

At a Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Warren County held in the Warren County Government Center on May 20, 2025, at 7:00 PM.

Present – Warren County Board of Supervisors and County Staff: Jerome K. Butler, Chair (Happy Creek District); John W. Stanmeyer, Vice Chair (Shenandoah District); Cheryl L. Cullers, Chair (South River District); Victoria L. Cook, (Fork District); Richard A. Jamieson, (North River District); also, Jason J. Ham, County Attorney; Edwin C. Daley, County Administrator; Mike Berry, Director of Public Works; Jane Meadows, Deputy County Administrator; Captain Charles Brogan, Sheriff Crystal Cline; Zachary Henderson, Deputy Clerk to the Board of Supervisors

Call to Order:

Mr. Butler called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with an opening prayer from Pastor Hillman

Adoption of Agenda:

On a motion by Ms. Cook, seconded by Mr. Stanmeyer, and the following vote, the Board adopted the agenda as presented.

Ms. Cook, Aye; Dr. Jameison, Aye; Mr. Butler, Aye; Mr. Stanmeyer, Aye; Ms. Cullers, Aye

Mr. Butler then announced 3 upcoming Special Meetings

1. Work Session on May 27th at 5:00 PM to discuss the FY 2026 Budget.
2. Public Hearing on June 10th at 5:00 PM for the FY 2026 Budget.
3. FY 2026 Budget Adoption, Public Hearings and various agenda items on June 24th at 6:00 PM.

Treasurer – Update on Investment Accounts:

Dr. Daley stated that the Treasurer was not present for the meeting and would provide the report.

Public Comment Period for Items on the Agenda:

1. **Jarred Hill:** offered his prayers to the Board and to those in attendance from all factions in the community for a better community.
2. **John Jenkins:** voiced his concerns regarding Short Term Tourist rentals, emphasizing the reduction of affordable housing for families. Additionally, voiced his concerns regarding the Public Comment period emphasizing the long wait time before citizens are able to speak.
3. **Lewis Moten:** voiced his support for Samuel's Public Library and urged the Board to hold it's values to the community and to its children.

Board Reports:

- **Ms. Cook reported the following:**
 - Stated that the rumors of her wanting to be the next County Administrator are “fake news” and has no interest in pursuing the position.
 - Attended the Finance and Audit Committee meeting and have begun discussions for a new Fiscal Policy Regarding Sanitary Districts.
 - Stated that she received a call from a constituent over the weekend regarding vehicles being towed at Thompson Hollow, stating that people would park nearby to hike and return to see their vehicles missing. She emphasized the signage and that per VDOT, the Transportation Committee was aware of them and that she will keep everyone updated on these regulations etc.
 - Recently interviewed an applicant for the Board of Zoning Appeals and commented that the State Ordinance that states no member of that Board shall hold no other public office except one member should be on the local Planning Commission, whereas the State says that an individual

“may” be on the planning commission. She then suggested a change in the County ordinance to match the State’s.

- **Dr. Jamieson had no report.**
- **Mr. Butler reported the following:**
 - Commented on the May 7th interviews for the Economic Development and Tourism manager, emphasizing an applicant that stated he knew nothing about the EDA and that he would have to rely on others since the position was both Economic Development and Tourism.
 - On May 10th, Attended the Wings and Wheels event at the Airport.
 - Commented on the recent rainstorms that caused flood damage and thanked the first responders for the work they did.
 - On May 15th, Attended the Warren County High School Graduation.
- **Mr. Stanmeyer had no report**
- **Ms. Cullers reported the following:**
 - On May 7th, held interviews for the Economic Development and Tourism Position.
 - On May 8th, attended a memorial service at E. Wilson by the Early Act Children.
 - Has been working at the early voting polls when she can be present.
 - On May 10th, went to the Wings and Wheels event at the Airport
 - On May 10th, attended a FAA Steak dinner in Luray.
 - On May 12th, attended a Samuel’s Library Meeting
 - On May 13th, attended a meeting in Shenandoah County to discuss the Virginia Tech Extension services and how much of an asset they are.
 - On May 14th, visited County roads that were damaged and impacted by the recent flooding.
 - On May 15th, attended a Police Memorial service at the Skyline Training Academy.
 - Attended both Warren County and Skyline High School’s Graduation.
 - On May 17th, attended the Wine and Craft festival and gave a shout out to the Chamber of Commerce for their work on the event.
 - Acknowledged national police memorial week and EMS week
 - Shared her thoughts on the recent interviews for the Tourism position and expressed her concern on what she felt was an overreach of authority when it was determined by members of the Board to delay the hiring of that position until there is a new County Administrator, emphasizing that the Board only hires the County Administrator and the County Attorney. Additionally, she commented on the Board’s policy and procedures for the Administrator recruitment process and who the Board may or may not be recommending for that position.
- **Dr. Daley reported the following:**
 - Commented on the new Warren County Community profile and the good work done by Ms. Wahl in creating it.
 - Attended the Blue Ridge Committee of the Shenandoah National Park meeting and met with the new superintendent who stated that 14 of the 15 employees that were terminated in February have been re-hired.
 - Attended the Blue ridge Committee of the Shenandoah National Park.
- **Mr. Ham had no report.**

Ms. Cullers then commented on the Thompson Hollow Road issue and provided a PowerPoint presentation showing photos of traffic along that road and emphasized resident(s) in that area whose driveways were blocked due to the traffic parked there. She has additionally been in contact with the National Park service and VDOT to see what can be done, commenting that she wants to be friendly to tourists but urged for them to be respectful to the area and its residents. Lastly, she commented that she was disturbed by the amount of people being towed on a regular basis and the need to work with the Park services for a better solution.

Ms. Cook stated, in correlation to the Transportation Committee and the Thompson Hollow Road issue, that she has asked for the meeting minutes for those and she was unable to find any posted to the County website and will be in contact with the Office Manager from Planning and Zoning to ensure that they are.

Appropriations and Transfers:

On a motion by Mr. Stanmeyer, seconded by Ms. Cook, and the following vote, the Board approved the Appropriations and Transfers as presented.

Ms. Cook, Aye; Dr. Jameison, Aye; Mr. Butler, Aye; Mr. Stanmeyer, Aye; Ms. Cullers, Aye

Approval of Accounts:

On a motion by Ms. Cook, seconded by Dr. Jamieson, and the following vote, the Board approved the accounts as presented.

Ms. Cullers, No; Mr. Stanmeyer, Aye; Mr. Butler, Aye; Dr. Jameison, Aye; Ms. Cook, Aye

Approval of Minutes – Special Meeting 4.29.2025 & Regular Meeting 5.06.2025:

On a motion by Ms. Cook, seconded by Mr. Stanmeyer, and the following vote, the Board approved the meeting minutes for April 29th, 2025, and May 6th, 2025, as presented.

Ms. Cook, Aye; Dr. Jameison, Aye; Mr. Butler, Aye; Mr. Stanmeyer, Aye; Ms. Cullers, Aye

Public Hearings:

Secondary Six-Year Plan through the Virginia Department of Transportation:

Mr. Berry stated that VDOT and the Warren County Board of Supervisors in accordance with the Virginia Code, conduct a public hearing annually to receive public comment on the proposed Secondary Six Year Plan, this one being for Fiscal Year 2026 through 2031 as well as the Construction Budget for that period.

Mr. Butler opened the Public Hearing and Lewis Moten spoke to the Board questioning the “silliness” of the font.

There were no additional comments from the public or Board and the hearing was then closed.

On a motion by Ms. Cook, seconded by Dr. Jamieson, and the following vote, the Board approved the VDOT Secondary Six Year Plan for Fiscal Year 2026-2031 and the attached Resolution of Support.

Ms. Cullers, Aye; Mr. Stanmeyer, Aye; Mr. Butler, Aye; Dr. Jameison, Aye; Ms. Cook, Aye

Ordinance Authorizing the Payment of Employee Bonus:

Ms. Meadows stated that the 2025 special session of the Virginia Legislature included an appropriation of funding for a 1.5% bonus for all State Employees, the County is requesting that be expanded to all employees. The cost of this will come from Fiscal Year 2025 funds and will be reimbursed by the State in Fiscal Year 2026 in August.

Mr. Butler opened the public hearing and asked about the total cost. Ms. Meadows stated that the total cost is \$272,000 and will get reimbursed for approximately \$89,000. There were no additional comments from the Public or Board and the hearing was then closed.

On a motion by Ms. Cook, seconded by Mr. Stanmeyer, and the following vote, the Board adopted the ordinance authorizing the payment of employee bonuses.

Ms. Cook, Aye; Dr. Jameison, Aye; Mr. Butler, Aye; Mr. Stanmeyer, Aye; Ms. Cullers, Aye

Ordinance Amendment to Warren County Code Section 82-1 and 82-2

Mr. Berry stated that Warren County Code Section 82-1 requires the owner of a property in a sanitary district to pay a new construction user fee at the time of application for a building permit, and 82-2 implies that the building official is to collect such fees. The proposed amendments clarify that the fee must be paid before application for a building permit is made, and that the building official is not the collector of sanitary district fees.

Mr. Butler opened the public hearing and asked who does collect the fees if not the building official. Mr. Berry stated that prior to getting the building permit from the building official, they will go to the Treasurer's office to actually pay the fee and that the changes to the ordinance will clarify that.

There were no additional comments from the public or Board and the hearing was then closed.

On a motion by Ms. Cook, seconded by Mr. Stanmeyer, and the following vote, the Board approved the amendments to Warren County Code 82-1 and 82-2.

Ms. Cullers, Aye; Mr. Stanmeyer, Aye; Mr. Butler, Aye; Dr. Jameison, Aye; Ms. Cook, Aye

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Consent Agenda:

1. Direct Distribution - Opioid Abatement Funding to Warren County Parks and Recreation Summer Camp Series
2. Purchase Authorization - Motorola Flex Records Management / Computer Aided Dispatch System – **Removed for Discussion**
3. Citizen Appointment - Brigitte Miller to the Warren County Planning Commission (South River)
4. FY26 PSAP Education Program
5. FY26 PSAP GIS & Data Program
6. Consent to Local Emergency Declaration
7. Authorization to Advertise for Public Hearing - CUP2025-04-01 - Short-Term Tourist Rental - 311 Golden Russet Dr
8. Authorization to Advertise for Public Hearing - CUP2025-04-02 - Short-Term Tourist Rental - 471 Shady Tree Ln
9. Authorization to Advertise for Public Hearing - CUP2025-04-03 – Short-Term Tourist Rental - 209 Luchase Rd
10. Authorization to Advertise for Public Hearing - CUP2025-02-02 - Campground - 1406, 1408, 1090, and (0) Panhandle Road, Identified on Tax Map 35 as Lots 5-1, 5-2, 5-3, 5B-1, and 10A
11. Authorization to Advertise for Public Hearing - Warren County FY25-26 Budget

Ms. Cook stated that she would like to remove item L-2 Purchase Authorization - Motorola Flex Records Management / Computer Aided Dispatch System for discussion,

On a motion by Dr. Jamieson, seconded by Mr. Stanmeyer, and the following vote, the Board approved the Consent Agenda as amended,

Ms. Cullers, Aye; Mr. Stanmeyer, Aye; Mr. Butler, Aye; Dr. Jameison, Aye; Ms. Cook, Aye

Purchase Authorization - Motorola Flex Records Management / Computer Aided Dispatch System

Ms. Cook asked about their priority of funds, emphasizing the Sheriff's department request for new vehicles and if that should be the higher priority over this system.

Sheriff Cline stated that there is a need for vehicles but that she had also requested the records management system last year because lacking and inefficient and this could be of use to more than one department and both

this and the vehicles are a priority one. Additionally, the software could possibly take up to 2 years to become live and is asking this not be delayed further given the potential cost increases.

Captain Brogan then stated that there are two sides to the current software (a CAD Side and a Records Management Side) that do not communicate well with one another. This new software will reduce the redundant data input as it will transfer from the CAD Side over to the RMS Module and vice versa.

On a motion by Ms. Cook, seconded by Dr. Jamieson, and the following vote, the Board authorized the County Administrator to execute the purchase agreement for the Motorola Flex Records Management/Computer-Aided Dispatch System as requested by the Warren County Sheriff's Office.

Ms. Cook, Aye; Dr. Jameison, Aye; Mr. Butler, Aye; Mr. Stanmeyer, Aye; Ms. Cullers, Aye

Additional New Business:

Ms. Cook stated that in the past, the Board has held director positions that directly report to the County Administrator until a new Administrator is appointed and commented on the possibility of making it official, or not.

Mr. Butler asked if this could be discussed at a work session. Dr. Daley stated that he will not be hiring anybody and will leave the position vacant, the Board may discuss this at a work session but not until after the budget is complete.

Public Comment Period for General Comments

1. **Aileen Dierig:** voiced her concerns over Library System and Services, emphasizing that they are a for profit company and the money that is requested will not be the end of the cost to the taxpayer, either through their profit, or litigation against the County.
2. **Samantha Good:** thanked Ms. Cullers for her Board report and commented and spoke critically of Ms. Cook's position on Tourism, transparency with the Library Board minutes, and she will continue to fight for Samuel's Public Library,
3. **Dominic Ruibal:** voiced his concerns about Christendom college and their violation of their waste water treatment permit and their inspections with DEQ.
4. **Rebecca Altizer:** voiced her support for Samuel's Public Library and was critical of the Board's attempt to "take over" the Library and questioned the Board's motives.
5. **Leslie Mathews:** spoke critically about Ms. Cullers' and Sheriff Cline's lack of proper response and action toward the Thompson Hollow Road issue, emphasizing people that have been stranded when their vehicles are removed and the high costs of retrieval. She urged Ms. Cullers and Sheriff Cline to run their positions with integrity and class.
6. **Steve Cullers:** commented on the no parking signs at Thompson Hollow, half of which is marked with no parking signs and the other half is available for parking and that it applies to everyone.
7. **Hugh Henry:** addressed the ongoing issue with Thompson Hollow Road emphasizing the blocked driveways and the need for the Park Service to advertise the signage better. Additionally, commented on the Library issue and that he will supporting Samuel's Public Library if elected.
8. **George Cline:** asked what the Board's priorities are for the County. And spoke critically that the Sheriff needs to choose between needed items, commenting that the Board focuses on the wrong things such as the library, and urged the Board to focus more on correcting the budget.

Adjournment:

Prior to adjournment, Ms. Cook commented that the Warren County Library Board was appointed via Board decision and not up to a single Board member. Additionally, she was unaware of the Economic Development and Tourism interviews and was not part of the selection process.

On a motion by Dr. Jamieson, seconded by Ms. Cook, and the following vote, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.