

SCOTT

VIRGINIA

At a special called meeting of the Scott County Board of Supervisors begun and held in the Supervisors' meeting room located at the Community Services Building in Gate City, Virginia, on Friday the 16th day of May, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Darrel W. Jeter
L. Michele Glover – Vice-Chairman
Eddie N. Skeen
Michael K. Brickey
Danny M. Casteel
Christopher S. Maness - Chairman
Stefanie C. Addington (remotely by phone)

ABSENT: None.

Chairman Chris Maness called the meeting to order.

On a motion by L. Michele Glover, duly seconded by Darrel W. Jeter, this Board hereby approves remote participation by Supervisor Stefanie C. Addington due to a personal matter, out of town on vacation, in a car on I-75, and being heard by all persons present.

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, L. Michele Glover, Eddie N. Skeen, Michael K. Brickey
Danny M. Casteel, and Christopher S. Maness.

Voting nay: None.

Abstain: Stefanie C. Addington.

On a motion by L. Michele Glover, duly seconded by Danny M. Casteel, this Board hereby approves the agenda.

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, L. Michele Glover, Eddie N. Skeen, Michael K. Brickey
Danny M. Casteel, Christopher S. Maness, and Stefanie C. Addington

Voting nay: None.

There was discussion about Emergency Medical Services in Scott County.

David Gilliam with Scott County Lifesaving Crew reported that there are five part-time and one full-time employees at Scott County Lifesaving Crew.

Acting County Administrator Bill Dingus pointed out that it is not the intent of this meeting to replace the Scott County Lifesaving Crew board, seize assets, or for them to lose their 501(c)(3) designation. Mr. Dingus went on to say that he spoke with the Operational Medical Director Dr. Paul Phillips, and he is in support of changes in operation of the Scott County Lifesaving Crew.

Supervisor Danny Casteel questioned what the Board of Supervisors can do to get more people involved.

Supervisor Eddie Skeen inquired about the pay scale and benefits.

Mr. Dingus referred to the amount paid squads offer.

Supervisor Michele Glover read a citizen's message about her dad's experience with Scott County Lifesaving Crew.

Mr. Dingus stated that the county could help with volunteer promotion.

Wendel Burke was available for questions.

Chairman Maness requested clarification of the process.

Mr. Burke explained that there are no intentions to change the crew or take over. Mr. Burke indicated that improvements need to be made to operations, and we need them to work with us. Everyone is having trouble keeping full crews with the hourly wage being a big factor. He went on to say that the rescue squads have been able to provide health insurance for their employees recently. However, EMS payroll needs to be looked at for the entire county during this process. Mr. Burke pointed out that nearby squads pay their employees \$23/hour and classes are paid for.

Supervisor Glover stated that the county needs to consider assisting with the classes.

Mr. Burke added that it could be a class of 10-15 people funded by the county. He went on to say that a \$5/hr wage increase would provide employees \$20/hr in order to be competitive with nearby agencies. That would be an additional \$100,000 per squad per year needed for payroll.

Nickelsville Resident Wendy Blodgett stated that she is surprised to be the only resident attending the meeting today. She pointed out EMS employees have to be able to make a living.

Kris Casey spoke about her love of being an EMS employee and taking care of the community; however, the Board needs to do what it can to help the ones who take care of all of us.

On a motion by L. Michele Glover, duly seconded by Darrel W. Jeter, this Board hereby finds that the Scott County Lifesaving Crew is out of compliance with the adopted County EMS Procedures and hereby authorizes the President and Vice President of the Scott County Rescue Squad Association to take over all management of the Scott County Lifesaving Crew, including operations, payroll, finances, and staffing, and the Board will honor funding requests by the President and Vice President needed to cover interim operations, until such time that they report to the Board that the Scott County Lifesaving Crew can resume independent operations.

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, L. Michele Glover, Eddie N. Skeen, Michael K. Brickey, Danny M. Casteel, Christopher S. Maness, and Stefanie C. Addington.

Voting nay: None.

Chairman Maness noted that the matter would be addressed at the June 4, 2025 budget workshop.

Mr. Burke added that the next step would be to pull the license for Scott County Lifesaving Crew to operate in the county; however, he stated that we are trying to make it a level playing field for all agencies in the county.

On a motion by Darrel W. Jeter, duly seconded by Danny M. Casteel, this Board hereby enters into closed session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 A.1 Personnel being County Administrator position.

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, L. Michele Glover, Eddie N. Skeen, Michael K. Brickey
Danny M. Casteel, Christopher S. Maness, and Stefanie C. Addington

Voting nay: None.

It was noted that Stefanie Addington is at an Exxon and her husband waited outside the car until the meeting reconvened in open session.

On a motion by Michael K. Brickey, duly seconded by L. Michele Glover, this Board hereby returns to open session.

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, L. Michele Glover, Eddie N. Skeen, Michael K. Brickey
Danny M. Casteel, Christopher S. Maness, and Stefanie C. Addington.

Voting nay: None.

On a motion by Darrel W. Jeter, duly seconded by Danny M. Casteel, this Board hereby gives the following:

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Scott County Board of Supervisors has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provision of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Scott County Board of Supervisors that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Scott County Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member’s knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the 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 Scott County Board of Supervisors.

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter
 L. Michele Glover
 Eddie N. Skeen
 Michael K. Brickey
 Danny M. Casteel
 Christopher S. Maness
 Stefanie C. Addington.

Voting nay: None.

On a motion by Michael K. Brickey, duly seconded by Darrel W. Jeter, this Board hereby appoints Mr. Joshua Wilson as County Administrator effective Monday, June 30, 2025, authorizes the county attorney to draft a contract of employment, and authorizes Chairman Chris Maness to sign the contract with Mr. Wilson.

Voting aye: Darrel W. Jeter, L. Michele Glover, Eddie N. Skeen, Michael K. Brickey,
 Danny M. Casteel, Christopher S. Maness, and Stefanie C. Addington.

Voting nay: None.

Chairman Chris Maness adjourned the meeting to June 4, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

CHAIRMAN

CLERK