

**Minutes**  
**Floyd County Board of Supervisors**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**January 24, 2023**

1. **Called to Order** – Chairman Turman called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
2. **Opening Prayer** – The opening prayer was offered by Supervisor Cox.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Supervisor Kuchenbuch offered the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **Quorum** – Dr. Millsaps called the roll. A quorum was found as all Supervisors were present.
5. **Approval of Agenda** – On a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Bechtold, the agenda was approved unanimously.
6. **Approval of Disbursements** – On a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Cox, and approved unanimously.
7. **Approval of Minutes** - On a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Bechtold the minutes from the reorganization was approved unanimously
8. **Public Comment** –

**Adam and Marcy Morrison – Burks Fork District**

Good evening, folks. I have not attended too many of these meetings, but there's only one simple thing I want to address, and I guess this would go to you, Mr. Turman. You guys are grateful. We gratefully accepted the repaving of the road to Buffalo. There's only a dozen of us that live all the way down Moles Road and whatnot. Three weeks ago, closer to four, I was taking my dogs for a walk no problem. Recently, it was quite a way, some time had passed since the road had been paved. The Country paved, right? There was no speed limit sign-up. No problem. I mean, you take that road, your county, you're going to 25-30 miles an hour. Then the sign went up, 35 miles an hour, and now folks are going 35. You see 35 you're going to go 40, maybe if you're from out of town. My poor daughter's German Shepherd of 110 pounds. I watched get slammed at 35 miles an hour from my lovely wife Marcy. My request to the board would be simple, I'm under the understanding that it's cut and dry, and 35 mph is country road speed. I guess we would request that you take the sign down. Since the sign has been up, people have been going over 35, you put something at 35 and people come in from out of town, and

"at nine, you're fine, then you're mine", you know. And if the sign is down, reasonable people will go slower, that seems to be the case. Lastly, is there any other sign that we could put up? You guys kick it around, "Children at play" or something like that? People drive that road and walk on the road, other than the Buffalo traffic, but they also use that road there. Thank you.

**Matt Thomas –**

Hey, how is everybody doing tonight? I just kind of wanted to ask a question on personal property taxes. Where are we at? If we have decided to give any relief to the county? I know, like everybody here, we all have personal property, but seems to be going in the wrong direction. So, I would just like to ask that it would be talked about. Most of my neighbors, like neighboring counties, have given tax relief. And we're already much higher than most of those counties. So, if we could, like take a few minutes and see what we can do for the county residents. Thank you.

**John Hopkins – Little River District – Partnership for Floyd**

Thank you all. John Hopkins, Little River precinct. I come to you on behalf of Partnership for Floyd, which for several years has been engaged in building walking trails, for recreation and for the study of nature. We greatly appreciate the support and cooperation that the Board of Supervisors has extended in this work. It's a community project that has turned out very well. We think that the works for Burks Fork Trail, for instance, is a lovely asset for the community and it's being used more and more every month. We could not have done it without the Supervisor's help. But the reason I'm here today is another matter having to do with health and safety. The Partnership wants to urge you please, find a way to build some sidewalks at several locations here in and around the town where there is significant pedestrian traffic and no sidewalk. The places that I have in mind are along Christiansburg Pike, from Main Street to the Blue Ridge apartments, and the Industrial Park along Route 8 North from the town limits to the Recreation Park. One also could fill in gaps along Route 8 South between the edge of town and the Center for the Arts and the June bug Center. And then something that would really be an asset, but which there's no facility there at all now, and that is along Baker Street, from Route 8, out to Woods Gap Road, where there is now a very nice sidewalk coming out of the High School. My doctor says walking is good for me, and I bet your doctor, your doctors tell you the same thing. We all know we should walk, that it's good for our hearts and good for our lungs. Good perhaps for our weight. We may even feel guilty when we take a car across town instead of walking to the Food Lion or to town. These short trips of one-tenth of a mile to a quarter of a mile are the least

efficient use we have for the vehicles that we own. And they also contribute to the backups we frequently see outside the Courthouse or in front of the Food Lion or over there in front of the DJ's Drive-In. So please, help make walking in Floyd both safe and practical.

### **John Lockwood – Indian Valley**

My name is John Lockwood, I live in Indian Valley. I wanted to bring to your attention an ordinance that has brought me a lot of grief in the last six months. So, I live here, I live in an RV and I have an outhouse permitted by the Health Department for sewage disposal and that means I can't get an address even though I live here. I own the piece of land that I live on. I pay the mortgage. To get a certificate of occupancy you have to have a septic system which is \$20,000. I'm pretty much battling with the mortgage and I'm never going to save up that amount of money until it's over with. I have built a structure out there. It's under 256 square feet. And, let's see, I don't even know where to begin here. I looked at the rules of Floyd County before I got started, for unrestricted land usage and that's when I built. It's on a permanent foundation. I also live in the RV on the property but because I can't get an address it means I can't be a resident of Virginia which means I can't get a driver's license, I can't vote, I can't pay taxes here. I can't get mail here. So, I pay taxes for services that I can't get access to and that just screams unconstitutional to me. I know this is a one-sided conversation. So, what has happened is I have called the postmaster, I've called the Emergency Services to try and get a 911 address, I've obviously called the Building Inspector who has come out to the property and harassed me on multiple occasions, trespassed on my land, told me to tear the building down, yada yada. So, I don't really know whom to talk to and that's why I'm here. It seems that this problem is stemming from an ordinance from 2016, where structures that were already in place were grandfathered into having an address. But my official standpoint is, I have an outhouse permitted by the Health Department for sewage disposal, and the government knows that I am living there. I own the property. I pay taxes but I can't access government services. There is a problem here and I don't know how to fix it. I have a business. I can't register it to that address. A cop pulled me over the other day, he said you have to change your license over to a Virginia license, you have two months to do that. I told him I couldn't do it and he said "That sounds like bullshit to me", and he let me go. I talked to a post office worker today and she told me to use the post office address and use a PO Box as an apartment number and then maybe I could get an ID that way. What I am trying to say is that I have government employees talking to me, telling me to break the law so that I can follow the law. What am I supposed to do? I don't have \$20,000 for a septic system. I know you can't respond. So, I have a structure. It's 192 square feet. It's on a permanent foundation but it does not have a septic system. I have talked to the office many times. I have looked at the rules of Floyd County. I am definitely abiding by them. It's under 256 square feet.

So, it would be nice to register that as a business address, to get a 911 address for emergencies. I feel like you guys get the point. So, I'd be interested in hearing what I could do to follow the law. Thank you.

**9. Board Time:**

No updates are offered at this time.

**10. Old Business:**

- a. On a motion by Supervisor Bechtold and seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch and unanimously approved to advertise for a public hearing on 2/14/2023 at 9:00 a.m. for the Elderly and Disabled Tax Relief Ordinance.

**Closed Business**

- b. On a motion by Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and passed unanimously, the Board voted to move to closed session under 2.2-3711.A3 to discuss Real Estate Acquisition. Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.
- c. On a motion by Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and passed unanimously, the Board voted to move to closed session under 2.2-3711.A5. Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry that relates to advanced manufacturing projects where no previous announcement has been made.
- d. On a motion by Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and passed unanimously, the Board voted to move to closed session under 2.2-3711.A1. Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body.
- e. On a motion by Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and passed unanimously, the Board moved to a closed session under 2.2-3711.A 7. Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in an open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public

body. For the purposes of this subdivision, "probable litigation" means litigation that has been specifically threatened or on which the public body or its legal counsel has a reasonable basis to believe will be commenced by or against a known party. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter.

On a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Bechtold, and unanimously carried, the Board voted to come out of closed session.

Supervisor Boothe – yes  
Supervisor Bechtold – yes  
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes  
Supervisor Cox – yes  
Supervisor Turman - yes

On a motion by Supervisor Boothe seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and unanimously carried, the Board certified that the Board only discussed the matters in closed session.

Supervisor Bechtold – yes  
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes  
Supervisor Cox – yes  
Supervisor Boothe – yes  
Supervisor Turman – yes

## **11. New Business**

- a. On a motion by Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch and unanimously approved the decision on naming the drive Winter View Drive.
- b. On a motion by Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Bechtold, and unanimously approved the naming of the private drive Cedar Creek Lane.
- c. On a motion by Supervisor Cox, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch and unanimously approved the naming of the shared drive Saddlebred Trail.
- d. On a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Bechtold and carried, the board approved Kim Chiddo, for a four-year term on the DSS Board.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes  
Supervisor Bechtold – yes  
Supervisor Cox – abstain.  
Supervisor Boothe – yes  
Supervisor Turman - yes

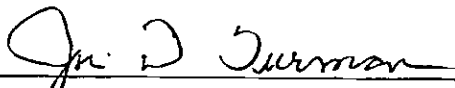
**12. County Administrators Report** – Dr. Millsaps offered the following information about staff activities.

- a) Animal Control - update
- b) Parks and Recreation - update
- c) EMS/EMS Billing. – Transitioned to an external company and completed
- d) Audit Update – Should receive audit within the next few weeks.
- e) Budget Process update for FY24
- f) Financial Software Update. – Steve Durbin reviewing contract
- g) Opioid Settlement Training
- h) Tourism/ARPA funds
- i) Appointment of New River Valley Regional Commission (tabled from the last meeting) – The board is completed no additional actions at this time.

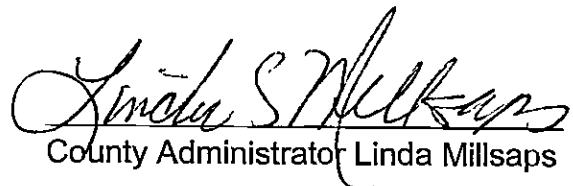
**13. Correspondence** –

No additional comments regarding correspondence at this time.

**14. Adjournment** – On a motion by Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, and passed unanimously, the Board voted to adjourn.



Chairman, Joe Turman



County Administrator Linda Millsaps