

VIRGINIA: At the Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors held at the Bland County Courthouse, Bland, Virginia, on the twenty-fifth day of March 2025 at 5:00 p.m., the following duly elected and qualified members were present or absent:

PRESENT: Keith Costello, Patrick Groseclose, Randy Johnson, and Stephen Kelley
ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Cameron Burton, County Administrator; Paul Cassell, County Attorney; and Linda Miller, Board Secretary

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG AND INVOCATION

Chair Randy Johnson led the pledge, and Cameron Burton offered the invocation.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Randy Johnson called the March 25, 2025, Board of Supervisors' monthly meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

MARCH 25, 2025, MEETING AGENDA

*****MOTION to approve the February 25, 2025, meeting agenda as presented was made by Keith Costello and seconded by Patrick Groseclose. Motion carried unanimously.

MARCH 25, 2025, CONSENT AGENDA/SOCIAL SERVICES/SCHOOLS APPROVED

*****MOTION to approve the March 25, 2025, consent agenda which consisted of the minutes of the February 25, 2025, regular meeting and the minutes of the March 4, 2025 continued meeting; payroll issued February 28, 2025 in the amount of \$149,752.51, payroll issued March 14, 2025 in the amount of \$141,034.89; bills for the month of November 2024 in the amount of \$12,393.61, bills for the month of February 2025 in the amount of \$110,132.05, and bills for the month of March 2025 in the amount of \$324,168.72; reports from the Treasurer, Sheriff's Office, Building Official, Clerk's Office, Zoning, Youth Sports, and E911 Coordinator; appropriate the January 2025 Social Services' report in the amount of \$15,761.60 local allotment; appropriate the Bland County School Board's April 2025 requisition in the amount of \$1,141,146.10; and approve the minutes for the February 13, 2025, regular meeting; approve payroll and vendor payments for February 2025 was made by Stephen Kelley and seconded by Patrick Groseclose. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Kelley – yea; Mr. Groseclose – yea; Mr. Costello – yea; and Mr. Johnson – yea. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS REPORTS

Adam Kidd, Treasurer, updated the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No speakers.

PRESENTATION OF FY24 FINANCIAL REVIEW AND AUDIT

Mr. Gordon Jones presented the FY24 Financial Review and Audit.

PUBLIC HEARING RE-ZONING/CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TAX MAP 77A3-A-46A

Mr. Joel Cagle, Planning Commission Secretary, stated the Planning Commission's recommendations to approve re-zoning from Agricultural to Industrial and to approve Conditional Use Permit for Tax Map 77A3-A-46A with the condition of installation of a privacy fence around the property.

No speakers

*****MOTION to approve the rezoning of Tax Map 77A3-A-46A from Agricultural to Industrial was made by Stephen Kelley and seconded by Patrick Groseclose. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Kelley – yea; Mr. Groseclose – yea; Mr. Costello – yea; and Mr. Johnson – yea. Motion carried.

*****MOTION to approve the Conditional Use Permit for Tax Map 77A3-A-46A with the condition of a privacy fence around the property to be installed was made by Mr. Kelley and seconded by Mr. Groseclose. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Kelley – yea; Mr. Groseclose – yea; Mr. Costello – yea; and Mr. Johnson – yea. Motion carried.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S ITEMS

TRASH ADJUSTMENTS

*****MOTION to approve the trash adjustments for December 2024 through March 2025 in the amount of \$4,736.33 was made by Keith Costello and seconded by Patrick Groseclose. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Costello – yea; Mr. Groseclose – yea; Mr. Kelley – yea; and Mr. Johnson – yea. Motion carried unanimously.

FY26 THE LOCAL CHOICE (TLC) HEALTH INSURANCE

*****MOTION to stay with The Local Choice as the Health Insurance provider and to adopt the health insurance rates for FY26 with the same plans as offered in FY25 was made by Patrick Groseclose and seconded by Stephen Kelley. Motion carried unanimously.

FAIRGROUND LEASE EXTENSION

*****MOTION to extend the lease of the fairgrounds to the Bland County Fair, Inc. for an additional two years per the terms of the lease to October 2, 2027, was made by Stephen Kelley and seconded by Patrick Groseclose. Motion carried unanimously.

UNITED WAY OF SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA

*****MOTION to approve the pass-through funds from the United Way of Southwest Virginia to the Bland Ministry Center in the amount of \$12,252.09 for Hurricane Disaster Relief was made by Keith Costello and seconded by Patrick Groseclose. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROPRIATION TO THE BLAND COUNTY WATER BUDGET

****MOTION to appropriate grant funding in the amount of \$30,000 from the Mount Rogers Planning District to the FY24/25 Bland County Water Budget for the replacement of a filter module at the Water Treatment Plant was made by Patrick Groseclose and seconded by Keith Costello. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Groseclose – yea; Mr. Costello – yea; Mr. Kelley – yea; and Mr. Johnson – yea. Motion carried unanimously.

ADVERTISE FOR PUBLIC HEARING

*****MOTION to approve the advertisement of a public hearing for grant funding through Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) was made by Patrick Groseclose and seconded by Keith Costello. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Groseclose – yea; Mr. Costello – yea; Mr. Kelley – yea; and Mr. Johnson – yea. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY - BURN BAN

*****MOTION to adopt the resolution certifying the declaration of the local state of emergency for a burn ban declared on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. was made by Keith Costello and seconded by Stephen Kelley. Motion carried unanimously.

ZONING TIME EXTENSION – TAX MAP 93-A-27 (WALKERS CREEK) AND TAX MAP 32-A-12 (BOY SCOUT CAMP)

*****MOTION to approve the request for a one-year time extension to the start of the construction for Tax Map 93-A-27 (Walkers Creek) and to approve the request for an eighteen-month time extension to construction project completion for Tax Map 32-A-12 (Boy Scout Camp) was made by Stephen Kelley and seconded by Patrick Groseclose. Motion carried.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH BLAND COUNTY SCHOOLS

*****MOTION to adopt the Memorandum of Understanding with the Bland County Schools for the use of school facilities in the event of a disaster was made by Keith Costello and seconded by Patrick Groseclose. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROPRIATION TO THE FY25 TREASURERS BUDGET

*****MOTION to appropriate in the amount of \$16,000 General fund to the FY25 Treasurers budget was made by Stephen Kelley and seconded by Patrick Groseclose. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Kelley – yea; Mr. Groseclose – yea; Mr. Costello – yea; and Mr. Johnson – yea. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROPRIATION TO THE BLAND COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*****MOTION to appropriate in the amount of \$15,000 FEMA funds to the Bland County Public Schools for the adult meals served during Hurricane Helene was made by Patrick Groseclose and seconded by Keith Costello. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Groseclose – yea; Mr. Costello – yea; Mr. Kelley – yea; and Mr. Johnson – yea. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROPRIATION TO THE BLAND COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD

*****MOTION to appropriate in the amount of \$89,000 to the Bland County Rescue Squad for the purchase of a 2015 Chevrolet Silverado 3500 ambulance was made by Keith Costello and seconded by Patrick Groseclose. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Costello – yea; Mr. Groseclose – yea; Mr. Kelley – yea; and Mr. Johnson – yea. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROPRIATION TO THE BLAND VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND THE
ROCKY GAP VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT.

*****MOTION to approve the Firefighters Grant Program for new self-contained breathing apparatuses and appropriate in the amount of \$14,923.81 to the Bland and Rocky Gap Volunteer Fire Department from the Community Development fund was made by Stephen Kelley and seconded by Keith Costello. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Kelley – yea; Mr. Costello – yea; Mr. Groseclose – yea; and Mr. Johnson – yea. Motion carried unanimously.

RECESS

Chair Randy Johnson recessed the meeting to Wednesday, April 9, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

Randy Johnson
Randy Johnson, Chair

Cameron B. Burton.
Cameron B. Burton, Clerk of the Board

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