

VIRGINIA: At the Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors held at the Bland County Courthouse, Bland, Virginia, on the seventeenth day of December 2024 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

The pledge of allegiance to the United States flag was led by Chairman Keith Costello. The invocation was offered by Cameron Burton.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Keith Costello called the December 17, 2024, Board of Supervisors' monthly meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

DECEMBER 17, 2024, AMENDED MEETING AGENDA

*****MOTION to approve the December 17, 2024, meeting agenda as amended with the additions of appropriations to Sheriff's SE Budget and the Sheriff's Blue Line Revenue was made by Randy Johnson and seconded by Patrick Groseclose. Motion carried unanimously.

DECEMBER 17, 2024, CONSENT AGENDA/SOCIAL SERVICES/SCHOOLS APPROVED

*****MOTION to approve the December 17, 2024, consent agenda which consisted of the minutes of the November 26, 2024 regular meeting; payroll issued November 29, 2024 in the amount of \$145,410.06 payroll issued December 16, 2024 in the amount of \$142,381.13; bills for the month of August in the amount of \$17,458.27; bills for the month of September in the amount of \$8,167.85; bills for the month of November in the amount of \$112,336.33 bills for the month of December in the amount of \$178,428.92; reports from the Treasurer, Sheriff's Office, Animal Control, Building Official, Clerk's Office, Zoning, and E911 Coordinator; appropriate the October 2024 Social Services' report in the amount of \$15,864.44 local allotment; and appropriate the Bland County School Board's January 2025 requisition in the amount of \$1,141,146.10; and approve the minutes for the November 14, 2024 regular meeting; approve payroll and vendor payments for November 2024 was made by Stephen Kelley and seconded by Patrick Groseclose.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Kelley – yea; Mr. Groseclose – yea; Mr. Johnson – yea; and Mr. Costello – yea. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS REPORTS

Commissioner of the Revenue Cindy Wright updated the Board regarding the 2026 General Assessment contract and that Carman Viar is now a Master Deputy. Ms. Wright requested that the Board consider a 9.3% increase to Carman Viar's salary.

Sheriff Jason Ramsey updated the Board about the new TAC team formed by 6 trained members of the Sheriff's Office.

Adam Kidd, Treasurer, updated the Board.

Joshua Neal, Youth Sports Coordinator, updated the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No speakers.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR BUILDING 9 REZONE

Mr. Joel Cagle, Planning Commission Secretary, updated the Board with the Planning Commission's recommendation for rezoning Tax Map Number 91A2-2-3A building 9 located at 696 Main Street from Agriculture to Commercial.

Chairman Costello opened the public hearing.

Mr. Richard Ingram expressed his concerns regarding a sports bar and how the neighbors will receive notification of the type of businesses interested in this location-specifically a bar. Also, Mr. Ingram asked about parking for the business.

Ms. Barbara King addressed the Board with her concerns about trash, traffic, noise and lights generated by a commercial business.
Chairman Costello closed the public hearing.

*****MOTION to approve the rezoning of Tax Map Number 91A2-2-3A, building 9 located at 696 Main St. from Agricultural to Commercial was made by Stephen Kelley and seconded by Patrick Groseclose. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Kelley – yea; Mr. Groseclose – yea; Mr. Johnson – yea; and Mr. Costello – yea. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S ITEMS

RESOLUTION ENDING THE LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR A BURN BAN

*****MOTION to adopt the resolution certifying the end of the local state of emergency for a burn ban on Tuesday, December 17, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. was made by Randy Johnson and seconded by Patrick Groseclose. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Johnson – yea; Mr. Groseclose – yea; Mr. Kelley – yea; and Mr. Costello – yea. Motion carried unanimously.

REASSESSMENT CONTRACT

*****MOTION to approve the contract for the 2026 General reassessment services with Wampler and Eanes Appraisal Group, Ltd and authorize the County Administrator to sign on behalf of the Board was made by Randy Johnson and seconded by Patrick Groseclose. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Johnson – yea; Mr. Groseclose – yea; Mr. Kelley – yea; and Mr. Costello – yea. Motion carried unanimously.

TRASH ADJUSTMENTS

*****MOTION to adopt the trash bill adjustments from October 2024 through December 2024 in the amount of \$3,033.54 was made by Patrick Groseclose and seconded by Stephen Kelley. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Groseclose – yea; Mr. Kelley – yea; Mr. Johnson – yea; and Mr. Costello – yea. Motion carried unanimously.

LOCAL HOLIDAY ON DECEMBER 26, 2024

*****MOTION to adopt the amended holiday calendar with the addition of December 26, 2024, as a local holiday was made by Stephen Kelley and seconded by Patrick Groseclose. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Kelley – yea; Mr. Groseclose – yea; Mr. Johnson – yea; and Mr. Costello – yea. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROPRIATION TO SHERIFF'S SELECTIVE ENFORCEMENT

*****MOTION to appropriate \$20,000 to the Sheriff's Selective Enforcement budget for the purchase of a vehicle was made by Randy Johnson and seconded by Patrick Groseclose. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Johnson – yea; Mr. Groseclose – yea; Mr. Kelley – yea; and Mr. Costello – yea. Motion carried unanimously.


APPROPRIATION TO SHERIFF'S BLUE LINE BUDGET REVENUE

*****MOTION to appropriate \$18,217.10 to Sheriff's Blue Line budget for purchase of police equipment was made by Patrick Groseclose and seconded by Randy Johnson. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Groseclose – yea; Mr. Johnson – yea; Mr. Kelley – yea; and Mr. Costello – yea. Motion carried unanimously.

RECESS

Chairman Keith Costello recessed the meeting until January 6, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.


Keith Costello, Chairman


Cameron B. Burton, Clerk of the Board