

AGENDA

Tuesday, December 10, 2019
4:00 PM

4:00 CALL MEETING TO ORDER (M. Todd Dishner, Chairman)

CLOSED SESSION

Code of Virginia, Section 2.2-3711 **A.1; Personnel Matters;** Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment and contracts;

5:00 CALL MEETING TO OPEN SESSION (M. Todd Dishner, Chairman)

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Adopt the agenda and the additional agenda as presented

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Request adoption of the November 13th, 2019 meeting minutes.

FINANCIAL STATUS

Michael Carter – Inform the Board of the County's financial status

PAYMENT OF INVOICES

Consideration of appropriations and accounts payable as listed on the additional agenda

5:15 CITIZENS TIME

5:30 Audit Presentation-Emily Viers- Robison, Farmer, Cox Associates

NEW BUSINESS

***Consideration of Resolution for Second Amendment Sanctuary**

***Consideration of Resolution of Support for Traffic Incident Management Legislation**

***Smyth County Broad Band Initiative Community Meeting Update-Todd Dishner**

***Supervisor Comment Time**

Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

PRESENT: Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner; Vice Chairman, Rye Valley District Supervisor Rick K. Blevins; Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D Call; North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson; Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr.; Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins; and Royal Oak District Supervisor Judy Wyant (7)

ABSENT: None.

STAFF: County Administrator Michael Carter; Assistant County Administrator Lisa Richardson; Administrative Assistant Kelly Woods (3)

OTHERS: Smyth County News and Messenger and several citizens.

Kendra Hayden, Administrative Assistant gave the invocation and Kelly Woods, Administrative Assistant led the Pledge of Allegiance.



11/13/2019 5:03 PM North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson made a motion to move Closed Session to the end of the meeting due to County Attorney Jeff Campbell being in Court. Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr. seconded the motion.

After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner, Vice Chairman, Rye Valley District Supervisor Rick K. Blevins, Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call, North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson, Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr., Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins and Royal Oak District Supervisor Judy Wyant.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINERS: None.

ABSENT: None.



11/13/2019 5:03 PM A motion was made by North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson, seconded by Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr. to adopt the agenda and additional agenda as presented.

After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner, Vice Chairman, Rye Valley District Supervisor Rick K. Blevins,

Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call,
North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson,
Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr.,
Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins and
Royal Oak District Supervisor Judy Wyant.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINERS: None.

ABSENT: None.



11/13/2019 5:04 PM It was moved by North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson, seconded by Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr. to approve the minutes of the October 8th and October 24th, 2019 meetings, with a correction being made to the Chilhowie District Board of Supervisor name.

After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner,
Vice Chairman, Rye Valley District Supervisor Rick K. Blevins,
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call,
North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson,
Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr.,
Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins and
Royal Oak District Supervisor Judy Wyant.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINERS: None.

ABSENT: None.



11/13/2019 5:05 PM Michael Carter, County Administrator presented the Board with information on the current FY2019-2020 Budget and a current month analysis for appropriations.




11/13/2019 5:25 PM Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner opened Citizens Time:


Richard Simms, Henry South Carolina, spoke and stated he owned two (2) lots located on Anderson Avenue, Marion, Virginia and would like to place a mobile home on each lot. Currently Smyth County does not have a Special Use Permit that allows for this and Mr. Simms would like for the Board of Supervisors to allow this request.

Erwin Rowland, Marion, Virginia spoke regarding the proposed Women's treatment facility, and Recovery Court. Ms. Rowland stated it is her opinion this is not a good direction for Smyth County and encouraged the Board of Supervisors to reach out to neighboring Counties to offer the services.

Nathan Gary, new Day Operations Manager for the Saltville Rescue Squad, spoke to the Board and gave a brief update regarding the financial position of the Squad. Mr. Gary stated the Rescue Squad has gained new Advanced Life Support providers, and all call are being covered with 24-hour coverage. Payroll has been reduced over the last two (2) months to assist with the financial needs. Mr. Gary

stated he would continue to communicate with the Board of Supervisors regarding the Saltville Rescue Squad.

 11/13/2019 5:40 PM With no one else wishing to speak, Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner closed Citizens Time.

 11/13/2019 5:40 PM North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson made a motion to send the request by Mr. Simms during citizen's time to the Smyth County Ordinance Committee to discuss. Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call seconded the motion.


After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:


AYES: Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner,
Vice Chairman, Rye Valley District Supervisor Rick K. Blevins,
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call,
North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson,
Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr.,
Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins and
Royal Oak District Supervisor Judy Wyant.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINERS: None.


ABSENT: None.

 11/13/2019 5:41 PM Andy Overbay and Bailey Robertson with the Smyth County Extension Office presented a slide show informing of the services offered by the Extension Office. Dr. Overbay informed the Board of the cost benefits with cattle sales and the added value that has been brought to Smyth County farmers. Mr. Robertson gave an overview of the 4-H programs available to students in Smyth County schools. Mr. Robertson stated several programs such as dramatic reading, nature project, honey bee essay, along with 4-H Camp are available for students to participate in.

 11/13/2019 5:57 PM Andrew Philpot, Park Manager for Hungry Mother State Park, spoke and thanked the Board of Supervisors for the invitation to introduce himself and also thanked the community for the warm welcome his family has received since moving to Smyth County. Mr. Philpot informed the Board the Bridge located at the Park is being replaced along with a few cabin renovations.

 11/13/2019 6:03 PM Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner called for a ten (10) minute recess.

 11/13/2019 6:18 PM Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner called the meeting back to order from recess.

 11/13/2019 6:18 PM It was moved by Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call, seconded by Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr. to appropriate \$1,815,000.00 from the General Fund. The following is an explanation of the appropriations approved:

General County

Accounts Payable Listing:

\$1,007,992.48

Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2019

Payroll:	\$754,402.34
Auto Draft Rural Development:	\$8,974.00
AEP/Century Link Bills:	\$25,000.00
County Administration Fund:	\$5,000.00
Minus Beginning Appropriation:	\$(107,322.88)
New Carryover:	\$120,954.06
Total County Appropriation:	\$1,815,000.00

After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner,
Vice Chairman, Rye Valley District Supervisor Rick K. Blevins,
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call,
North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson,
Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr.,
Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins and
Royal Oak District Supervisor Judy Wyant.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINERS: None.

ABSENT: None.

It was moved by Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call, seconded by Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr. to appropriate \$455,000.00 from the General Fund for the Department of Social Services. The following is an explanation of the appropriations approved:

Social Services

(November 13-November 30, 2019)	\$ 395,000.00
(December 1-December 10, 2019)	\$ 60,00.00
Total Social Services:	\$ 455,00.00

After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner,
Vice Chairman, Rye Valley District Supervisor Rick K. Blevins,
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call,
North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson,
Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr.,
Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins and
Royal Oak District Supervisor Judy Wyant.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINERS: None.

ABSENT: None.

It was moved by Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call, seconded by Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr. to appropriate \$3,758,000.00 from the General Fund for the Smyth County School Board Operating Fund. The following is an explanation of the appropriations approved:

Schools-Operating Fund

Instruction	\$ 2,800,000.00
Administration, Attendance, & Health	\$ 130,000.00
Transportation	\$ 268,000.00
Facilities	\$ 285,000.00
School Food Service	\$ 175,000.00
Technology	\$ 100,000.00
Total School Operating Fund:	\$ 3,758,000.00

After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner,
Vice Chairman, Rye Valley District Supervisor Rick K. Blevins,
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call,
North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson,
Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr.,
Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins and
Royal Oak District Supervisor Judy Wyant.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINERS: None.

ABSENT: None.

It was moved by Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call, seconded by Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr. to appropriate \$1,110,000.00 from the General Fund for Smyth County School Board Debt Service.

After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner,
Vice Chairman, Rye Valley District Supervisor Rick K. Blevins,
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call,
North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson,
Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr.,
Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins and
Royal Oak District Supervisor Judy Wyant.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINERS: None.

ABSENT: None.

It was moved by Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call seconded by Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr. to appropriate \$3,499.31 from the Sheriff's Fund 748 for open invoices.

After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner,

Vice Chairman, Rye Valley District Supervisor Rick K. Blevins,
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call,
North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson,
Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr.,
Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins and
Royal Oak District Supervisor Judy Wyant.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINERS: None.

ABSENT: None.

It was moved by Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call, seconded by Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr. to appropriate \$29,515.13 from the Recovery Court Fund 749 for open invoices.

After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner,
Vice Chairman, Rye Valley District Supervisor Rick K. Blevins,
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call,
North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson,
Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr.,
Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins and
Royal Oak District Supervisor Judy Wyant.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINERS: None.

ABSENT: None.



11/13/2019 6:21 PM Michael Carter, County Administrator informed the Board dates of the upcoming Thanksgiving Holiday.



11/13/2019 6:21 PM Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner brought forward the following recommendations from the Budget Committee:

Item #1: It is the Committee's recommendation to approve the Budget Amendment Request as shown below for the Smyth County Department of Social Services in the amount of \$47,250.00. This will change the current FY19-20 budget from \$89,722,289.00 to \$89,769,539.00

Revenue:

Fund 13-024010-0009 (Reimbursement from State)	\$47,250.00
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Expense:

Fund 13-083060-0028 (Lease Equipment)	\$38,820.00
Fund 13-083060-0014 (Postal Services)	\$8,430.00

After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner,
Vice Chairman, Rye Valley District Supervisor Rick K. Blevins,

Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call,
North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson,
Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr.,
Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins and
Royal Oak District Supervisor Judy Wyant.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINERS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Item #2: It is the Committee's recommendation to approve a grant award for the Smyth County Sheriff's Department in the amount of \$24,000 from the Department of Criminal Justice Services to purchase new radar units. This does not require a match from Smyth County.

After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner,
Vice Chairman, Rye Valley District Supervisor Rick K. Blevins,
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call,
North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson,
Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr.,
Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins and
Royal Oak District Supervisor Judy Wyant.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINERS: None.

ABSENT: None.



11/13/2019 6:24 PM Michael Carter, County Administrator presented a recommendation from the Smyth County Personnel Committee. It is the Committee's recommendation to place an advertisement for a Utility Projects Coordinator position.

After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner,
Vice Chairman, Rye Valley District Supervisor Rick K. Blevins,
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call,
North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson,
Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr. and
Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins.

NAYS: Royal Oak District Supervisor Judy Wyant.

ABSTAINERS: None.

ABSENT: None.



11/13/2019 6:26 PM Michael Carter, County Administrator presented a recommendation from the Planning Commission as shown below.

"Commissioner Graham Davidson made a motion to recommend the Board of Supervisors deny James Craig Harper's Special Use Permit request for a service business. Commissioner Paul Shepherd seconded the motion."

After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: Pugh, Spence, Wagoner, Shepherd, Davidson Jr.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINERS: None.

ABSENT: Campbell, Dean.

North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson made a motion to accept the recommendation from the Planning Commission as presented. Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins seconded the motion.

After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner,
Vice Chairman, Rye Valley District Supervisor Rick K. Blevins,
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call,
North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson,
Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr.,
Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins and
Royal Oak District Supervisor Judy Wyant.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINERS: None.

ABSENT: None.



11/13/2019 6:29 PM Economic Development Assistant, Kendra Hayden, discussed the Smyth County Broadband Initiative and the Pre-planning grant from DHCD (Department of Housing and Community Development) award letter. Mrs. Hayden explained the items that have to be accomplished to receive the drawdown of the funds and stated two of the four items have already been accomplished.



11/13/2019 6:35 PM Lisa Richardson, Assistant County Administrator presented the following Proclamation for Census Awareness Day and read for the record.

Proclamation Census Awareness Day

WHEREAS, every ten years, Article 1, Section 2 of the United States Constitution mandates a count of all the people living in the United States and its territories; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Census will address every household in the nation with a simple questionnaire with the goal of counting everyone once, only once, and in the right place; and

WHEREAS, data obtained by the survey will be used to help determine how approximately \$675 billion will be distributed from the federal government to state, local, and tribal governments annually; and

WHEREAS, up to \$2000 of federal funding will be lost for each person not counted; as well as upwards of \$20,000 of federal funding lost every ten years; and

WHEREAS, a complete count requires that we bring together leaders from all communities of the Commonwealth, so that every Virginian regardless of racial, social, or economic background is counted, and

WHEREAS, Governor Ralph S. Northam has established the Virginia Complete Count Commission, which is comprised of 40 members to collaborate with community partners and local Complete Count Committees to ensure an accurate 2020 Census count; and

WHEREAS, Smyth County has established a Complete Count Committee with the goals of disseminating 2020 Census information to the general public, encouraging all residents to participate in events and initiatives that will raise the overall awareness of the 2020 Census and increase participation, provide Census advocates to speak to community organizations and events, provide support for census takers as they help the community complete an accurate count, and strive to achieve a complete and accurate count of all persons within the County of Smyth.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Smyth, hereby proclaims March 12, 2020, as Census Awareness Day and commends the work of the Complete Count Committee.

Adopted this, the 13th Day of November 2019 in the County of Smyth, Virginia.

Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call made a motion to adopt the Proclamation as presented. Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins seconded the motion.

After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner,
Vice Chairman, Rye Valley District Supervisor Rick K. Blevins,
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call,
North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson,
Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr.,
Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins and
Royal Oak District Supervisor Judy Wyant.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINERS: None.

ABSENT: None.



11/13/2019 6:40 PM Michael Carter, County Administrator presented two lien releases as shown below.

Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr. made a motion to release the lien on the parcel in Green Hill Circle owned by Joe E. and Susie H. Threlkeld, tax map #64A-4-6. Final payment was received and recorded by the Treasurer's Office for the special assessment. The motion was seconded by North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson.

After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner,
Vice Chair, Rye Valley District Supervisor Rick K. Blevins,
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call,
North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson,
Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr.,
Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins and
Royal Oak District Supervisor Judy Wyant.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINERS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr. made a motion to release the lien on the parcel in Green Hill Circle owned by Willard H. and Suzanne R. Lester, tax map #64A-4-5. Final payment was received and recorded by the Treasurer's Office for the special assessment. The motion was seconded by Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins.


After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: Chairman, Park District Supervisor M. Todd Dishner,
Vice Chair, Rye Valley District Supervisor Rick K. Blevins,
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe D. Call,
North Fork District Supervisor Phil Stevenson,
Chilhowie District Supervisor Wade H. Blevins Jr.,
Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins and
Royal Oak District Supervisor Judy Wyant.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINERS: None.


ABSENT: None.

 11/13/2019 6:43 PM Kelly Woods, Administrative Assistant presented an update to the Board of Supervisors concerning the Back of Dragon Project. Funding for the project provided by VDOT and the Tobacco Commission will stay in place, with the County requesting a grant extension from the Tobacco Commission for another year which was approved at the Tobacco Commission Meeting on October 9, 2019. The project is on schedule and should be under construction in the near future.

 11/13/2019 6:53 PM Supervisor Comment Time:

Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins thanked the Town of Marion for their support of the Smyth Wythe Airport.

Royal Oak District Supervisor Judy Wyant thanked all in attendance and bringing concerns to the Board of Supervisors. Ms. Wyant also welcomed the two newly elected Board Members to the meeting.

 11/13/2019 6:54 PM Meeting Adjourned.



Smyth County, Virginia
121 Bagley Circle, Suite 100
Marion, VA 24354

Park District
M. Todd Dishner (Chair)

Rye Valley District
Rick K. Blevins (V. Chair)

Saltville District
Roscoe Call

North Fork District
Phil Stevenson

Atkins District
Charles Atkins

Chilhowie District
R. Curtis Rhea

Royal Oak District
Judy Wyant

Michael L. Carter
County Administrator

Alicia Richardson
Assistant County Administrator

SMYTH COUNTY, VIRGINIA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution reads: "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." and

WHEREAS, Article 1, Section 13, of the Constitution of Virginia provides "that a well regulated militia, composed of the body of the people, trained to arms, is the proper, natural, and safe defense of a free state, therefore, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed; that standing armies, in the time of peace, should be avoided as dangerous to liberty; and that in all cases the military should be under strict subordination to, and governed by, the civil power." and

WHEREAS, the Smyth County Board of Supervisors is concerned about the passage of any bill containing language which could be interpreted as infringing the rights of citizens of Smyth County to keep and bear arms or could begin a slippery slope of restrictions on the Second Amendment rights of the citizens of Smyth County; and

WHEREAS, the Smyth County Board of Supervisors wishes to express its deep commitment to the rights of all citizens of Smyth Count to keep and bear arms; and

WHEREAS, the Smyth County Board of Supervisors wishes to express opposition to any law that would unconstitutionally restrict the rights under the Second Amendment of the citizens of Smyth County to bear arms; and

WHEREAS, the Smyth County Board of Supervisors wishes to express its intent to stand as a Sanctuary County for Second Amendment rights and to oppose, within the limits of the Constitutions of the United States and the Commonwealth of Virginia, any efforts to unconstitutionally restrict such rights, and to use such legal means at its disposal to protect the right of the citizens to keep and bear arms, including through legal action, the power of appropriation of public funds, and the right to petition for redress of grievances.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Smyth County Board of Supervisors hereby expresses its intent to uphold the Second Amendment rights of citizens of Smyth County and its intent that public funds of the County not be used to restrict Second Amendment rights of to aid in the unnecessary and unconstitutional restriction of the rights under the Second Amendment of the citizens of Smyth County to bear arms; and

The Board of Supervisors hereby declares its intent to oppose unconstitutional restrictions on the right to keep and bear arms through such legal means as may be expedient, including without limitation court action; and

The Board of Supervisors hereby declares Smyth County, Virginia, as a “Second Amendment Sanctuary.”

Approved this the 10th day of December, 2019

Adopted:

M. Todd Dishner, Chairman

Attest:

Michael L. Carter, County Administrator



Sheriff's Office of Smyth County

819 MATSON DRIVE • MARION, VIRGINIA 24354
PHONE (276) 782-4056 • FAX (276) 782-4058

B.C. "Chip" SHULER
Sheriff

December 2, 2019

Mr. Michael Carter, County Administrator
Smyth County Board of Supervisors
121 Bagley Circle
Marion, VA 24354

Dear Michael:

I am writing this letter in support of the designation of Smyth County as a Second Amendment Sanctuary by the Smyth County Board of Supervisors. Many Counties throughout Virginia have already taken this position. I fully support the Constitution of the United States and Virginia. I understand that this designation does not negate any law enacted by legislation of the State or Federal Government. I ask that you share my position with our Board Members prior to the December 10, 2019 meeting.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call on me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B.C. Shuler", written over a horizontal line.

B.C. "Chip" Shuler, Sheriff

BCS



Smyth County, Virginia
121 Bagley Circle, Suite 100
Marion, VA 24354

Park District
M. Todd Dishner (Chair)

Rye Valley District
Rick K. Blevins (V. Chair)

Saltville District
Roscoe Call

North Fork District
Phil Stevenson

Atkins District
Charles Atkins

Chilhowie District
R. Curtis Rhea

Royal Oak District
Judy Wyant

Michael L. Carter
County Administrator

Alicia Richardson
Assistant County Administrator

SMYTH COUNTY, VIRGINIA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION

WHEREAS, on November 14, 2018 the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments released a report titled "Traffic Incident Management in the National Capital Region" which provided seven priority recommendations to improve the quick and safe resolution of traffic incidents region wide; and

WHEREAS, during the 2019 General Assembly Session, legislation was introduced that would have allowed traffic incident management ("TIM") vehicles owned or operated by the Virginia Department of Transportation to be equipped with flashing lights and sirens; and

WHEREAS, this legislation would ensure our current transportation infrastructure is utilized in the most safe and efficient manner, and would benefit citizens across the Commonwealth- especially congested regions such as Northern Virginia, Hampton Roads and the I-81 corridor; and

WHEREAS, the prompt arrival of TIM professionals has been shown in other states to significantly alleviate traffic congestion, and improve safety by mitigating secondary crashes; and

WHEREAS, the smooth flow of traffic improves public safety and decreases safety challenges and costs for the commuters and, ultimately, the economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Smyth County Board of Supervisors hereby supports, and encourages other local governments to support legislation in the 2020 General Assembly Session that would allow traffic incident management vehicles along Statewide Safety Service Patrol Routes to be equipped with flashing lights and sirens.

Approved this the 10th day of December, 2019

Adopted:

M. Todd Dishner, Chairman

Attest:

Michael L. Carter, County Administrator



Loudoun County, Virginia

www.loudoun.gov

Office of the County Administrator

1 Harrison Street, S.E., MSC #2, 5th Floor, P.O. Box 7000, Leesburg, VA 20177-7000

Telephone (703) 777-0200 • Fax (703) 777-0325 • coadmin@loudoun.gov

November 5, 2019

Mr. Michael L. Carter
Smyth County
121 Bagley Circle, Suite 100
Marion, Virginia 24354

Dear Mr. Carter,

Our Board of Supervisors respectfully requests that Smyth County consider adopting a resolution of support, as attached, for an upcoming bill in the Virginia General Assembly session concerning safety on our highways.

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) safety service patrol vehicles, also known as traffic incident management (TIM) vehicles, operate on the I-95 corridor, I-495 corridor, I-295 corridor, most of the I-81 and I-64 corridor, and part of the I-77 corridor. TIM vehicles are dispatched by VDOT Transportation Operation Centers or Virginia State Police dispatchers to support first responders by clearing major accidents. VDOT currently uses amber lights for TIM vehicles, and are frequently delayed in responding due to traffic which does not yield the right of way to amber lighted vehicles. Proposed legislation would authorize TIM vehicles to be (i) equipped with flashing red or red and white warning lights, (ii) exempt from certain traffic regulations in particular situations, and (iii) equipped with a siren, exhaust whistle, or air horn. The proposed legislation would also add TIM vehicles to the list of stopped vehicles for which the operator of a motor vehicle must move over or proceed with caution. The legislation would also require TIM drivers to undergo an emergency vehicle operators course from an approved list provided by the Department of Fire Programs, Office of Emergency Medical Services, or equivalent agency and be recertified as an emergency vehicle operator every five years. Similar legislation, [HB 2594](#), passed the House of Delegates 99-0 during the 2019 General Assembly Session and narrowly failed by one vote in the Senate Transportation Committee.

TIM vehicles, in states that already have this authority, have been shown to reduce response times by 50 percent. The Maryland Department of Transportation, which has emergency lighting and sirens on vehicles, has identified an average response time of 7.5 minutes per incident, while VDOT currently averages 14 minutes. Prompt arrival of TIM professionals, facilitated by emergency vehicle responses, alleviates traffic congestion. For each minute an incident negatively impacts a travel lane, approximately 4 additional minutes are statistically required to return travel volumes to pre-crash values. Delays have increased safety challenges, cost significant commuter hours, and greatly increased costs. Finally, this bill mitigates secondary crashes. Prompt arrival of TIM vehicles will positively impact traffic congestion and life safety. We have been working extensively with VDOT, public safety agencies and first responders to ensure that this initiative receives appropriate stakeholder support. Support from localities, particularly those in these often congested Interstate corridors where the TIM

Resolution Supporting TIM Legislation

November 5, 2019

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program is operational but hindered without this additional authority, would be very helpful in communicating the importance of this issue to state elected officials. The Washington Region Council of Governments, representing Northern Virginia localities and the entire D.C. Metro region, has already been actively engaged in advocacy efforts for this important public safety measure.

We hope you will consider supporting this resolution. Upon adoption, we would appreciate receiving a copy in order to demonstrate support for our lawmakers in Richmond. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Anne Lewis, Assistant County Administrator or Gwen Kennedy, Legislative Liaison at 703-777-0200.

Sincerely,



Tim Hemstreet
County Administrator

Attachment (1)