

At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors, Alleghany County, Virginia held on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Alleghany County Governmental Complex, Covington, Virginia, thereof:

PRESENT: G. Matt Garten, Chairman  
James M. Griffith, Vice-Chairman  
Stephen A. Bennett  
Gregory A. Dodd  
Ronald S. Goings  
Cletus W. Nicely

and Reid Walters, County Administrator  
Suzanne Adcock-Nicely, Director of Finance  
Jim Guynn, County Attorney  
Melissa A. Munsey, Deputy Clerk to the Board

ABSENT: Shannon P. Cox

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chairman called the regular meeting to order. Mr. Nicely gave the invocation and the audience remained standing for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Garten stated that a Closed Meeting is being added to the agenda to discuss personnel and contractual matters.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN:

Mr. Walters, acting as Chairman *Pro Tem*, called for nominations for Chairman of the Board.

Mr. Bennett nominated Mr. G. Matt Garten for Chairman.

On motion of Mr. Nicely, seconded by Mr. Bennett, that nominations for Chairman of the Board be closed.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Absent
Gregory A. Dodd	Yes
G. Matt Garten	Yes
Ronald S. Goings	Yes
James M. Griffith	Yes
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes

On motion of Mr. Griffith, seconded by Mr. Bennett, that Mr. G. Matt Garten be elected Chairman of the Board.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Absent
Gregory A. Dodd	Yes
G. Matt Garten	Yes
Ronald S. Goings	Yes
James M. Griffith	Yes
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN:

Mr. Garten, the elected Chairman, took over the meeting. He asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman of the Board.

Mr. Nicely nominated Mr. James M. Griffith for Vice-Chairman.

On motion of Mr. Nicely, seconded by Mr. Dodd, that nominations for Vice-Chairman of the Board be closed.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Absent
Gregory A. Dodd	Yes
Ronald S. Goings	Yes
James M. Griffith	Yes
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes

G. Matt Garten            Yes

On motion of Mr. Nicely, seconded by Mr. Dodd, that Mr. James M. Griffith be elected Vice-Chairman of the Board.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Absent
Gregory A. Dodd	Yes
Ronald S. Goings	Yes
James M. Griffith	Yes
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
G. Matt Garten	Yes

ADOPTION OF CODE OF ETHICS:

Mr. Garten commented that the Board has a draft resolution of the Code of Ethics in the agenda packet which is the same as last year.

On motion of Mr. Nicely, seconded by Mr. Griffith, that the following resolution be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors that the Board and County officials will be guided by the following Code of Ethics:

The ethical elected and non-elected County official should:

- \* Properly administer the affairs of the County.
- \* Promote decisions which only benefit the public interest.
- \* Actively promote public confidence in County government.
- \* Keep safe all funds and other properties of the County.
- \* Conduct and perform the duties of the office diligently and promptly dispose of the business of the County.
- \* Maintain a positive image to pass constant public scrutiny.
- \* Evaluate all decisions so that the best service or product is obtained at a minimal cost without sacrificing quality and fiscal responsibility.
- \* Inject the prestige of the office into every day dealings with public employees and associates.
- \* Maintain a respectful attitude toward employees, other public officials, colleagues, and associates.
- \* Effectively and efficiently work with governmental agencies, political subdivisions, and other organizations in order to further the interest of the County.
- \* Faithfully comply with all laws and regulations applicable to the County and impartially apply them to everyone.

The ethical elected and non-elected County official should not:

- \* Engage in interests that are not compatible with the impartial and objective performance of his or her duties.
- \* Improperly influence or attempt to influence other officials to act in his or her own benefit.
- \* Accept anything of value from any source which is offered to influence his or her action as a public official.

The ethical elected and non-elected County official accepts the responsibility that his or her mission is that of servant and steward to the public.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Absent
Gregory A. Dodd	Yes
Ronald S. Goings	Yes
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
James M. Griffith	Yes
G. Matt Garten	Yes

ADOPTION OF BOARD BY-LAWS:

Mr. Garten stated that the Board has a draft resolution in the agenda packet to adopt the Board's By-Laws which are the same as last year.

On motion of Mr. Nicely, seconded by Mr. Dodd, that the following resolution be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that the By-Laws of the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors be approved as submitted.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Absent
Gregory A. Dodd	Yes
Ronald S. Goings	Yes
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
James M. Griffith	Yes
G. Matt Garten	Yes

The adopted Board By-Laws and Public Comment Guidelines are as follows:

**BY-LAWS  
ALLEGHANY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

*These by-laws are for the purpose of promoting properly conducted meaningful and orderly meetings of the County Board of Supervisors in the transaction of County business, and to maintain decorum at all times. The by-laws are designed to allow the Board and its Chairman to conduct the meetings efficiently, allowing all necessary and appropriate opportunities for any person to address the Board on matters under consideration.*

**SECTION (1) REGULAR MEETINGS:**

(A) *The Alleghany County Board of Supervisors shall meet in one (1) Regular Meeting a month on the first Tuesday at 7:00 P.M. in the Board Room of the County Governmental Complex for the purpose of conducting the business of Alleghany County. Any Regular Meeting that falls on Election Day in November shall be held on the following day (Wednesday).*

(1) *The Agenda for the Regular Meeting shall be prepared by noon on the Thursday prior to the first Tuesday in each month. The Agenda shall be placed on the County web site on the Friday prior to the first Tuesday of each month. The agenda shall be as follows:*

- Call to Order*
- Invocation*
- Pledge of Allegiance*
- Minutes*
- Public Hearing*
- Public Comment*
- Unfinished Business*
- New Business*
- County Administrator's Report*
- Board Member Comments (Inquiries/Reports)*
- Closed Meeting (as needed)*
- Adjournment*

(2) *The following is an explanation of various agenda headings:*

*Public Hearings are conducted in accordance with the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, for the purpose of receiving public input on the topic of the public hearing. The Board has a policy to not act on a public hearing on the same night, but may waive this policy and take action with unanimous approval of members present.*

*Public Comment gives the public an opportunity to address the Board on matters appropriate to the responsibilities of the Board. There shall be a maximum time limit of five (5) minutes for comments from each speaker with a maximum time limit of 30 minutes allocated to Public Comment in any one meeting. A sign-up sheet will be provided at a table near the meeting room for Public Comment. Adopted Public Comment Guidelines for speakers will also be provided on the table. If the number of individuals on the sign-up sheet would exceed the allotted 30-minute time-frame, the Chairman has the latitude to place a shorter limit on individuals. After the Board has heard comments from those who signed up, others in the audience who have not had an opportunity to speak and desire to do so will be invited to speak, time permitting. If speakers have copies of comments available, they should be provided to the Deputy Clerk to the Board for inclusion in the minutes. If this section is amended at any time, then the adopted Public Comment Guidelines will automatically be amended.*

*Unfinished Business consists of items that have been presented and discussed at a previous meeting, but more discussion was necessary for clarification prior to a vote or the item was tabled. Items under Unfinished Business can be voted on at any time.*

*New Business consists of items that have not been presented or discussed or is something new in relation to an item that has previously been presented or discussed. Items under New Business can be voted on at any time.*

(3) *The agenda shall be finalized by noon on the Tuesday prior to any Board meeting. The agenda shall not thereafter be changed except by Board action taken at the meeting.*

*Persons wanting a topic placed on the agenda shall make the request to the County Administrator or Deputy Clerk to the Board. The County Administrator will then report to the Chairman on the request.*

(4) *Matters not on the agenda for the Regular Meeting may be considered by the Board when requested by the Administrator, or his/her representative, the County Attorney, or a member of the Board. The item will be added to the New Business or Unfinished Business section of the agenda.*

(5) *All meetings of the Board of Supervisors shall be governed by the Code of Virginia, Roberts Rules of Order,*

as revised, and these by-laws.

- (6) *The County Attorney or his Assistant shall be the parliamentarian and the legal advisor to the Board of Supervisors at all meetings.*
- (7) *A roll call vote shall be held for all motions except to go into a Closed Meeting, come out of a Closed Meeting, and to adjourn.*

**SECTION (2) SPECIAL MEETINGS/PUBLIC HEARINGS/WORK SESSIONS/ADJOURNED MEETINGS:**

- (A) *Special meetings, public hearings, work sessions, and adjourned meetings shall be held when necessary in accordance with provisions in the Code of Virginia pertaining thereto.*

**SECTION (3) ADHERENCE TO POLICY:**

- (A) *Policy matters of the Board shall be followed and adhered to and no action should be taken by the Board of Supervisors if such action would actually be in conflict or at cross purposes with the intent of an established policy. The Board may, where circumstances warrant, waive a given policy for a particular situation and action as the Board deems desirable, with unanimous approval of members present.*

**SECTION (4) PRECEDENCE OF LAWS:**

- (A) *These by-laws shall govern in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the federal, state, or local law.*
- (B) *Any provision of any part of these by-laws which are found to be in conflict with the Code of Virginia or the Constitution shall be null and void and the remaining provisions shall continue to apply.*

**SECTION (5) CHANGES OR AMENDMENTS:**

- (A) *These by-laws may be changed or amended by action of the Board of Supervisors at any regular meeting, provided that each Board member is given proper notice of any proposed change or amendment.*

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Deputy Clerk to the Board

**PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES**

- *A sign-in sheet will be placed near the Board Room door for citizens who wish to speak during the Public Comment. Citizens should list their name, address, and topic to be addressed. After all speakers who signed up have spoken, anyone else interested in speaking will be given the opportunity.*
- *Speakers are limited to five minutes. There is a maximum time limit of 30 minutes allocated to Public Comment in any one meeting. If the number of individuals on the sign-up sheet would exceed the allotted 30-minute time-frame, the Chairman has the latitude to place a shorter limit on individuals.*
- *Speakers are to provide a copy of remarks to the Deputy Clerk, if in writing.*
- *The Board of Supervisors encourages and values citizen input on all topics or issues of relevance to the Board's responsibilities.*
- *Speakers shall direct all comments to the Board (not individual members or employees of the Board).*
- *Profane or vulgar language, partisan political statements, or comments related to the conduct or performance of Board members or staff are not appropriate in this setting.*
- *Board members are not expected to respond to questions or comments unless the Chairman deems such response appropriate. Board members may seek clarification or additional information from speakers through the Chair.*

**MINUTES:**

Hearing no corrections or deletions, the Chairman declared the following minutes approved as submitted: (1) a regular meeting held on December 3, 2024; and (2) an adjourned meeting held on December 5, 2024.

**PUBLIC HEARING AND APPROVAL - LORI ALBERTS SPECIAL USE PERMIT:**

Public Hearing was held to consider an application from Lori Alberts for a Special Use Permit to locate a double-wide manufactured home in a Residential R-2 zone classification on two parcels which total approximately 0.838 acres located at 506 Wintergreen Avenue in the Wesgate area of the Sharon District of Alleghany County. The property is further identified on the Real Property Identification Maps of Alleghany County as Tax Map 44F1, Section 2, Block 61, Lots 1 and 2.

The Chairman announced that this public hearing was advertised in the Virginian Review on Tuesday, December 24, 2024 and Tuesday, December 31, 2024 in accordance with the Code of Virginia. He then called the public hearing to order.

Ms. Beth Stull, County Planner, reviewed the staff report which is as follows:

**STAFF REPORT**

**Case Number:** SU-136  
**Name of Petitioner(s):** Lori Alberts  
**Date Request Filed:** November 25, 2024  
**Public Hearing Date:** January 7, 2025 (BOS)  
**Staff Reviewer:** Elizabeth Stull, County Planner

**SUMMARY OF REQUEST**

*The applicant is requesting a special use permit to place a double-wide manufactured home on two lots located on Wintergreen Avenue in the Wesgate area. The property is further identified on the Real Property Identification Maps as Map 44F1, Section 2, Block 61, Lots 1 and 2.*

*The property is zoned Residential R-2 and has a residence where Ms. Alberts lives currently which will be demolished once the new double-wide has been completed. For the applicant to place a manufactured home on the property, she will need to be approved for a Special Use Permit.*

*The two lots have a combined area of approximately 0.838 acres or 36,503 square feet. The R-2 zone classification requires a minimum lot size of 8,000 sq. ft. and the required setbacks can be met as outlined in the zoning regulations. (Front: 65' from center of road; Rear: 25'; Sides: 5' and 20', totaling 25')*

*The primary access to the property is Wintergreen Avenue with an existing driveway. There is an undeveloped alley to the rear of the lots. Screening and buffering is not required by the Zoning Ordinance and is not being proposed by the applicant.*

*The surrounding properties are zoned Residential R-2 and are used primarily for residential purposes. The Town of Iron Gate is East and Botetourt County adjoins to the West of the property.*

*According to the Comprehensive Plan, the property is located in a "Residential Transition Area", which is defined as an area being primarily residential and located between a city/town and more rural areas.*

*The property is not located in a flood hazard area as shown on the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) panel 51005C0241D.*

*There is currently access to public water and other utilities. The Alleghany/Covington Health Department sent an email this afternoon for a new septic to be installed. There should be no detrimental effect or impact on the existing utilities or services that are currently being provided.*

*Zoning regulations require that manufactured homes be properly blocked, anchored, connected to utilities, and completely skirted as required by the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code. Site of mobile/manufactured homes shall be kept in compliance with County ordinances. Noncompliance with County regulations allows the Board of Supervisors the right to revoke a special use permit. Noncompliance can include lack of maintenance on the property by not removing trash, weeds and debris; and not properly maintaining the structure. If at anytime the mobile/manufactured home is removed from the property, the special use becomes null and void and the placement of another unit at the same site would require the issuance of another special use permit by the Board of Supervisors.*

**Additional Notes:**

*If the special use request is approved, the applicant will be required to acquire a building permit for the setup of the home and to ensure compliance with the Uniform Statewide Building Code.*

Mr. Charles Bradley, 1403A Potts Creek Road, stated that he is present tonight to represent Ms. Alberts. He commented that it will be an improvement to the neighborhood and more appealing.

There being no one else who wished to speak, the Chairman declared the public hearing closed.

On motion of Mr. Nicely, seconded by Dr. Goings, that the Board waive its policy of not acting on a public hearing on the same night.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Absent
Gregory A. Dodd	Yes
Ronald S. Goings	Yes
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
James M. Griffith	Yes
G. Matt Garten	Yes

On motion of Mr. Nicely, seconded by Dr. Goings, that the following resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, Lori Alberts has applied for a Special Use Permit under a Residential R-2 zone designation to locate a double-wide manufactured home on two parcels which total approximately 0.838 acres located at 506 Wintergreen Avenue in the Wesgate area of the Sharon District of Alleghany County. The property is identified on the Real Property Identification

Maps as Tax Map 44F1, Section 2, Block 61, Lots 1 and 2; and

WHEREAS, a Notice to the Public advertising a public hearing on this Special Use Permit application was advertised once a week for two successive weeks in the Virginian Review on December 24, 2024 and December 31, 2024, and adjoining property owners were notified in writing by certified mail on December 9, 2024; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held by the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors on January 7, 2025;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors that the Special Use Permit request under a Residential R-2 zoning designation be granted to Lori Alberts to locate a double-wide manufactured home on two parcels which total approximately 0.838 acres located at 506 Wintergreen Avenue in the Wesgate area of the Sharon District of Alleghany County with the understanding that all local, State, and Federal regulations must be adhered to.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Absent
Gregory A. Dodd	Yes
Ronald S. Goings	Yes
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
James M. Griffith	Yes
G. Matt Garten	Yes

PUBLIC COMMENT (5 MINUTE TIME LIMIT):

No one spoke at this time.

MS. SUSAN HAMMOND, VDOT RESIDENT ENGINEER - VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION UPDATE:

Ms. Susan Hammond, VDOT Resident Engineer, gave an update on the following VDOT activities:

Maintenance

- Ditched Rts. 502, 600 and 770.
- Debris and tree removal on Rts. 42, 220S and 220 Business, 619, 616, 617, 18 and 606.
- Hydroseeded disturbed areas on Rt. 220N and Exit 10.
- Performed machine grading and shoulder work on Rts. 637, 602, 650 and 600.
- Brush removal on Rts. 18, 220, 269, 616 and 619.
- Prepared and responded to winter weather. Thank you to our VDOT and contractor crews for their hard work. Preparing for another storm Friday evening.

Mr. Bennett mentioned that the recent snow/ice was wet, heavy, and hard to move once it turned to ice.

Mr. Griffith commented that the dead tree on Boys' Home hill is still there.

Mr. Garten stated that the crews worked their tail off during the recent winter weather and echoed thanks to them.

SHERIFF KYLE MOORE - QUARTERLY/YEARLY REPORT:

Sheriff Kyle Moore handed out and reviewed a quarterly/yearly report. The update included a memo with backup documentation which are a part of the records of this meeting. The memo is as follows:

*Attached you will find the statistics for the calendar year 2024. The numbers are astonishing for a County the size of ours with the minimal population. These numbers do not include the number of Search Warrants and drug arrests that have been made, but I have attached that documentation as well.*

*2024 was a busy year, with a new administration and many new faces. The Alleghany County Sheriff's Office went above and beyond my expectations. Deputies perform a variety of tasks that the general public doesn't know about. Most people see a Deputy and figure that they are either writing tickets or arresting someone. That is a big part of the job, but I am here to let them know that being a Deputy Sheriff is a very demanding job.*

*Dispatch center answered an average of 45 complaints per day, that does not count the phone calls asking what the road conditions are or people asking for rides or asking for advice regarding legal assistance. Not only do they answer the thousands of Fire & EMS calls, average of 16 per day. They also have to assign IBR numbers to cases, CAD numbers to every incident a Deputy is involved in, and there are only 2-3 of them working each shift.*

*Patrol Division answered those 45 calls per day, plus 29 civil papers served per day, 3 Felony/Misdemeanor arrests per day, 1,709 miles per day driven conducting safety checks, answering calls, and patrolling neighborhoods.*

Jail Division processed 3 inmates per day, performed daily duties or 2 walkthroughs of the entire jail per hour, 124 miles per day traveled transporting 340 inmates and consuming 4 hours per day on average. These transports can be to return an inmate back to Alleghany County, doctor appointments, Court appearances in other jurisdictions, as well as many other reasons. Jail population averaged 86 inmates per day over the last quarter. Jail Division personnel processed nearly 1,000 inmates into the facility and released nearly 1,000 inmates from the jail, which averaged 5 per day.

VDOT work crew consisted of 60 inmates that performed over 1,500 hours of work for VDOT, with the County being reimbursed over \$53,000.

Crisis Intervention Team conducted 311 transports for a total of over 10,000 miles and over 1,000 hours.

Medical staff managed nearly 300 requests from inmates to be treated for mental health issues. 95 of those screenings were positive for a person in need of assistance. 165 inmates were sent for treatment outside of the jail and 182 were treated within the confines of the jail. This doesn't count vaccines, COVID tests performed, and answering numerous phone calls on their days off in reference to inmates that may be complaining of certain ailments.

Investigations Division, opened 119 new cases, served 237 search warrants, closed 86 cases, and conducted 205 interviews. 25 trips to deliver evidence to the Division of Forensic Science, numerous Social Services complaints, Child Advocacy interviews, and Cyber tips regarding child sexual predators. 59 electronic devices seized as part of investigation, many firearms and vehicles as well as cash seized. Conducted numerous presentations to children as well as parents.

Drug task force investigator seized over 16 different types of drugs ranging from Methamphetamines 1 ½ pounds, Fentanyl, and numerous prescription medications that were being illegally sold or used.

One investigator was also chosen to attend the Department of Forensic Science evidence technician class to be held in April, 2025.

Animal Control Officer answered 1,935 calls. The part-time AC officer was a huge benefit to the department.

There was then some discussion regarding the number of drugs confiscated in our area; potentially starting an educational program in schools using a volunteer with a past drug history to tell what using drugs did to them; requesting another Drug Agent from the State Police for our area or having another full-time Investigator; other areas are having the same problem with drug use; the jail was built for 56 inmates in 2000 and 18-20 are farmed out every day with 90 on average in the facility; etc.

#### APPROVE SHERIFF'S OFFICE REQUEST FOR ENHANCED HAZARDOUS DUTY RETIREMENT BENEFITS FOR FULL TIME LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND JAIL OFFICERS:

Sheriff Kyle Moore handed out and reviewed a memo to the Board. The memo is as follows and is part of the records of this meeting:

*I am speaking to you tonight to request that you consider raising the hazardous duty retirement multiplier for sworn members of my office from 1.7% to 1.85% at the beginning of the new fiscal year. This request does not sound like much, but at the end of the day retirement is what we are all working towards. Currently Virginia State Police officers receive the 1.85% multiplier, Sheriff's receive the 1.85% and Deputies receive 1.7% for 20 years in a hazardous duty assignment. This doesn't seem quite fair since at the end of the day they are all risking their lives out here together. I have reached out to the Virginia Retirement System and received the following information, which I have also attached to the packet that you have been provided. The Board currently has a contribution rate of 11.93% if you choose to give the additional multiplier it would raise by 1.16% to a total of 13.09%. This would apply to all current and future employees of the Alleghany County Sheriff's Office and is an irrevocable decision.*

*These men and women of the Alleghany County Sheriff's Office risk everything, every time they wear their uniform. They are proud to wear the uniform and represent Alleghany County in a professional manner. Over the past 12 months their professionalism has been displayed daily. I know this because I receive commendations almost weekly. Deputies often times see the very worst of people and the conditions in which they live in as well. They are often abused both physically and verbally. They are forced to make life and death decisions in the blink of an eye, for what? The hopes of being able to retire someday and live comfortably. "The American Dream."*

*I am very hopeful that you will take this matter under consideration and offer a favorable vote to provide the Alleghany County Sheriff's Office sworn members the retirement multiplier that they deserve.*

Mr. Garten commented that this increase would help with recruitment and keeping employees.

Sheriff Moore indicated that he has three individuals retiring in March if the Board wishes to approve this to begin sooner.

Ms. Adcock-Nicely stated that the additional amount for VRS would come out of County funds and that Covington would be responsible for a portion of the cost. She commented that the cost would be approximately \$45,000 annually. She mentioned that this was initially presented to begin July 1<sup>st</sup> and would be included in next year's budget; however, if this begins sooner, then the cost in this fiscal year would be around \$25,000.

After discussion, the Board agreed to have the VRS retirement multiplier increase be effective February 1, 2025.

On motion of Mr. Griffith, seconded by Mr. Bennett, that the following resolution be adopted:

**ENHANCED HAZARDOUS DUTY BENEFITS**

WHEREAS, subject to the approval of the Virginia Retirement System (“VRS”) Board of Trustees, *Code of Virginia* § 51.1-138 permits a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia currently participating in VRS to make an irrevocable election to provide enhanced hazardous duty retirement benefits for its eligible employees as outlined in § 51.1-138.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors (the “Employer”) does hereby elect to have such employees of Employer who are employed in positions as full time Law Enforcement Officers and Jail Officers and whose tenure is not restricted as to temporary or provisional appointment, become eligible, effective the first day of February 2025, for VRS benefits equivalent to those provided for state police officers of the Department of State Police, as set out in § 51.1-138 including the retirement multiplier of 1.85% in lieu of the benefits that would otherwise be provided to such employees, and Employer agrees to pay the employer cost for providing such benefits; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the officers of Employer are hereby authorized and directed in the name of Employer to carry out the provisions of this resolution and to pay to the Treasurer of Virginia from time to time such sums as are due to be paid by Employer for this purpose.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Absent
Gregory A. Dodd	Yes
Ronald S. Goings	Yes
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
James M. Griffith	Yes
G. Matt Garten	Yes

REAPPOINTMENT OF MR. ESTON BURGE TO THE BOARD OF BUILDING CODE APPEALS:

Mr. Garten stated that the term of Mr. Eston Burge (Falling Spring District) on the Board of Building Code Appeals expires January 20, 2025. Terms are for 5 years and Mr. Burge is eligible for reappointment. He mentioned that he would like to be reappointed.

On motion of Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Nicely, that the following resolution be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors that Mr. Eston E. Burge (Falling Spring District), P.O. Box 1061, Covington, VA 24426 be reappointed to the Board of Building Code Appeals for a term of five years beginning January 21, 2025 and ending January 20, 2030.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Absent
Gregory A. Dodd	Yes
Ronald S. Goings	Yes
Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
James M. Griffith	Yes
G. Matt Garten	Yes

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

Mr. Walters handed out and gave a report on the following items which are a part of the records of this meeting:

Wells Fargo Building

*AECOM has the proposed building layout complete and is still working on the demo package. They are waiting on lab results regarding some of this material and the need to do some additional findings to determine the quantities that need to be abated.*

Craig Botetourt Electric Co-op and Western Alleghany County Broadband

*Alleghany County and Craig Botetourt Electric Co-op have established the contract with the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development for the broadband build-out on the western portion of the County. Project Management Team meetings will begin next week.*

Commerce Center Pad Site

*The Alleghany Highlands Economic Development Corporation is continuing marketing campaign for the development of the Commerce Center pad site. We are in the process of arranging site selectors to visit our community and view the final product.*

Interim Public Works Director

*County Administrator Reid Walters appointed Building Official Chuck Little to serve as the Interim Public Works Director.*

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (INQUIRIES/REPORTS):

Miscellaneous

Mr. Dodd thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and recognized Mayor Irvine in the audience. He also thanked Sheriff Moore for his report. He commented that he hopes everyone had a good holiday.

Mr. Nicely wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Mr. Bennett stated that Mr. Griffith and Mr. Garten are doing a great job as Vice-Chairman and Chairman and he is glad they agreed to continue.

Dr. Goings thanked everyone for their input and he appreciates that Mr. Walters is still here.

Mr. Griffith thanked the Board for its trust in him and Mr. Garten. He thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and Mayor Irvine for being present. He commented that the AHEDC is planning a Housing Summit for this spring for developers/contractors. He noted to Mr. Bennett that the recent housing study will be part of the summit.

Mr. Garten thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He stated that it is an honor to serve as Chairman. He mentioned that the Board works well as a group and do a great job working together. He commented that there are a lot of good things in the future. He thanked Sheriff Moore for his presentation and mentioned that the numbers were enlightening. He congratulated Mayor Irvine on his reelection and wished everyone a safe and happy new year.

CLOSED MEETING:

On motion of Mr. Griffith, seconded by Mr. Bennett, that the Board go into a Closed Meeting under Code of Virginia Sections 2.2-3711(A)(1) and (8) for the purpose of: (1) personnel matter; and (2) contractual matter. Unanimously adopted.

On motion of Mr. Bennett, seconded by Dr. Goings, that the Board come out of the Closed Meeting with the following certification:

CERTIFICATION  
SECTION 2.2-3712

To the best of our knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under this chapter, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the Closed Meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the session.

/s/G. Matt Garten	Yes
/s/Ronald S. Goings	Yes
/s/James M. Griffith	Yes
/s/Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
/s/Cletus W. Nicely	Yes
/s/Gregory A. Dodd	Yes
Shannon P. Cox	Absent

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion of Mr. Nicely, seconded by Mr. Griffith, that the meeting be adjourned at 8:50 p.m. Motion carried.

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G. Matt Garten  
Chairman