

VIRGINIA: At the Continued Meeting of the Board of Supervisors held at the Bland County Courthouse, Bland, Virginia, on the fifth day of June 2026 at 4:00 p.m. The following duly elected and qualified members were present or absent:

PRESENT: Keith Costello, Patrick Groseclose, Stephen Kelley, and Randy Johnson

ABSENT: none

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

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 June 5, 2026, Board of Supervisors' continued meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING – FY27 SCHOOL BOARD AND COUNTY BUDGET

Chair Randy Johnson opened the public hearing.

*****MOTION to open the public hearing was made by Patrick Groseclose and seconded by Keith Costello. Motion carried.

No speakers.

*****MOTION to close the public hearing was made by Stephen Kelley and seconded by Patrick Groseclose. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING – ORDINANCE SECTION 50-76 THROUGH SECTION 50-78:
ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR EXEMPTION

Chair Randy Johnson opened the public hearing.

*****MOTION to open the public hearing was made by Patrick Groseclose and seconded by Stephen Kelley. Motion carried.

No speakers.

*****MOTION to close the public hearing was made by Patrick Groseclose and seconded by Stephen Kelley. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE: AUTHORIZING LOCAL EMPLOYEE BONUS

Chair Randy Johnson opened the public hearing.

*****MOTION to open the public hearing was made by Patrick Groseclose and seconded by Keith Costello. Motion carried.

No speakers.

*****MOTION to close the public hearing was made by Keith Costello and seconded by Patrick Groseclose. Motion carried.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S ITEMS

AMENDMENT: ORDINANCE SECTION 50-76 AND SECTION 50-78 OF AGE AND
DISABILITY TAX CREDIT

*****MOTION to adopt the Bland County Code Ordinance Section 50-76 and Section 50-78 to amend the Age and Disability Tax Credit requirements with Gross combined income of the owner shall not exceed \$35,000 and combined net financial work shall not exceed \$85,000 with the Real estate exemption shall not exceed \$250 for any one tax year 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.

ORDINANCE FOR AN ONE-TIME LOCAL EMPLOYEE BONUS

*****MOTION to adopt an ordinance on one-time 2% bonus for full-time County employees for FY26 was made by Patrick Groseclose and seconded by Stephen Kelley. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Groseclose – yea; Mr. Kelley – yea; Mr. Costello – yea; and Mr. Johnson – yea. Motion carried unanimously.

FY26 APPROPRIATION TO BLAND COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD

*****MOTION to appropriate \$50,000 to Bland County Rescue Squad was made by Keith Costello and seconded by Patrick Groseclose. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Costello – yea; Mr. Groseclose – yea; Mr. Kelly – yea; and Mr. Johnson – yea. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE SECTION 50-77: AGE AND DISABILITY FILING EXTENSION

*****MOTION to approve the one-time extension to file between July 1, 2026 and August 30, 2026, to the Age and Disability Tax Credit in Section 50-77 was made by Keith Costello and seconded by Stephen Kelley. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Costello – yea; Mr. Kelley – yea; Mr. Groseclose – yea; and Mr. Johnson – yea. Motion carried unanimously.

FY26 APPROPRIATION OF THE ONE-TIME 2% BONUS

*****MOTION to appropriate \$75,763.98 for a one-time bonus to full-time county employees in the FY26 budget was made by Patrick Groseclose and seconded by Stephen Kelley. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Groseclose – yea; Mr. Kelley – yea; Mr. Costello – yea; and Mr. Johnson – yea. Motion carried unanimously.

Adam Kidd, Treasurer, “Well, I figured out I better since I was called out last month. I appreciate your understanding as I've been home raising my daughter, which no offense is where I'd rather be than here. So, I have some information. I provided you all with a litigation timeline that I received from our attorneys on real estate. I understand people are frustrated. I'm used to taking hits on making people pay their taxes, but I never thought I'd be accused of not making people pay their taxes. So that's new. No matter what I do, I can't seem to please anybody. But litigation is a very long process, so that kind of lays out the steps they have to take in the time frame before we get properties to litigation or to the tax sale. Also provided you the list of properties for the judicial sale and the non-judicial sale, which will take place July 30th here in the courtroom at noon. 21 properties will be coming up for sale and we have had a lot of interest. So hopefully all of those will go like they did in our November sale. All of those are back on the tax roll. So additionally, you do have a preliminary advertisement for the next batch of properties that the attorneys will start working on. So we continue working on the real estate, very closely. But litigation, as we all know, the court systems, they move at their own pace. So, I understand the frustrations, but we are moving on that, and as you can see in your collection reports that I provide you every month, I sent over 98 parcels two years ago, and I think they would have collected payment on 42 of those 98. So, we are moving along pretty nicely in collecting the real estate. Personal property, just to remind you on some of the numbers since I haven't been here in 2024, FY24, we collected fees on 88 stops for a total of \$81,321.09 in back personal property taxes, including penalty and interest. FY25 was our biggest year. We released 432 stops totaling \$323,424.48 of back taxes, penalty and interest for personal property. This year, of course, we're catching up. So as I indicated to you a year or so ago, we're going to see that number drop. We've released 214 DMV stops for a total of \$138,986.25. We have put on 334 stops after delinquent notices went out earlier this year. Surprisingly, not a single citizen reached out and asked for any type of arrangement to prevent collective action on personal property. So we've put on 334 DMV stops. About 290 of those are just for 2025 taxes, which is a good sign. So I'm also working on a couple dozen warrants in debt for 2021 taxes, which may fall off at the end of the year if I don't take action. So we're continuing to do the warrants. And as I mentioned to Mr. Costello this morning, if you want me to get more aggressive, the next step is to start seizing people's vehicles, which I can do. I can also seize your TVs. I can take your watch. All of that is allowable by state code and I don't need a court to approve it. So unless you want me to do that, I'm moving as fast as I can. We're making progress. So I don't know who says we're not. And I hate that we're not live this evening. But I will regurgitate this at the June meeting at the end of the month. Questions for me?”

APPROPRIATIONS OF SUPERVISOR'S SPECIAL FUNDS

*****MOTION to appropriate from Mr. Kelley's: Bland Fire Department - \$1,000, Bland Historical Society - \$325, Festival of Leaves - \$450, Fair Association - \$450 and Bland Beautification - \$300; Mr. Costello's: Rocky Gap Fire Department - \$1,000, Festival of Leaves - \$1,000, Rocky Gap Ruritan - \$375; Mr. Groseclose's: Grapefield Fire Department - \$1,000, Ceres Fire Department - \$1,000, and Ceres Alumni Association - \$525; and Mr. Johnson's Hollybrook Community Center - \$500, Mechanicsburg Ruritan - \$800, Hollybrook Fire Department - \$1,225 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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

*****MOTION to enter executive session to discuss Personnel: Administration and Legal Counsel: Tax rate pursuant to the provisions of Section 2.2-3711A Subparagraph 1 and Subparagraph 8 of the Code of Virginia 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.

REGULAR SESSION

*****MOTION to return to regular session was made by Patrick Groseclose and seconded by Stephen Kelley. Motion carried.

CERTIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

*****MOTION to adopt the Certification of Executive Session pursuant to the provisions for Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia 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.

AMENDMENT OF FY27 BUDGET CALENDAR

*****MOTION to amend the FY27 Budget Calendar was made by Stephen Kelley and seconded by Patrick Groseclose. Motion carried.

ADVERTISEMENT OF THE TAX LEVY

*****MOTION to advertise the reduced tax levy of \$0.40 per \$100 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.

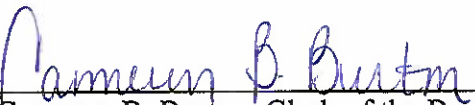
ADJOURNMENT

*****MOTION to adjourn was made by Patrick Groseclose and seconded by Stephen Kelley. Motion carried.

Next meeting is Monday, June 15, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.



Randy Johnson, Chair



Cameron B. Burton, Clerk of the Board

