

SCOTT
VIRGINIA

At a 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 Wednesday the 7th day of January, 2026 at 9:00 a.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.
- ABSENT:

None.

County Administrator Josh Wilson called the meeting to order.

Supervisor Chris Maness gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

David Dean was recognized and presented a plaque for his retirement and thirty years of service.

On a motion by Christopher S. Maness, duly seconded by L. Michele Glover, this Board hereby sets the term of office for Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson at one year.

- 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.

L. Michele Glover nominated Christopher S. Maness to serve as Chairman
Hearing no further nominations, Josh Wilson closed nominations

- 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.

Christopher S. Maness was appointed to serve as Chairman of the Scott County Board of Supervisors.

Chairman Chris Maness presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Chairman Chris Maness nominated L. Michele Glover to serve as Vice-Chairman

Hearing no further nominations Chairman Maness closed nominations

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.

L. Michele Glover was appointed to serve as Vice-Chairman of the Scott County Board of Supervisors.

On a motion by Christopher S. Maness, duly seconded by Stefanie C. Addington, this Board hereby sets the meeting day and time on the first Wednesday of each month at 9:00 a.m.

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 L. Michele Glover, this Board hereby approves the Rules of Procedure for 2026 (Said Rules of procedure attached to the minutes of this meeting; Minute Book 35 Attachment No: 88).

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 Stefanie C. Addington, duly seconded by Darrel W. Jeter, this Board hereby approves the agenda as amended.

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 Stefanie C. Addington, duly seconded by L. Michele Glover, this Board hereby approves the December 2025 minutes.

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 opened Citizen Expression Period to receive public comments.

Christina Hurd from District Two spoke about how she and many others feel about the Board in this county. Ms. Hurd went on to say that she is disappointed in the leadership in this county, and that no one wants to work together. She went on to say that she is disappointed that some allow their egos to govern their choices, and certain ones use people like they are political chess pieces by moving and bending them for their purpose. Ms. Hurd pointed out what disappoints her the most is that we are failing our future generations. She mentioned being left behind and watching as our neighboring counties receive grants and opportunities that Scott County only wishes we had. Ms. Hurd noted that future generations have zero reasons to stay and build a family in this county. She noted that the last time this county peaked was 1950. It was the highest our population had been, and we were booming. As time passed, we lost businesses, population, revenue, and eventually hope. Today, Scott County is a welfare county filled with empty farms and broken promises. Ms. Hurd stated that we need the Board to work together for all of us. She went on to say that we need fair practices for all residents, tax relief, and a community that comes together for the betterment of ourselves and our future generations. The last thing that comes to mind is division. She pointed out that there are two very intelligent, very powerful, and passionate people on this board. She noted that two are the most brilliant minds and hearts that she has ever met. Yet, you are at each other's throats nearly every meeting. She encouraged them to come together through their mutual belief in God and find common ground to accomplish great things. Ms. Hurd encouraged them to stop fighting and trust in God. She went on to say that all seven board members are supposed to represent every district. She noted that all seven signed up to be on this board and are supposed to speak for us, and she advised the Supervisors who are being quiet to stop that. She questioned the last time any of the Supervisors held a meeting to talk to those in their district. Ms. Hurd told the Board that all of them can come together if they would just talk to each other with love instead of anger. She went on to say that through all things with Christ, it is possible. Ms. Hurd stated that she started her political journey with three members of the Board. She asked that those three set the example. To her new sister in Christ, she asked that she extend the olive branch because it is time for peace. Coming together is the way to succeed and prosper. Ms. Hurd told the Board that the seven of them have a big opportunity to be the change that we need, but we will gain nothing, and Satan will win as long as you are divided. Ms. Hurd stated that she did not come to the meeting to preach a sermon but to open the Board's eyes to the fact that we are watching. She went on to say that most will question who she is to speak on this and to speak of God. Ms. Hurd stated that she is probably not worthy enough, but he chose her, and he put it on her heart to come before the Board. She noted that she is here, a baby Christian, following Christ with faith. She spoke about children becoming very ill at an alarming rate. Scott County has 12 new cases of childhood cancer within the last two years. We know this because Megan Smith has done the research for us. She noted that Megan Smith will be speaking today, and the Virginia Department of Health will be holding a hearing tomorrow regarding the current status of their investigation. Ms. Hurd stated that she hopes that they help these families find answers. She encouraged everyone to attend the meeting tomorrow in solidarity at 6:00 p.m. at Gate City Middle School.

Megan Smith, a certified Oncology Nurse, stated that she attended the November meeting to bring awareness for the pediatric cancer cases in Scott County. In the last three years, the number is now at 15. One was diagnosed just before Christmas. She noted that autoimmune diseases are now tracked like cancer cases. Since 2022, there have been 40 school-aged children diagnosed with an autoimmune disease. Those are only the cases that the school nurses have been made aware about. Suspicion is that whatever is causing the cancer is also causing autoimmune disorders. Ms. Smith stated that she has had several parents reach out to her about the way they are being treated. Their children have been sick for months, and they have been

requesting answers. They go to their local physician and local hospitals and some have been told that they are going to be documented, Scott County people are overreacting, and looking for something that isn't there. Ms. Smith stated that is a big slap in the face with a current investigation by the Virginia Department of Health. Ms. Smith stated that she wanted to make the Board aware so that you can use your voices to speak up for the parents and the children. The children are going outside the region to Knoxville, Cincinnati, Nashville, and Memphis to get answers. There are a few physicians in our area that are phenomenal. They are very concerned, but there is only so much that they can do. She noted that the children getting sick at such an alarming rate, and it is terrifying. She noted that parents are being told that there is nothing wrong with their child when they know that child better than anyone. Ms. Smith noted that she would be attending the meeting on Thursday at 6:00 p.m. at Gate City Middle School.

Kevin Barnett and Michael Egan with the Scott County Ministerial Association spoke about a firewood ministry and the need for a dump trailer. Mr. Barnett presented three quotes and requested funding to purchase a dump trailer.

Peggy Tyus from Snowflake spoke about dirt roads. Ms. Tyus stated that she is hopeful that the Board can obtain more funding during their legislative meetings in Richmond. Ms. Tyus stated that she is hopeful that Terry Kilgore will obtain more funds for dirt roads in Scott County to reduce the miles of dirt roads. Ms. Tyus stated that she hates that Scott County has the most dirt roads in the State of Virginia.

Bobbie Powers stated that she is a resident of Dungannon and a banking professional. She went on to say that she is here today to offer a professional perspective on the county's 2024 audit findings and the impact of our fiscal future. Ms. Powers stated that she reviewed the material weaknesses in the report and must highlight three specific risks. She noted that the auditor had to propose adjustments to the financial statements. Ms. Powers went on to say that it means internal systems are failing when an auditor has to fix the books. Ms. Powers stated that the second finding is the bank reconciliation. She went on to say that the county has not completely and timely done reconciliation since July 2023. Ms. Powers stated that reconciliation is the only way to prove the ledger matches the bank. Without it, financial statements are essentially guess-work. Ms. Powers pointed out the third finding was Head Start. The audit identifies approximately 2.2 million dollars in expenditures that were not included in the fiscal year budget. Ms. Powers stated, as a financial professional, this is staggering. Ms. Powers pointed out that claiming the county budget is under control while a multi-million-dollar department is not even reflected in the budget is like claiming the kitchen is clean while the rest of the house is on fire. She reported that you cannot claim fiscal health when millions in expenditures bypass the oversight required by Virginia Code subsection 15.2-2506. Ms. Powers stated that she is particularly concerned about future revenue. She noted that there is a bill being introduced allowing citizens to exclude one vehicle from personal property tax. Ms. Powers stated that, while the relief is needed, it will create a massive hole in the county's budget. She inquired about recuperating those lost funds if the bill passes. Ms. Powers noted that we can no longer afford to let the Economic Development Authority remain dormant. The County needs an Economic Development Authority that is held responsible for bringing new businesses to expand our tax base. The books cannot be balanced on a shrinking revenue pool while internal controls are in shambles. Ms. Powers stated that she recognizes the software and staffing challenges. However, the November update established a January 12, 2026 deadline for the finalization of cash reconciliation. Ms. Powers stated that she looks

forward to seeing those accounts fully reconciled as promised. Meeting these milestones is the only way to restore our fiscal health and protect the county from fines, legal penalties, and the potential downgrading of the bond rating. She went on to say that a downgrading credit rating is a permanent stain that makes every future project more expensive for the taxpayers. Ms. Powers stated that trying is no longer a sufficient substitute for balancing.

School Bus Driver Darrell Dougherty addressed the Board about his bus route on Snowflake Road. Mr. Dougherty stated that he requested a tour of the road with the Board of Supervisors at a previous meeting and did not hear anything from the Board of Supervisors. He requested that the Board contact him about setting up a time to tour the road. He went on to say that the Six Year Plan is good, but he can't wait because it took him 50 years to get his road fixed. He stated that more funding is needed for the Six Year Plan in Scott County so that our kids can stay here. He noted a rock slide that occurred on his bus route. Mr. Dougherty pointed out that there were no children on the bus at that time, and he was able to get the bus through. If the bus went over the cliff, Mr. Dougherty stated that he would have been fired. He went on to say that road needs to be fixed. There are many roads in Scott County that need to be fixed. He pointed out that there will be more revenue for Scott County if more people come here to live. Snowflake Road is not the only road in Scott County that needs funding, and he requested that the Board contact him about setting up a time to tour his bus route.

Myron Fields inquired about the status of letters that were sent regarding Cove Creek.

County Administrator Josh Wilson replied that the letters were sent, but he has not received a reply. He noted that item is on the agenda, and he would address it at that time.

Sheriff Jeff Edds noted some issues with cars that had been wrecked. He noted one that they did not know at that time if one of them would be totaled. The insurance company gave the option to fix the vehicle. They would pay \$18,223.00 for the loss of the vehicle. A mechanic estimated that the vehicle could be fixed for \$3,000; therefore, we decided to have the vehicle repaired. He noted that the deductible is \$500, the buyback is \$4,017.00, and that leaves \$13,606.00 remaining. Sheriff Edds suggested using that to purchase another vehicle.

Chairman Maness inquired about the cost for another vehicle.

Sheriff Edds replied that the last vehicle was \$43,000, and the money from the insurance company would pay for the upfit of the vehicle.

Chairman Maness clarified that the \$43,000 does not include the upfit.

Sheriff Edds replied that is correct.

Chairman Maness asked the County Administrator about funding the vehicle.

County Administrator Josh Wilson recommended that the vehicle be funded from the Regional Jail funds.

Supervisor Darrel Jeter inquired about grant funds being used for that.

Sheriff Edds replied that grant funds could not be used for that.

Hearing no further comments, Chairman Maness closed Citizen Expression Period.

There was discussion about funding the Sheriff’s vehicle.

On a motion by Darrel W. Jeter, duly seconded by Michael K. Brickey, this Board hereby authorizes the purchase of a vehicle for the Sheriff’s Office with Regional Jail funds.

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.

BREAK: 9:50 a.m.

RECONVENE: 10:03 a.m.

County Administrator Josh Wilson reported on Cove Creek. He noted that letters regarding Cove Creek were sent to the Army Corp of Engineers, Congressman Griffith, Delegate Kilgore, Senator Pillion, and the Governor, but he has not heard back. He noted that he would follow-up. Mr. Wilson reported that there has been discussion with NRCS about different projects. He noted that the project Mr. Fields has been talking about is the Scott Three Project. It was one that was noted as not being eligible for funding. Mr. Wilson noted that, after he and Mr. Dingus talked with them, they reviewed it again. It was added back in and awarded. This would be federal funding and would required a local match from the county. He reviewed the estimates. This particular project cost is \$833,333.33 for construction. The county would be responsible for 20 percent of the construction and 90 percent of engineering costs. They would give us \$109,094.89 for engineering for all the projects. Mr. Wilson pointed out that they have been checking with VDEM sources to help with this match, but this program through NRCS focuses on repair or restoration whereas all the state funds are for mitigation. They do a lot of similar work but do not match up for funding. This is all reimbursable money. The agreement is due at the end of the week. They would hold the funds in an account for us, and the funds could be drawn down with receipts. Any monies not used would go back and reallocated.

Mr. Maness clarified that the county would not be obligated to spend all of it.

Mr. Wilson replied that is correct. He went on to say that he needs to send the paperwork to place the funds in an account. Then, board action is needed to start the project since the county would be funding some of the project.

Mr. Casteel questioned why the county would be responsible when the creek is controlled by FEMA.

Mr. Dingus replied the Army Corp of Engineers do that.

Mr. Casteel replied yes. They are the one who authorizes getting in the creek or not getting in the creek. He went on to say that the state tells you if you can fish or can't fish.

Mr. Wilson pointed out that any work done in the creek would take permits.

Mr. Maness clarified that Mr. Casteel is saying that they control most of it so why aren't they paying more.

Mr. Wilson agreed. He went on to say that he tried to contact the Army Corp of Engineers through the Nashville and Abingdon offices, has not gotten to talk to anyone, but will keep trying.

Mr. Fields stated that he has been trying to get in contact with them as well.

Mr. Wilson stated that Mr. Fields did show us around, and there are definitely areas of concern. There could be issues with strong rainfall and flooding.

Mr. Fields noted that there is a gentleman who has a stone business in Duffield. He has talked about expanding into creek rock for landscaping. If we could get a permit allowing him to get into the creek, he would clean the creek channel out for the rock. That would be a win-win situation if we can get the permit because that would not cost the county anything.

Mr. Casteel noted that he would fix the banks back to keep it from washing out.

Mr. Wilson stated that would be the best-case scenario if we can get the Army Corp of Engineers to issue the permits. Letters have been sent, and he is not past going to the office but has to figure out where the office is located.

Supervisor Eddie Skeen inquired about the deadline.

Mr. Wilson replied that the paperwork would need to be sent by the end of the week to get the funds in a holding account.

Supervisor Eddie Skeen questioned when the individual would want to apply for a permit.

Mr. Fields replied as soon as possible.

Mr. Wilson noted that Mr. Brickey had reached out to VDEM about debris removal as well, and he would like to talk with VDEM again about this.

Mr. Casteel noted debris in Dry Creek near Durham's Chapel.

Mr. Wilson noted that was part of what the email to VDEM was requesting.

Junior Jennings from Dry Creek noted the trees growing in Dry Creek. He noted that a flood could take his bridge out and cut the road out.

Mr. Wilson suggested follow-up with VDEM for cleaning out debris.

On a motion by Eddie N. Skeen, duly seconded by Christopher S. Maness, this Board hereby authorizes the County Administrator to accept funds through NRCS to improve Cove Creek, and pursue the route of using an independent contractor.

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.

County Administrator Josh Wilson reported that Rebecca Divine with the Nickelsville Planning Commission will be doing bookings for Keith Memorial Park. Mr. Wilson noted that the Nickelsville Recreation Area and Seniors Club with Larry Vicars have done a great job with that park. He noted that Supervisor Eddie Skeen suggested that the Board do something to recognize Larry Vicars and the Senior Volunteers at Keith Memorial Park.

It was the consensus of the Board to present the volunteers with a plaque at the February meeting.

County Administrator Josh Wilson reported that a meeting will be held at Gate City Middle School on Thursday at 6:00 p.m. regarding the investigation of pediatric cancer cases in Scott County. Mr. Wilson encouraged everyone to attend. He noted a virtual link. Residents can reach out to the County Administrative Office for that link.

Chairman Maness noted that the Ballard Representatives scheduled to speak were overbooked and unable to present today.

Mr. Wilson stated that he would reach out to them about attending the February meeting. They had reached out to us. Mr. Birdsong was going to present on some research that Ballard has been working on, and Ms. Williams was going to present on some educational pieces working with students.

County Administrator Josh Wilson reported on the Regional Improvement Commission gaming tax with an estimated \$900,000 received. He went on to say that Bristol approached the Commission about changing the split with Bristol getting a bigger portion and they cited financial struggles being the landfill and increased expenses with the casino being in Bristol City limits. Bristol requested 50 percent and everyone else splitting 50 percent. This is the minimal requested proposal from the City of Bristol. The Commission voted to take it out of the Commission and bring it to the individual boards of the localities. Mr. Wilson stated that Scott County would have received \$732,000 instead of \$900,000 with the Bristol proposal. Bristol originally requested 50 percent but finally agreed to ask the individual localities for 27 percent. Mr. Wilson pointed out that Bristol gets property, meals, and lodging tax and any other revenue coming in from visitors.

There was discussion among the Board.

On a motion by Stefanie C. Addington, duly seconded by L. Michele Glover this Board hereby is not in favor of changing the Southwest Virginia Regional Improvement funding formula for the Bristol Hard Rock Casino.

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.

Amy Vicars presented bookkeeping.

On a motion by Stefanie C. Addington, duly seconded by Darrel W. Jeter, this Board hereby appropriates the following:

Volunteer Fire Departments

\$19,165.00 to Volunteer Fire Departments - State Paid ATL 1000-32200-405624 for Fire Programs

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 Stefanie C. Addington, duly seconded by Darrel W. Jeter, this Board hereby appropriates the following:

Sheriff’s Department

\$2,426.60 to 1000-31200-401108 Sheriff’s Department – Payroll/Other
\$185.64 to 1000-31200-402100 FICA

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 Stefanie C. Addington, duly seconded by Darrel W. Jeter, this Board hereby accepts Sheriff’s Office – VA DCJS Department of Criminal Justice Services SRO School Resource Officer Continuation Grants 544221-FY26 Grant Award# 26-11-D totaling \$261,996.00 and appropriates per grant award amounts in the already established budget department code 31220.

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 Stefanie C. Addington, duly seconded by Darrel W. Jeter, this Board hereby accepts Sheriff’s Office – VA DCJS Department of Criminal Justice Services SRO School Resource Officer New Positions Grant 554806-CY26 grant award# 55991 totaling \$374,173.00 and appropriate per grant award amounts in the already established budget department code 31220.

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 Stefanie C. Addington, duly seconded by Darrel W. Jeter, this Board hereby accepts Sheriff’s Office – VA DCJS Department of Criminal Justice Services SRO School Resource Officer New Positions Grant 554806-CY26 Grant award# 558992 totaling \$453,934.00 and appropriate per grant award amounts in the already established budget department code 31220.

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.

Tina Seay presented applications for appointment.

Appointment – Community Policy Management Team (CPMT)

Christopher S. Maness nominated April Hutchinson

On a motion by Stefanie C. Addington, duly seconded by Christopher S. Maness, this Board hereby ceases nominations and, by acclamation, appoints April Hutchinson to serve an unexpired term on the Community Policy Management Team (CPMT).

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.

Appointment – Building Code Appeals Board

Christopher S. Maness nominated Jeff Kegley

On a motion by Stefanie C. Addington, duly seconded by Christopher S. Maness, this board hereby ceases nominations and, by acclamation, appoints Jeff Kegley to serve a five-year term on the Building Code Appeals Board.

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.

Appointment – Southwest Virginia EMS Council

Eddie N. Skeen nominated Wendel Burke

On a motion by Christopher S. Maness, duly seconded by Stefanie C. Addington, this Board hereby ceases nominations and, by acclamation, appoints Wendel Burke to serve a three-year term on the Southwest Virginia EMS Council.

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.

County Administrator Josh Wilson presented the claims and related reports (Said reports being attached to the minutes of this meeting; Minute Book 35 Attachment No: 89).

On a motion by Darrel W. Jeter duly seconded by Danny M. Casteel, this Board hereby orders that:

- (a) General Fund 1000 be allowed the sum of \$2,120,190.25 for voucher numbers 50027427-50027434, 50027436-50027450, 50027452-50027482, 50027484-50027501, 50027503-50027512, 50027575-50027576, 50027578-50027579, 50027581-50027582, 50027630-50027633, 50027635-50027644, 50027646-50027693, 50027695-50027699, 50027701-50027709, 50027711-50027725, 50027753-50027775, 50027777-50027779, 50027781-50027809, 50027833-50027840, 50027842-50027860, 50027862 and wire 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, and 743.and Payroll/DD fund \$613,583.98.
- (b) Regional Improvement Fund 1050 be allowed the sum of \$57,857.01 for voucher numbers for voucher numbers 50027577, 50027580, 50027710, 50027776, 50027780, and 50027841.
- (c) Courthouse Maintenance Construction Fund 1090 be allowed the sum of \$448.80 for voucher number 50027673.
- (d) Health Insurance REIMB Fund 1098 be allowed the sum of \$247,765.00 for Wire 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, and 731.
- (e) Courthouse Security Fund 1210 be allowed the sum of \$831.33 for voucher number 50027707 and Wire 741, 742, and 743 and Payroll/DD Fund 1210 \$2,348.84.
- (f) Motor Vehicle Violation Fines 1225be allowed the sum of \$39.95 for voucher number 50027634.

- (g) Weapons Permit Fund 1230 be allowed the sum of \$2,106.59 for voucher number 50027635 and Wire 741 and 742 Payroll/DD Fund 1230 \$603.04.
- (h) Sheriff’s Community Outreach Fund 1280 be allowed the sum of \$561.50 for voucher numbers 50027444, 50027759, and 50027761.
- (i) Sheriff’s Miscellaneous Fund 1285 be allowed the sum of \$4,909.72 for voucher numbers 50027645, 50027694, and 50027759.
- (j) Law Library Fund be allowed the sum of \$271.98 for voucher numbers 50027474 and 50027502.
- (k) CWAO Collection Fund 1305 be allowed the sum of \$1,142.48 for voucher numbers 50027799 and 50027809 and Wire 739, 740, 741, and 742 and Payroll/DD Fund 1310 \$1,566.00.
- (l) CWAO Forfeit Asset Fund 1320 be allowed the sum of \$5,416.16 for voucher numbers 50027443, 50027451, 50027757.
- (m) Wireless Grant – 911 Fund 1505 be allowed the sum of \$5,989.90 for voucher numbers 50027435 and 50027700 and Wire 741 and 742 and Payroll/DD Fund 1505 \$1,798.96.
- (n) American Rescue Plan Act Fund 1610 be allowed the sum of \$2,242.44 for voucher number 50027708.
- (o) Coal Road Tax Fund 1650 be allowed the sum of \$74.26 for voucher numbers 50027483 and 50027861
- (p) Social Services Fund 5000 be allowed the sum of \$316,061.60 for voucher numbers 50027328-50027332, 50027334-50027368, 50027370-50027426, 50027583-50027589, 50027625-50027629, 50027726-50027731, 50027810-50027819, 50027830-50027832 and 50027333 and 50027369 void and Wire 733, 734, 735, 736, and 737 and Payroll/DD Fund 5000 \$113,103.83.
- (q) CPMT Fund 5500 be allowed the sum of \$77,822.29 for Voucher Numbers 50027884 – 50027898.

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.

Mr. Wilson mentioned that he would be traveling to Richmond on Monday for the Tobacco Commission meeting and back to Richmond for the Legislative Reception and Tourism Day on the Hill at the end of the month.

Chairman Maness stated that he would be attending as well and requested that the Board send him a list of any concerns.

Supervisor Eddie Skeen spoke about the budget report and delinquent property taxes being \$140,000. He went on to say that the year-to-date accrual is \$4,786,000, and that tells him the Treasurer is collecting.

The County Administrator pointed out that the Treasurer has been working diligently to collect.

Supervisor Eddie Skeen pointed out that there have been delays with personal property taxes. The budget was \$3,042,000.00 and the year-to-date is 1,500,000.00.

The County Administrator replied that there would be some supplementals in the mail. After speaking with Ms. Tiller and Mr. Helms, we are hopeful that we will hit our projection.

Supervisor Skeen pointed out the interest on bank deposits was \$750,000, and it is \$168,000.00 year-to-date. Also, Supervisor Skeen mentioned School Resource Officer reimbursement. The budget amount is \$943,000, and year-to-date is zero accrual. Supervisor Skeen inquired about that being paid at the end of the year.

Amy Vicars replied that the School Board reimburses twice per year. The Sheriff’s Office invoices the school.

Supervisor Skeen noted that Pierson is 2,200,000.00 per year.

Supervisor Stefanie Addington replied that we will not receive that until the end of the year.

Supervisor Skeen stated that unappropriated surplus was discussed, and he cannot remember what that is. There was 1,500,000 in the budget and now it is zero.

County Administrator Josh Wilson and Supervisor Stefanie Addington stated that they would follow-up on that.

Chairman Maness noted that Public Service Authority Director Mike Dishman would not be addressing the Board today, but he would give a presentation once a report is given by the Virginia Department of Health.

There was discussion among the Board regarding a request for a dump trailer for the firewood ministry. The estimates provided by Mr. Barnett were considered.

On a motion by Stefanie C. Addington, duly seconded by Darrel W. Jeter, this Board hereby funds Scott County Ministerial Association \$5,800 from Board Contingency to purchase a dump trailer for a firewood ministry.

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.

Supervisor Danny Casteel inquired about any response regarding Mr. Begley's property affected by the flood.

County Administrator Josh Wilson reported that he has not heard anything regarding the Begley property that was flooded. He pointed out that property was submitted for funds through the Governors program for storm relief. They were looking to get those paid out before Governor Youngkin leaves office.

Supervisor Eddie Skeen noted comments made by Bobbie Powers during Citizen Expression Period about material weaknesses found and one material non-compliance finding during the 2024 audit. He inquired about any action taken with that.

Assistant County Administrator/Public Works Director Bill Dingus noted that was related to the school system.

Supervisor Skeen pointed out that the audit was presented to the Board of Supervisors and inquired about any action that needs to be taken.

County Administrator Josh Wilson noted that there was nothing on our end. Everything was good.

Supervisor Skeen referred to failure to provide ledger and asked if that also applies to the school system.

The County Administrator replied that reconciliations would be the Treasurer's Office. They have been working diligently to get caught up.

Chairman Maness noted that both the Commissioner of the Revenue and Treasurer's Office were under the gun as soon as they took office.

Supervisor Skeen noted one recommendation was made that the school system should not do prepayments of goods. He went on to say that he was curious about the amount that is being prepaid at the end of the year.

Supervisor Addington replied that Supervisor Skeen would have to ask the School Board.

Supervisor Skeen asked if the county did all the accounting for the school.

The County Administrator replied no.

Supervisor Skeen pointed out that Lee County considered returning their excess funds to the state. Their Board of Supervisors had to make a decision on whether to send the funds back or rollover to the next year, and he inquired about this being a similar situation. He inquired about the auditors getting back with the school system about the recommendations.

The County Administrator replied they already have.

Supervisor Eddie Skeen noted the passing of Allen Hicks and the contributions made by Allen Hicks and his family with music on the Crooked Road Trail. Governor Youngkin announced the completion of the Cumberland Outdoor Access Legacy in the Spring of 2026. He noted that is the largest public land easement acquisition in Virginia's history. It includes 65,000 acres in Wise, Dickenson, Russell, and Buchanan counties. It will be for the benefit of conservation outdoor enthusiast, and it gives Spearhead Trails a more permanent agreement on their trail system. They expanded on a new trail that opened on Christmas Day in Tazewell County, and that was the Laurel Creek Trail. This is just a small part of the larger 253,000 acres in the Cumberland Forest Project for Eastern Kentucky, East Tennessee, and Southwest Virginia. Supervisor Skeen spoke about the PIPP Program and pointed out that anyone interested in the program to assist with their electric bills can pick up an application at Social Services. Supervisor Skeen advised that people must reapply annually for the PIPP Program, and the electric bill must be in the applicant's name and is based on income and household size. Supervisor Skeen stated that he spoke with Virginia Department of Transportation Allan Sumpter about updates. Virginia Department of Transportation continues to pave on Eaton Hill and gravel as needed with a focus on potholes. Supervisor Eddie Skeen reported that he received a call from the Pastor of Pleasant View Church on Highway 71 in Nickelsville. Pleasant View Lane was paved this past summer, but it was not smoothed out going into the church parking lot causing issues with low-profile cars driving. Supervisor Skeen reported that the problem has been corrected. Supervisor Skeen noted that the Frayleytown Bridge Project is schedule to be advertised June 2026. Supervisor Skeen stated that he noticed in the VACO breakout that a one percent sales tax was being used by one of the counties.

The County Administrator replied that several counties do that in northern and central Virginia to build an account to put toward Smart Scale Projects.

Chairman Maness inquired about any county doing that.

The County Administrator replied that any county can do that. He went on to say that there is not a match required to get a project through Smart Scale currently; however, the project scores better with that. A project can still go through with no contribution from the county.

Supervisor Skeen recalled a program Virginia Department of Transportation has that is a 50/50 match. He requested that the County Administrator pursue that along with the sales tax while he is in Richmond. Supervisor Skeen recommended that some of the casino funds be earmarked for road improvements on a 50/50 share with Virginia Department of Transportation.

Supervisor Addington and Chairman Maness pointed out that casino funds cannot be used for roads.

County Administrator Josh Wilson noted that Transportation is included. He noted that would be a wise choice to start putting some funds away for projects, but it would take a while to accumulate.

Chairman Maness requested that be confirmed.

Supervisor Danny Casteel pointed out that something needs to be done with 250 miles of unpaved roads.

Supervisor Skeen noted the reconciliation of the students in the school system. That needs to be looked at each year and used as a 50/50 match for roads. Also, Supervisor Skeen reported that he spoke with the Regional Manager of Dollar General about a Dollar General Market for Duffield. He went on to say that the Regional Manager thought it was a huge opportunity for that area and passed it along to upper management.

Chairman Maness stated that he has tried to get numerous grocery stores to locate in Duffield. So far, Dollar General is the most promising.

Supervisor Skeen pointed out that he had received numerous calls throughout the county with trash issues.

County Administrator Josh Wilson stated that he and Supervisor Skeen had a good conversation addressing some concerns he had. Mr. Wilson went on to say that he passed it along to Public Works Director Bill Dingus.

Mr. Dingus addressed one of the issues being trashing coming off trucks. He noted that December 26th is the busiest day of the year. The packer trucks visited many of the sites twice, and they still filled up by the end of the day. If the dumpsters are heaped up, it is going to fall off. The truck drivers have an extended post that they can reach to the top of the truck to get much of that. He pointed out that the ladders have been removed from the trucks until training with a safety harness to go on an elevated ladder is conducted. Mr. Dingus reported that he told the employees to not use the ladders, and he removed the ladders after seeing one of the employees on camera on top of a packer truck. That particular day, a driver was at the Antioch site and a couple bags went on top, and he noticed that his pole was not there. The pole was set out at the Transfer Station and forgotten to put back in the truck. Mr. Dingus reported that thousands upon thousands of bags of trash were moved that day, and we are talking about one that fell off a truck. Trash will come off a packer truck from time to time. The litter along the road is not contributed to that. He pointed out areas that packer trucks don't run with litter along the roadway. Another issue was the Tennessee vehicles coming into the sites. Mr. Dingus noted that having attendants at the solid waste sites has been cut in half. The attendants have 24 hours per week to man the sites. There are 12 sites open 24 hours per day from 7:00 a.m. on Monday until 8:00 p.m. Saturday. Two of them close everyday and are open 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Mr. Dingus stated that he looked at the cameras at five sites, and there were 40,000 hits this past month. He went on to say that it is an insurmountable ordeal to look at each one of those tags for a Tennessee vehicle. He noted that the Litter Control Officer has used the cameras for people who come in and illegally dumped or created some type of situation where it is obvious that they dumped it on the ground. At that time, we look at the camera and start an investigation. It all takes time. Mr. Dingus pointed out that the only way to curb the Tennessee vehicles is for the attendant to be there when the sites are open. A lot of that has fallen on the Litter Control Officer, but the tools are in place for law enforcement. Any deputy in the Sheriff's Office could take on that class three misdemeanor if that is what we want our law enforcement to do. Mr. Dingus pointed out that a Tennessee person throwing garbage in a dumpster is not litter, and that would be a hard case to get a judge to convict. The best way to get a handle on it is to have the sites manned when they are open. There are 24 hours budgeted so you could only have them open three days per week or the budget could be increased, but you will still have a reduction in the hours that they are open. The centers are all about convenience. It is inevitable that sites are going to fill up, and it is inevitable that people are going to come in that should not be using the site.

Chairman Maness questioned what the camera provides about the vehicle tag and the tag being looked up to see if it is Virginia or Tennessee.

Mr. Dingus replied that you have to be a law enforcement officer to look up a tag number.

Mr. Wilson pointed out that the cameras do not recognize a Virginia versus a Tennessee tag. It can do color of vehicle and a lot of things. He noted that a person would have to watch the camera to pick out a Tennessee vehicle, and that would take a lot of time for someone to do that. The ones that have a permit to dump at the sites are logged in.

Chairman Maness inquired about the number a person could review in one week.

Mr. Dingus replied that you could review a lot and provide tag numbers to law enforcement.

Chairman Maness suggested reviewing 50 random. Chairman Maness suggested reviewing 50 to 100 per week could provide enough fear if they started to get letters.

County Administrator Josh Wilson pointed out that Mr. Dingus reviewed the East Carters Valley site the last 30 days and found ten percent to be Tennessee.

Mr. Dingus noted that he can get the tag numbers, but he cannot get the addresses for these people. That would have to be law enforcement.

Chairman Maness suggested that five be identified and sent to law enforcement.

Mr. Casteel stated that he has been told that the most Tennessee vehicles are seen dumping on Saturday mornings. He suggested sitting in the building on Saturday mornings to catch them. Mr. Casteel stated that he has caught as many as three per week in the trash at the Fort Blackmore and Clinchport sites. He pointed out that there is one that goes through the trash to find mail. He went on to say that he has reported it to Sheriff Edds and J.C. Starnes but nothing has been done about it.

Mr. Dingus reported that a previous Board wanted the sites open longer. The week after the Christmas holiday is like a flood. Most days, there are no issues. The Tennessee vehicles and scavenging happen when attendants are not at the sites.

Mr. Casteel suggested a camera be put on them and have four people watch them 24/7.

Supervisor Skeen questioned where the camera footage can be viewed and who can see it.

Mr. Dingus replied that it can be viewed remotely. He went on to say that he can view the camera footage, the transfer station can view it, the Litter Control Officer can view it, and the Sheriff's Office can view it.

Supervisor Skeen inquired about placing an emphasis on it for a week to see what kind of results you get.

Mr. Dingus replied that the transfer station can and has been writing down tags at the transfer station.

Supervisor Skeen inquired about the ordinance and escalating the fine.

County Attorney Sally Kegley noted that \$500 is the maximum on a class three.

Supervisor Skeen stated that some of the cities in the State have exceeded that.

Ms. Kegley pointed out that the cities are different from the counties.

Supervisor Skeen requested that Ms. Kegley check on that. He noted that would put more bite into the ticketing process.

Ms. Kegley noted that would not be a ticket if it is a civil fine. She went on to say that would be a different administrative process.

Supervisor Darrel Jeter recommended talking with Sheriff Edds about having his deputies monitor the sites along with the Litter Control Officer. If a Tennessee vehicle comes into the site, they could be given a ticket.

Mr. Dingus pointed out that the Litter Control Officer goes to the East Carters Valley site often.

Supervisor Darrel Jeter stated that he needs to come to Yuma too. He went on to say that he sees truck loads from Tennessee pass his home.

Mr. Dingus replied that he is not denying that. He went on to say that he is reiterating the best way to stop it is to have them manned.

Supervisor Darrel Jeter reported that citizens are complaining to him that they cannot dump their trash because Tennessee people are dumping their trash.

Supervisor Skeen asked if people are being convicted.

Mr. Dingus replied that there will be a report next month, and he will try to get that information. Typically, it is a hard sell. It is not against the law for them to come into the site. It is against the ordinance for them to throw their trash in the dumpster. There have been convictions for scavenging and illegal dumping.

Supervisor Skeen stated that the penalty can be increased through an ordinance and use those funds to add more people. Supervisor Skeen asked if there is anything on top of the trash trucks to seal it off and keep trash from blowing out.

Mr. Dingus replied that there is a cylinder that closes it off. Mr. Dingus noted that trash is suppose to be bagged. The best way to mitigate everything is manned compactor sites. However, the solid waste centers may would have to be consolidated. We are doing it the cheapest and most convenient way we can now.

Supervisor Michele Glover asked the cost of a compactor.

Mr. Dingus replied \$200,000 per site. Consolidating sites would be unpopular. Someone would have to be there to operate the compactor. Mr. Dingus stated that he would want to bring in an engineering consultant and have recycling available at the sites. It would be a better system even though there would be fewer sites.

Supervisor Skeen inquired about roadside litter and the methodology used to determine where to pick up trash.

Mr. Dingus replied that it is not the county's problem. It is Virginia Department of Transportation rights-of-way. The County has two components that help with it. One is the Assign-a-Highway program that the Litter Control Officer administers. This is for those who get in trouble in court. It is a part of their probation, and the Litter Control Officer assigns them a section of highway. The other component is S.C.O.T.T. Service that assigns litter pickup. The Regional Jail can take inmates out to pick up litter, and there is an Adopt-a- Highway Program where citizen groups can adopt a section of highway. The Litter Control Officer looks at dumping, litter issues, the Assign-A-Highway Program, and educational programs.

County Administrator Josh Wilson explained the unappropriated surplus. He went on to say that each line item has that to balance the budget. He went on to say that it is not revenue.

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) (7) Legal Counsel being legal counsel for two court cases – one county employee and one former employee.

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 Stefanie C. Addington, duly seconded by Darrel W. Jeter, 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.

Chairman Christopher S. Maness adjourned the meeting to February 4, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

CHAIRMAN

CLERK