a vote of 4 to 0, with Supervisor Cruely being absent from the vote and all others voting in favor thereof and no one against the same, the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors hereby approves to adjourn until Tuesday, October 6, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

A copy teste:



Charles "Chuck" Presley Jr., Chairman

