

At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors, Alleghany County, Virginia held on Tuesday, December 2, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Alleghany County Governmental Complex, Covington, Virginia, thereof:

PRESENT: G. Matt Garten, Chairman  
Stephen A. Bennett  
Shannon P. Cox  
Gregory A. Dodd  
Ronald S. Goings

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

ABSENT: James M. Griffith, Vice-Chairman  
Cletus W. Nicely

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chairman called the regular meeting to order

Mrs. Cox gave the invocation and the audience remained standing for the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES:

Hearing no corrections or deletions, the Chairman declared the following minutes approved as submitted: (1) a regular meeting held on November 5, 2025.

RECOGNITION OF RETIREES FOR 2025 AND APPROVE RESOLUTIONS OF APPRECIATION:

Mr. Garten stated that the following individuals retired from the County in 2025. He asked individuals in attendance to stand when their name is called (Mr. Todd Tyler and Mr. Daniel Larnerd were present):

- Todd Tyler, Sheriff's Office - 23 years, 8 months
- Lisa Easter, Finance Department - 20 years, 1 month
- Daniel Larnerd, Sheriff's Office - 23 years, 8 months
- James Cronk, Sheriff's Office - 40 years, 8 months
- Gary Hepler, Public Works Department - 43 years, 2 months

Mr. Garten thanked the retirees for their service and mentioned that there are draft resolutions of appreciation in the agenda packet which he asked the Board to approve.

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

WHEREAS, Mr. Todd Tyler retired from the Sheriff's Office on March 1, 2025 after providing 23 years and 8 months of service to the citizens of Alleghany County; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tyler has faithfully served the County in the capacity of Assistant Chief Jailer;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors recognizes Mr. Todd Tyler for his invaluable contribution to the citizens of Alleghany County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board extends its appreciation to Mr. Tyler for his service to the County, congratulations upon his retirement, and best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

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

WHEREAS, Ms. Lisa Easter retired from the Department of Finance on November 1, 2025 after providing 20 years and 1 month of service to the citizens of Alleghany County; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Easter has faithfully served the County in the capacity of Accounts Payable Clerk;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors recognizes Ms. Lisa Easter for her invaluable contribution to the citizens of Alleghany County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board extends its appreciation to Ms. Easter for her service to the County, congratulations upon her retirement, and best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

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

WHEREAS, Mr. Daniel Larnerd retired from the Sheriff's Office on March 1, 2025 after providing 23 years and 8 months of service to the citizens of Alleghany County; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Larnerd has faithfully served the County in the capacity of Chief Jailer;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors recognizes Mr. Daniel Larnerd for his invaluable contribution to the citizens of Alleghany County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board extends its appreciation to Mr. Larnerd for his service to the County, congratulations upon his retirement, and best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

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

WHEREAS, Mr. James Cronk retired from the Sheriff's Office on March 1, 2025 after providing 40 years and 8 months of service to the citizens of Alleghany County; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cronk has faithfully served the County in the capacity of Jail Administrator;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors recognizes Mr. James Cronk for his invaluable contribution to the citizens of Alleghany County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board extends its appreciation to Mr. Cronk for his service to the County, congratulations upon his retirement, and best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

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

WHEREAS, Mr. Gary Hepler retired from the Public Works Department on January 1, 2025 after providing 43 years and 2 months of service to the citizens of Alleghany County; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hepler has faithfully served the County in the capacity of Utilities Operations Manager;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors recognizes Mr. Gary Hepler for his invaluable contribution to the citizens of Alleghany County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board extends its appreciation to Mr. Hepler for his service to the County, congratulations upon his retirement, and best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

PRESENTATION OF PLAQUES TO DR. RONALD GOINGS AND MR. GREGORY DODD:

Mr. Garten presented a plaque to Dr. Ronald Goings, Clifton Forge East District Supervisor, and to Mr. Greg Dodd, Clifton Forge West District Supervisor. The plaque for Dr. Goings stated: "Dr. Ronald S. Goings, Supervisor, Clifton Forge East District. In recognition and appreciation for outstanding, loyal, and dedicated service to Alleghany County, Virginia. January 1, 2022-December 31, 2025. Presented by Alleghany County Board of Supervisors." The plaque for Mr. Dodd stated: "Gregory A. Dodd, Supervisor, Clifton Forge West District. In recognition and appreciation for outstanding, loyal, and dedicated service to Alleghany County, Virginia. January 1, 2021-December 31, 2025. Presented by Alleghany County Board of Supervisors."

PUBLIC HEARING AND APPROVAL - AMENDMENTS TO CH. 58-TAXATION OF THE COUNTY CODE (TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED PERSONS):

Public Hearing was held to consider amendments to Chapter 58-Taxation of "The Code of the County of Alleghany, Virginia" in Article IV-Miscellaneous Real Estate Tax Exemptions. The proposed amendments pertain to real estate tax exemptions for elderly and disabled persons in relation to total combined income of all persons living in the household. The amendments would be effective for the 2026 tax year.

The Chairman announced that this public hearing was advertised in the Virginian Review on Wednesday, November 19, 2025 and Wednesday, November 26, 2025 in accordance with the Code of Virginia. He then called the public hearing to order.

Ms. Adcock-Nicely stated that the amendment is regarding the tax exemptions for elderly and disabled persons and would increase the income amount for eligibility by \$5,000. She mentioned that the income has not been changed since 2013. She commented that there is a memo in the agenda packet from Ms. Sheila Selleck, Commissioner of the Revenue, with more information.

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

On motion of Mrs. Cox, 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	Yes
Gregory A. Dodd	Yes
Ronald S. Goings	Yes
Cletus W. Nicely	Absent
James M. Griffith	Absent
G. Matt Garten	Yes

On motion of Mrs. Cox, seconded by Dr. Goings, the following amendments proposed at the Public Hearing held on Tuesday, December 2, 2025 to The Code of the County of Alleghany, Virginia in Chapter 58 entitled "Taxation" be adopted as follows:

**CH. 58  
TAXATION**

**ARTICLE IV. MISCELLANEOUS REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTIONS**

**Sec. 58-99. General prerequisites to granting.**

**CURRENT:**

Under this article, exemption shall be granted to persons subject to the following:

- (1) The title of the property for which exemption is claimed is held or partially held on January 1 of the taxable year by the person claiming exemption.
- (2) The head of the household occupying the dwelling and owning title or partial title thereto is 65 years or older on December 31 of the year immediately preceding the taxable years or is permanently and totally disabled on December 31 of the year immediately preceding the taxable year.
- (3) The total combined income during the immediately preceding taxable year, from all sources of the owner of the dwelling living therein and any other persons except for bona fide tenants or bona fide paid caregivers of the owner living in the dwelling, does not exceed \$35,000.00; provided, however, that the first \$6,500.00 of income of any person, other than the spouse of the owner, who is living in the dwelling shall not be included in such total. Also, the first \$6,500.00 of income of a disabled owner shall not be included in such total.
- (4) The net combined financial worth, including equitable interests, as of December 31 of the immediately preceding taxable year of the owner and of the spouse of the owner, excluding the value of the dwelling and the land, not exceeding one acre, upon which it is situated does not exceed \$100,000.00.
- (5) There must be no delinquent real estate taxes on the parcel for which exemption is claimed.

**CHANGE TO:**

Under this article, exemption shall be granted to persons subject to the following:

- (1) The title of the property for which exemption is claimed is held or partially held on January 1 of the taxable year by the person claiming exemption.
- (2) The head of the household occupying the dwelling and owning title or partial title thereto is 65 years or older on December 31 of the year immediately preceding the taxable years or is permanently and totally disabled on December 31 of the year immediately preceding the taxable year.
- (3) The total combined income during the immediately preceding taxable year, from all sources of the owner of the dwelling living therein and any other persons except for bona fide tenants or bona fide paid caregivers of the owner living in the dwelling, does not exceed \$40,000.00; provided, however, that the first \$6,500.00 of income of any person, other than the spouse of the owner, who is living in the dwelling shall not be included in such total. Also, the first \$6,500.00 of income of a disabled owner shall not be included in such total.
- (4) The net combined financial worth, including equitable interests, as of December 31 of the immediately preceding taxable year of the owner and of the spouse of the owner, excluding the value of the dwelling and the land, not exceeding one acre, upon which it is situated does not exceed \$100,000.00.
- (5) There must be no delinquent real estate taxes on the parcel for which exemption is claimed.

**Sec. 58-103. Amount of exemption.**

**CURRENT:**

When the person claiming an exemption pursuant to this article meets all requirements set forth and incorporated in this article and does not exceed the income and financial worth limitations contained in this article, the tax exemption permitted shall be as follows:

Total Income All Sources	Tax Exemption
\$0.00 to \$25,000.00	100%

\$25,001.00 to \$30,000.00	75%
\$30,001.00 to \$35,000.00	50%

**CHANGE TO:**

When the person claiming an exemption pursuant to this article meets all requirements set forth and incorporated in this article and does not exceed the income and financial worth limitations contained in this article, the tax exemption permitted shall be as follows:

Total Income All Sources	Tax Exemption
\$0.00 to \$30,000.00	100%
\$30,001.00 to \$35,000.00	75%
\$35,001.00 to \$40,000.00	50%

Adopted: December 2, 2025  
 Effective Date: January 1, 2026  
 Adopted by the following roll call vote:  
 Mr. Bennett Yes  
 Mrs. Cox Yes  
 Mr. Dodd Yes  
 Mr. Garten Yes  
 Dr. Goings Yes  
 Mr. Griffith Absent  
 Mr. Nicely Absent

ALLEGHANY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Deputy Clerk to the Board

PUBLIC HEARING AND APPROVAL - AMENDMENT TO THE COUNTY OPERATING BUDGET FOR FY26 (OPIOID FUNDS):

Public Hearing was held to consider an amendment to the County Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-26 in the amount of \$2,572,984.29 due to the receipt of Cooperative Partnership grant funds from the Virginia Opioid Abatement Authority.

The Chairman announced that this public hearing was advertised in the Virginian Review on Wednesday, November 26, 2025 in accordance with the Code of Virginia. He then called the public hearing to order.

Ms. Adcock-Nicely stated that a majority of these funds are coming from Virginia’s Opioid Abatement Authority (OAA) with some funds coming from direct Opioid Settlements to Alleghany County. She commented that, once funds are received and appropriated by the County, all funds are being directed to the OAA-Approved Gold Standard Multi-Jurisdictional CSB One-Stop Substance Use Disorder Continuum of Care project. She stated that in May the Board appropriated just over \$1 million to the CSB from the OAA. This new amount is from another grant round and award. She mentioned that Mrs. Ingrid Barber, AHCSB Executive Director, is in attendance tonight to answer any project-specific questions the Board may have.

Dr. Goings asked if this is an ongoing grant. Mrs. Barber replied that this funding is part of the Cooperative Partnership grant process in which you can apply for up to five renewals. She mentioned that the project is 70% complete and they could request more funding for furnishings, adding office spaces, etc. She commented that Lionberger is the contractor and Balzer and Associates is the architect for the project. She stated that they applied to the Opioid Abatement Authority for the project which is approximately \$4 million. Services include drug treatment, testing, prevention services, etc.

Ms. Adcock-Nicely added that there is 15 more years of funding coming to the County for approximately \$20,000/year.

Mr. Bennett asked if Covington also gets funds. Mrs. Barber replied that they do get funding and the AHCSB goes through the same process with them.

Mrs. Barber also mentioned the Crisis Receiving Center. She commented that a groundbreaking will be held on December 15<sup>th</sup>. She stated that this center will also cost around \$4 million and is funded through the Governor Youngkin “Right Help Right Now” project. She mentioned that you have to apply for those funds to get them and she has advocated to get the funding here.

Mr. Bennett asked if utilization of the center is limited to Alleghany County and if additional staffing will be needed. Mrs. Barber replied that the priority will be for the County and Covington due to the limited number of beds. She commented that they will be hiring nurses, peer supporters, clinicians, etc. who will all be under one roof. There would need to be 30-40 employees to run the Center at full capacity.

Supervisor-Elect Miller Brantley asked if the facility is not at capacity if they could partner with Highland or Bath County. Mrs. Barber replied that they could, but would serve our community first.

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

On motion of Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mrs. Cox, 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	Yes
Gregory A. Dodd	Yes
Ronald S. Goings	Yes
Cletus W. Nicely	Absent
James M. Griffith	Absent
G. Matt Garten	Yes

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors, after holding a public hearing on December 2, 2025 to amend the FY25-26 budget in the amount of \$2,752,984.29, hereby budget and approve the following supplemental appropriation:

<b>1. CSB Opioid Settlement Funds:</b>		
<u>Revenue Account</u>		
Proceeds Opioid Settlement (11000000-441050)		\$2,572,984.29
<u>Expenditure Account</u>		
CSB Opioid Settlement Funds (11052010-555250)		\$2,572,984.29

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

PUBLIC HEARING AND APPROVAL - BONUS ORDINANCE:

Public Hearing was held to consider an ordinance to authorize the Board of Supervisors to provide bonuses pursuant to Section 15.2-1508 of the Code of Virginia to employees who in the opinion of the Board have performed their job duties above and beyond expectations.

The Chairman announced that this public hearing was advertised in the Virginian Review on Wednesday, November 19, 2025 and Wednesday, November 26, 2025 in accordance with the Code of Virginia. He then called the public hearing to order.

Mr. Garten stated that the County currently does not have a bonus ordinance and is required to have one in order to grant a bonus which would be done on a case by case basis.

Mr. Bennett commented that this would give the Board the right to grant a bonus if it wants to.

Mrs. Cox stated that she does not have a problem with this and asked how it came about. Mr. Garten replied that it would allow the Board an opportunity to grant a bonus and it would be performance based (i.e., project completed under budget, etc.).

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

On motion of Mrs. Cox, 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	Yes
Gregory A. Dodd	Yes
Ronald S. Goings	Yes
Cletus W. Nicely	Absent
James M. Griffith	Absent
G. Matt Garten	Yes

On motion of Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mrs. Cox, that the following ordinance proposed at the Public Hearing held on Tuesday, December 2, 2025 be adopted as follows:

**AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO PAY SALARY BONUSES TO EMPLOYEES OF ALLEGHANY COUNTY**

WHEREAS, Virginia Code §15.2-1508 authorizes the Board of Supervisors to provide for payment of monetary salary bonuses to officers and employees by ordinance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the Board of Supervisors hereby adopts this ordinance to authorize the Board to pay bonuses to employees who in the sole discretion of the Board have performed their duties above and beyond expectations. Before adopting a resolution authorizing the salary monetary bonus, the Board shall include notice of the resolution in the printed agenda of the meeting at which the Board will consider the resolution. A bonus resolution cannot be added to the agenda at the meeting at which the Board acts on the resolution.

Adopted: December 2, 2025  
Effective Date: December 3, 2025

Adopted by the following roll call vote:

Mr. Bennett	Yes
Mrs. Cox	Yes
Mr. Dodd	Yes
Mr. Garten	Yes
Dr. Goings	Yes
Mr. Griffith	Absent
Mr. Nicely	Absent

ALLEGHANY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Deputy Clerk to the Board

PUBLIC COMMENT (5 MINUTE TIME LIMIT):

Mayor Jeff Irvine, 1261 Commercial Avenue, thanked Dr. Goings for his four years of service and Mr. Dodd for his five years of service on the Board. He thanked them for their time and service. He also welcomed the two new supervisors.

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

Mrs. Susan Hammond, VDOT Resident Engineer, gave an update to the Board on VDOT activities. The update is as follows:

Maintenance

- Graded/ditched gravel roads including Rts. 600, 614, 658, 770 and 609.
- Ditched Rts. 618 and 617.
- Plant mixed Rts. 604 and 617.
- Repaired shoulders on Rts. 618, 610 and 613.
- Cleaned pipes and removed debris from various secondary routes County-wide.
- Removed trees and brush on Rts. 641, 701, 220S, 18, 658, 609 and 623.
- Patched potholes on Rts. 18, 623, 616, 311 N&S, 60 and 159.
- Removed a greater number than normal of deer carcasses.
- I-64 bridges over Sioux Avenue and Commercial Avenue have been completed.
- Signals have been removed from Rt. 42 bridge over CSX. Limited periodic lane closures will still occur for finishing work.
- Bridge work on I-64 eastbound over Rt. 60 should be completed in 2-3 weeks.

- Responded to two winter weather events.

Mrs. Cox asked about the status of Vine Patch Road repairs. Ms. Hammond replied that a crew was there for several days before rain hit. She commented that they have to wait until the water goes down and hope to have it done by the end of the month.

Dr. Goings stated that he is glad the Rt. 42 bridge is back open and that they did good work.

Mr. Garten commented that the barrier at the Rt. 220 high wall will need to be cleaned out soon. Ms. Hammond mentioned that they are doing this every three months and the next cleanout is coming up.

Mr. Garten stated that there have been concerns regarding the speed limit on Johnson Creek Road and asked if a traffic study has been done as the residents would like it lowered. Ms. Hammond replied that a study was done and the recommendation was to leave the current speed limit. She suggested deputy patrols.

APPROVE AMENDMENT TO THE MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF COVINGTON IN RELATION TO PROHIBITED WASTE:

Mr. McFadyen stated that there is a proposed amendment in the agenda packet to the Solid Waste Disposal Services Agreement with the City of Covington. He commented that there is one business that is located in Covington that has waste that is prohibited from being received at the transfer station. He mentioned that the business will be required to hire their own hauler to take the prohibited waste directly to the landfill and the County will then bill Covington for that cost.

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the Allegheny County Board of Supervisors approve an amendment to the agreement entitled "Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Services Agreement" with the **City of Covington** dated May 6, 2025 by adding the following section to Page 3 of the agreement:

*Section 2.1.3. Prohibited Waste. In the event a customer in the City generates prohibited waste that cannot be accepted at the County's [Transfer] Station, such prohibited waste may be hauled directly to the Roanoke Valley Resource Authority's (RVRA) landfill, pursuant to the County's contract with the RVRA and according to the RVRA's administrative requirements. Prohibited waste shall be defined according to the County's applicable permits and operating guidelines for the Station. Neither the City nor Allegheny County shall be obligated to haul such prohibited waste to the landfill on behalf of the respective City customer. Customers may hire their own hauling services, consistent with any applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, and haulers shall be approved by the RVRA. Allegheny County shall invoice the City for prohibited waste delivered to the landfill at the same rate per ton, or part thereof, that Allegheny County pays to the RVRA. In the event that a customer delivers non-prohibited waste to the landfill, thereby bypassing Allegheny County's Station, such non-prohibited waste shall be invoiced to the City at the same rate per ton, or part thereof, that Allegheny County charges for such waste to be delivered to the Station. In the event that a customer delivers prohibited waste mixed with non-prohibited waste to the landfill, Allegheny County shall invoice the City at the same rate per ton, or part thereof, that Allegheny County charges for such waste to be delivered to the County's Station.*

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

REAPPOINTMENT OF MRS. ROBIN SWEENEY AND MRS. DIANE GARCIA TO THE ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD:

Mr. Garten stated that the terms of Mrs. Robin Sweeney (Jackson River District) and Mrs. Dianne Garcia (Boiling Springs District) on the Allegheny Highlands Community Services Board expire December 31, 2025. Terms are for three years and both are eligible for reappointment. He mentioned that both wish to be reappointed.

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors that Mrs. Robin Sweeney (Jackson River District), 909 E. Dolly Ann Drive, Covington, VA 24426 be reappointed to the Alleghany Highlands Community Services Board (AHCSB) for a term of three years beginning January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2028.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board that Mrs. Dianne Garcia (Boiling Springs District), 208 Summit Drive, Covington, VA 24426 be reappointed to the AHCSB for a term of three years beginning January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2028.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

REAPPOINTMENT OF MS. SUZIE BROUGHFMAN TO THE TAP BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Mr. Garten stated that the term of Ms. Suzie Broughfman (Jackson River District) on the TAP Board of Directors expires December 31, 2025. Terms are for three years and Ms. Broughfman is eligible for reappointment.

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors that Ms. Suzie Broughfman (Jackson River District), 208 Crossing Lane, P.O. Box 343, Low Moor, VA 24457 be reappointed to the TAP Board of Directors for a term of three years beginning January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2028.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Mr. McFadyen handed out and gave a report on the following items. The report and attachments are a part of the records of this meeting:

- A. *The Board of Supervisors planning session is this week on Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup> and Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. We have reserved the meeting room at Family TreeT's at Cliftondale. The final agenda is attached. We begin on Thursday afternoon at 1 p.m. for the full board and on Friday morning at 9 a.m. We appreciate the Board's time to attend and provide our County's departments with guidance and direction.*
- B. *On Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission organized a meeting with our General Assembly delegation, Delegate Terry Austin and Senator Chris Head, and with our neighboring localities (including Covington and Clifton Forge). Among the points the County offered to our legislators include:*
  - a. *Continued support for the Alleghany Regional Commerce Center through the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program;*
  - b. *Requested support for the renewal of the Alleghany Highlands Enterprise Zone;*
  - c. *Continued support for the Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) program, with specific mention of the need to fund a broadband fiber extension to approximately 114 residences in the Crows/Hematite community; and*
  - d. *Evolving capital building needs with our schools and our DSS building.*
- C. *The interior demolition work at the Wells Fargo building is progressing.*
- D. *We have met with the Interim DSS Director and staff to review where we are with making necessary improvements and repairs to the Rosedale building, specifically the electrical system. Also, parking is very limited and we are addressing ways to increase the number of available parking spaces.*
- E. *We are scheduling a meeting with the Western Virginia Water Authority and Iron Gate Mayor Kawahna Persinger to talk about the Town's water and sewer system and needed repairs.*

*Please let us know of any questions or comments. Thank you for your time and support.*

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (INQUIRIES/REPORTS):

Miscellaneous

Mr. Dodd thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He commented that he has learned a lot being on the Board. He thanked Mrs. Munsey, Ms. Adcock-Nicely and Mr. McFadyen for their assistance. He wished the new Board members good luck and mentioned that he hopes to be back on the Board in four years.

Mr. Bennett stated that he has enjoyed working with Mr. Dodd and Dr. Goings and wished them luck.

Mrs. Cox commented that it has been an honor to work with Mr. Dodd and Dr. Goings. She mentioned that she enjoyed sitting beside Dr. Goings and their conversations. She welcomed Mr. Miller Brantley and Mrs. Courtney Howard to the Board and stated that she looks forward to working with them. She thanked Mrs. Barber for all that she does for the AHCSB and that she does not get the praise she deserves. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Dr. Goings mentioned that when he started out on Clifton Forge Town Council seven years ago he dreaded the comments section as he was not sure what to say. He commented that he appreciates those with an interest in local government and those that come to meetings even if they do not have anything to say. He mentioned that the Alleghany Journal helps by broadcasting the meetings. He stated that he appreciates the work done by Mrs. Barber. He commented to Mr. Brantley and Mrs. Howard what Mr. Bennett had previously told him that you are not just a representative of Clifton Forge, but the entire County. He mentioned that he attended the VACo meeting and one item brought up was day care. He commented that if jobs are brought in then more day care will be needed. He mentioned that the cost for one child at the YMCA day care is \$200/week. He stated that the Clifton Forge Christmas parade is this Friday, the Covington parade is Saturday, and the Home Tours are also this Saturday.

Mr. Bennett mentioned when Mrs. Barber started working many years ago at First National Bank in Clifton Forge and that Mr. George Kostel commented that she would get things done and she has.

Mr. Garten thanked Mr. Dodd and Dr. Goings for their dedication on the Board. He stated that a lot has been accomplished and there is more to get done. He welcomed Mrs. Howard and Mr. Brantley to the Board and thanked Mrs. Barber for the work she has done with the AHCSB. He asked everyone to have a safe holiday season.

CLOSED MEETING:

On motion of Mr. Bennett, seconded by Dr. Goings, that the Board go into a Closed Meeting under Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) for the purpose of: (1) personnel matter in relation to the former County Administrator. Unanimously adopted.

On motion of Dr. Goings, seconded by Mr. Dodd, 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/Shannon P. Cox	Yes
/s/Stephen A. Bennett	Yes
/s/Gregory A. Dodd	Yes
James M. Griffith	Absent
Cletus W. Nicely	Absent

Following the Closed Meeting, the following action was taken:

APPROVE BONUS FOR MR. REID WALTERS (FORMER COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR):

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

BE IT RESOLVED that, pursuant to Virginia Code §15.2-1508 and subsequent ordinance O-25-7, the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors authorizes a \$15,000.00 bonus be paid to Mr. Reid Walters (former County Administrator) for duties above and beyond expectations during his service to Alleghany County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board approve a budget transfer in the amount of \$15,000.00 from Operating Contingency (11091000-540001) to County Administrator Salary Bonus (11012010-510014) to cover the above.

Unanimously adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion of Mrs. Cox, seconded by Mr. Bennett, that the meeting be adjourned at 8:25 p.m. to Thursday, December 4, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. at Family TreeT's. Motion carried.

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G. Matt Garten  
Chairman