At a Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Warren County held in the Warren County Government Center on April 7th, 2026, at 1:00 PM

Present – Warren County Board of Supervisors and County Staff: Cheryl L. Cullers, (South River District); Tony F. Carter (Happy Creek District); Hugh B. Henry, (Fork); Richard A. Jamieson, (North River District); also, J. David Martin, Interim County Administrator; Jane Meadows, Deputy County Administrator; Jason Ham, County Attorney; Alisa Scott, Finance Director; Kelly Wahl, Interim Planning Director; Cory Griffith, GIS Coordinator; Janice Shanks, Treasurer; and Zach Henderson, Deputy Clerk to the Board of Supervisors

Absent - John W. Stanmeyer, (Shenandoah District)

Call to Order:

Ms. Cullers called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM with an opening prayer from Pastor Bobby Stepp.

Adoption of Agenda:

Dr. Jamieson stated that he would like to remove consent item #3 Modification to the Board of Supervisors Meeting Policy and Procedures from the agenda, emphasizing that this item would be more suited for an evening meeting as it was not considered standard or "housekeeping" and that would also allow for Mr. Stanmeyer, who is absent for this meeting, to be able to provide his own feedback and comments.

On a motion by Mr. Henry, seconded by Dr. Jamieson, and the following vote, the Board amended the agenda to remove the presentation from the Sheriff's Office, and add a report from VDOT

Dr. Jamieson, Aye; Mr. Henry, Aye; Ms. Cullers, Aye; Mr. Carter, Aye

On a motion by Dr. Jamieson, seconded by Mr. Carter, and the following vote, the Board adopted the agenda as amended to strike consent item #3 Modification to the Board of Supervisors Meeting Policy and Procedures from the agenda.

Mr. Carter, Aye; Ms. Cullers, Aye; Mr. Henry, Aye; Dr. Jamieson, Aye

VDOT Report:

Mr. Edwin Carter provided the Board with an update on various county road projects including grading applications on dirt roads that will continue throughout the month if the weather permits. Additionally, they have been doing tree trimming on 55 – John Marshal Highway and Thompson Hollow Road, Totten Lane, and Rockland Road as well as pothole repairs on Remount Road 522 and Oregon Hollow Road etc. Furthermore, regarding Board concerns, the Rocky Hollow Road project should be completed no later than the 17th of April, they are also scheduled to meet with the Sheriff's Office and traffic engineering for Thompson Hollow Road with the parking situation.

Presentation – Davenport Public Finance:

Ms. Scott introduced Mr. Ben Wilson of Davenport & Company, who provided the Board with Discussion Materials regarding Warren County's public finances. This information included:

- Credit Rating Overview and Peer Comparative Introduction, and the Rating Agency Methodologies
- The General Fund balance and financial performance as well as Operation and Fund Balance
- Existing Tax and Supported Debt Profile with Select Key Debt Ratios
- Capital Planning Discussion Characteristics and affordability analysis with potential financing options

- An update to the 2014 Bonds Refunding Analysis with an overview on VPSA Refunding Opportunity and all remaining Callable Bonds and fall financial pool timelines.

Mr. Carter commented on the fund balance and the policy that the County has to keep it at 15%, then asked what that 15% encompasses. Mr. Wilson stated that the 15% is of expenditures and that portions from the State and Federal Governments are also included in that.

Dr. Jamieson stated that the purpose of the policy is to act as a cash flow buffer to ensure the County is never going less than zero. Me. Wilson agreed and further stated that the policy is intended to prevent the County from getting to a point where it has to borrow just to maintain operations.

Public Comment Period:

1. **Mark Egger:** stated that this month is child abuse prevention month, then spoke critically of a book titled, "I am Jazz" that is from the children's section of Samuel's Public Library, emphasizing that the book promotes child abuse due to the contents and meaning. Additionally, asked how the Board can justify funding Samuel's Library when they are capable of successful fundraising.
2. **Andrew Heymann:** spoke in opposition of the road naming request off of Buck Mountain Road, emphasizing that this will be in violation of his civil rights, and further stated that the County had made a mistake by putting a name of "Pending Buck Mountain Road" on the private driveway, then asked by he, as a property owner, is being penalized for the County's mistake.
3. **Wells Bill:** stated that in 2025, his home off of Rocky Lane was reassessed at an increase of almost $110,000, that was reduced by $28,000 after appealing. When he met with the Board of Equalization, his property value was not reduced at all, and when he asked for the recording of the meeting, he was sent a packet that contained several errors and asked why he was being punished.

Approval of Minutes – March 17th, 2026:

On a motion by Mr. Henry, seconded by Mr. Carter, and the following vote, the Board approved the March 17th minutes as presented.

Dr. Jamieson, Aye; Mr. Henry, Aye; Ms. Cullers, Aye; Mr. Carter, Aye

<u>**Unfinished Business**</u>

New Road Naming Request for properties accessed off of Buck Mountain Road:

Mr. Griffith stated that this began in 2022 and that a third house that was built off of Buck Mountain Road on a private easement. It was addressed as off of Buck Mountain Road at the time, but it was never finished and went into foreclosure. When he took the position over, it came to his attention it needed to be named a private road. Per the County Code 142-6, the third house triggers the review for compliance, he found the road to be in non-compliance, thus needing a new road based upon that it intersects with a named roadway at a sixty-degree angle.

Ms. Cullers asked if this was basically to help identify in cases of emergency, Mr. Griffith stated that it was mainly for E-911 response.

Dr. Jamieson asked about the mistake that was referred to during the Public Comment period. Mr. Griffith stated that in 2022, the previous GIS Coordinator addressed the third house as off Buck Mountain Road and was just not identified and not reviewed for compliance or non-compliance.

On a motion by Mr. Henry, seconded by Mr. Carter, and the following vote, the Board named the access road off of Buck Mountain Road "Jockey Hollow Lane" as shown in the illustration entitled: "Proposed New Road - Jockey Hollow Lane".

Mr. Carter, Aye; Ms. Cullers, Aye; Mr. Henry, Aye; Dr. Jamieson, Aye

Consent Agenda:

1. Change to County Observed Holiday Day - Primary Election **(Removed for Discussion)**
2. FY27 Health Insurance Rates
3. Modification to the Board of Supervisors Meeting Policy and Procedures **– Struck**
4. Contract for Services - Millennium Pools & Spas, LLC
5. DCJS Local Law Enforcement (LOLE) Grant Award Acceptance

Ms. Cullers pulled item #1, Change to County Observed Holiday Day - Primary Election, for discussion.

On a motion by Mr. Henry, seconded by Dr. Jamieson, and the following vote, the Board approved the consent agenda as presented – amended to remove item # Change to County Observed Holiday Day - Primary Election

Dr. Jamieson, Aye; Mr. Henry, Aye; Ms. Cullers, Aye; Mr. Carter, Aye

New Business:

Change to County Observed Holiday Day - Primary Election:

Ms. Cullers stated that she had asked how much it was to make a holiday and commented that she did receive a $25,000 total number on top of whatever the day rate is for County Staff, that is a number she has not received.

Ms. Darr stated that the estimated payroll cost is approximately $56,557. That is the daily rate as a normal day without a holiday, with a holiday it would be $57,972, and that is an average after looking at a 28 day pay cycle. It is actually $36,000 more for the holiday on top of the $56,557.

Ms. Cullers stated that she does not see that the primary election will interrupt and affect the general business and emphasized that historically the County has been open on primary election day and questioned why spend that extra money and lose a day of productivity.

On a motion by Dr. Jamieson seconded by Mr. Henry, and the following vote, the Board removed the Primary Election Day as a County observed holiday.

Mr. Carter, Aye; Ms. Cullers, Aye; Mr. Henry, Aye; Dr. Jamieson, Aye

Board Reports:

- **Dr. Jamieson reported the following:**
    - Stated that there will be a Shenandoah Rail Trail meeting after the election and will be attending a virtual meeting tomorrow.
    - Has been working on the budget and is looking into possible alternatives and tax structures etc. and hoped to meet with Ms. Cullers and Dr. Martin soon to go over it more in depth.
- **Mr. Henry reported the following:**
    - Commented on the previous week's work session, stating that he was tough on Fire and Rescue and that it was not fair to them. He then indicated that the County has the right people, Chief, and staff and are all qualified to do their jobs. He further commented on Chester Gap issue in correlation to the developing budget and history.

- **Ms. Cullers reported the following:**

  - On March 26th she attended a Tourism Committee meeting and reminded everyone that the first VA250 event will be on April 18th at the Heritage Society.
  - Thanked Dr. Jamieson and Mr. Stanmeyer for going to Chester Gap and meeting with some of the Rappahannock Supervisors to discuss the fire department.
  - Attended the Tourism Summit hosted by Lizi Lewis at the Community Center and stated the room was full and had good conversation(s) about Tourism and collaboration etc.
  - Reminded the public on the Budget Hearing at Warren County High School at 6:00 PM and there will be a Special Meeting at the Government Center on the 22nd.
  - Requested the Board to make a decision on Chester Gap as soon as possible.
- **Mr. Carter reported had no report**
- **Dr. Martin reported the following:**
  - Apologized to Dr. Jamieson for incorrectly announcing the legal fees attributed to him. He went back and reviewed the fees and invoices, and they total approximately $71,000 rather than in the $80,000 range.
  - Formerly made a recommendation to fund Chester Gap through June and suggested having a sit down with both parties to attempt to find common ground.
  - Stated that the Courthouse received a visitor from a member of the Department of Historic Resources to review the historical integrity of the building and conform two modification requests that have since been approved (an ADA compliant bathroom and repairs to the Cupola)
- **Mr. Ham reported the following:**
  - Confirmed that a scheduled meeting date for August 5th was accurate given that it is a Wednesday and a Resolution will be needed if the Board wished to move it back to Tuesday. However, the Wednesday meeting was intentional due to National Night Out, and no action needed to be taken for that.

Dr. Jamieson asked to amend his report then stated, in regard to Dr. Martin's comment, that on March 24th Dr. Martin publicly read from a report attributing over $80,000 in attorney costs to him personally. He had then requested the data from him, the methodology, and report. Everything but the methodology was provided. He analyzed the data and is in the process of compiling a report, and one of the principal findings though is that in the report that was read by Dr. Martin, a different standard was applied to him more than anyone else. For him alone, a broader set of additional criteria was applied and as he completes his report, he will make it available for the record to be cleared.

Dr. Martin requested a closed session at the end of the meeting for personnel to review the Memorandum of Understanding of Employment for the Interim County Administrator.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Mr. Henry, seconded by Mr. Carter, and the following vote, the regular meeting adjourned at 2:49 PM.

Dr. Jamieson, Aye; Mr. Henry, Aye; Ms. Cullers, Aye; Mr. Carter, Aye

Closed Session:

On a motion by Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Henry, and the following vote, the Board added a closed session to discuss the Interim County Administrator.

Dr. Jamieson, Aye; Mr. Henry, Aye; Ms. Cullers, Aye; Mr. Carter, Aye

On a motion by Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Henry, and the following vote, the Board entered into a closed meeting under section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act for the discussion or consideration of the assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, or resignation of a specific officer of the public body.

Dr. Jamieson, Aye; Mr. Henry, Aye; Ms. Cullers, Aye; Mr. Carter, Aye

At 3:50 PM, on a motion by Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Henry, and the following vote, the Board certified to the best of each member's knowledge only public business matters, lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Freedom of Information Act, and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the close meeting was convened, were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting by the public body.

Dr. Jamieson, Aye; Mr. Henry, Aye; Ms. Cullers, Aye; Mr. Carter, Aye

Dr. Jamieson stated that he would like to apologize to Dr. Martin for evaluating his performance in public without offering him the opportunity to respond in a private setting, and that this was an oversight on his part for which he makes a sincere apology to Dr. Martin.

On a motion by Mr. Henry, seconded by Mr. Carter, and the following vote, the meeting adjourned at 3:53 PM.