

 The Smyth County Board of Supervisors held its regular meeting on Thursday, August 22nd, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. The location of the meeting was held in the First Floor Board Room of the County Office Building, 121 Bagley Circle, Suite 100, Marion, Virginia.

**PRESENT:** Chair, Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins; Rye Valley District Supervisor Jason Parris; Royal Oak District Supervisor Courtney Widener; Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe Call; Park District Supervisor Kristopher Ratliff; North Fork District Supervisor Rick Billings.

**ABSENT:** Vice Chair Chilhowie District Supervisor Michael Sturgill

**STAFF:** County Administrator, Shawn Utt; Assistant County Administrator-Operations Lisa Richardson; Assistant County Administrator-Development Clegg Williams; County Attorney Scot Farthing; Executive Administrative Assistant/Deputy Clerk Auna Louthian.

**OTHERS:** Smyth County News and Messenger, Sheriff's Office, and Citizens

**8/22/2024 5:00 PM** Chair, Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins called the meeting to order and called for a moment of silence for Deputy Hunter Reedy who was tragically killed in the line of duty on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**8/22/2024 5:03 PM** Chair, Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins read the following statement into the record:

*"The Smyth County Board of Supervisors stands united in grief with the Smyth County Sheriff's office and the community as we mourn the tragic loss of Deputy Hunter Reedy, who lost his life on August 9th in a senseless act of violence. Law Enforcement Officers like Deputy Reedy put their lives on the line on a daily basis to protect the safety and well-being of our community, and his dedication to this noble calling was evident in all he did. We are all part of this community, bound together by the values of service, support, and compassion. Deputy Reedy embodied these values with his unwavering commitment. Deputy Reedy was more than a police officer; he was a beloved husband, father, son, friend, and hero embodying the values of service, support, and compassion in every aspect of his life. His loss is profoundly felt by all of us. During this heartbreaking time, we extend our deepest condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues. As a community, we will stand together, offering support and strength to one another as we honor Deputy Reedy's legacy. Since 1832, Smyth County Sheriff's Department has not experienced the tragic loss of a law enforcement officer in the line of duty. In the aftermath of this terrible event, I was deeply moved by the outpouring of support we received from the surrounding communities. Calls flooded in from Board members in nearby counties, offering their unwavering support in any way they could. What followed was an extraordinary display of unity and compassion: law enforcement agencies from Washington, Wythe, Bland, Grayson, Tazwell, Abingdon, Roanoke County, Town of Pulaski and many others stepped in without hesitation. They took over calls for Smyth County, allowing our officers the space to grieve, to be with their families, and to begin healing. Their selfless dedication came at no cost to Smyth County, but the impact they made is priceless. I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the help and love that has poured in from every corner. It reminds me, more than ever, how fortunate we are to be part of such a strong, caring, and close-knit community. In moments of loss, it's this unity that gives us strength, and I am so proud to call this place home. On behalf of the Board of Supervisors, I want to extend our heartfelt thanks to all who*

*offered assistance and prayers during this difficult time. Please continue to lift up our officers, Deputy Reedy's family, and everyone touched by this tragedy as we navigate through this sorrowful chapter together."*

**8/22/2024 5:06 PM** Auna Louthian led the pledge of allegiance and Stephanie Porter provided the invocation.

**8/22/2024 5:08 PM** Chair, Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins entertained a motion to allow Park District Supervisor Kristopher Ratliff to join electronically.

- *Rye Valley District Supervisor Jason Parris made a motion to allow Park District Supervisor Kristopher Ratliff to join the meeting electronically. North Fork District Supervisor Rick Billings seconded the motion.*

*After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:*

**AYES:** *Chair, Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins,  
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe Call,  
Royal Oak District Supervisor Courtney Widener,  
North Fork District Supervisor Rick Billings, and  
Rye Valley District Supervisor Jason Parris.*

**NAYS:** *None.*

**ABSTAINERS:** *None.*

**ABSENT:** *Vice Chair, Chilhowie District Supervisor Michael Sturgill and  
Park District Supervisor Kristoper Ratliff.*

**8/22/2024 5:08 PM** Presentations:

Commonwealth Attorney, Philp Blevins acknowledged officers in the Smyth County Sheriff's Office who assisted with two recent murder convictions and presented each with a certificate of appreciation and a challenge coin. The Officers recognized were Micheal Fedorchuk, Roger Dowell, Brad Johnson, Dusty King, and Hunter Reedy.

Next, Mr. Blevins provided an update on the alternative sentencing program he has been developing. He plans to collaborate with Mr. Utt during the next budget season to launch the program July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

**8/22/2024 5:35 PM** Public Hearing for Budget Amendment #1.

- *Royal Oak District Supervisor Courtney Widener made a motion to waive the reading of the rules for the public hearing. Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe Call seconded the motion.*

*After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:*

**AYES:** *Chair, Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins,  
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe Call,  
Royal Oak District Supervisor Courtney Widener,  
Park District Supervisor Kristoper Ratliff,  
North Fork District Supervisor Rick Billings, and*

*Rye Valley District Supervisor Jason Parris.*

**NAYS:** *None.*

**ABSTAINERS:** *None.*

**ABSENT:** *Vice Chair, Chilhowie District Supervisor Michael Sturgill.*

**8/22/2024 5:35 PM** Mr. Utt reviewed FY25's Budget Amendment #1 noting the amendment includes unspent carry-over items from FY24, largely from the School System as well as a grant for the Sheriff's Office and requires a public hearing due to the total amount exceeding 1% of our budget. He then provided the following public hearing advertisement:

***NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING***

*Pursuant to Section 15.2-2507 of the Code of Virginia, notice is hereby given that the Board of Supervisors of Smyth County, Virginia, will hold a public hearing in the Boardroom of the Smyth County Administration Building at 121 Bagley Circle, Marion, Virginia, on Thursday, August 22, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. or soon thereafter, to receive comments on the proposed amendments of the budget for fiscal year 2024-2025.*

*This amendment will increase the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 adopted budget by \$4,942,421.00 related to additional grant funding for the Sheriff's Office designated for Byrne/Justice Assistance, as well as carryover funds from Fiscal Year 24 for the Smyth County School Board, various bonds, and interest accruals. The proposed new total budget amount will be \$151,588,158.00.*

*All interested persons may express their views by emailing [alouthian@smythcounty.org](mailto:alouthian@smythcounty.org) prior to the meeting. Written comments may also be mailed to the County Administrator Shawn Utt, 121 Bagley Circle, Suite 100, Marion, VA 24354; or by fax to (276) 783-9314. All emails, written comments and faxes must be received by 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 22, 2024. A copy of the proposed budget amendment is available for public review by contacting the County Administrator's Office. Anyone having questions regarding the above may contact the County Administrator's Office at 276-783-3298, Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.*

*In compliance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate in this hearing should contact Clegg Williams, ADA Coordinator at (276) 706-8315 at least 24 hours prior to the hearing.*

*Smyth County fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. For more information, or to obtain a Title VI Discrimination Complaint Form, contact (276) 783-3298 or at <https://www.smythcounty.org>.*

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***BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF SMYTH COUNTY, VIRGINIA***

*Shawn M. Utt, County Administrator*

**8/22/2024 5:36 PM** Chair, Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins opened the public hearing.

**8/22/2024 5:36 PM** With no citizens wishing to speak, Chair, Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins closed the public hearing.

- *Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe Call made a motion to waive the rules of the public hearing for FY25 Budget Amendment #1 to allow for a vote. Rye Valley District Supervisor Jason Parris seconded the motion.*

*After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:*

*AYES: Chair, Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins,  
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe Call,  
Royal Oak District Supervisor Courtney Widener,  
Park District Supervisor Kristoper Ratliff,  
North Fork District Supervisor Rick Billings, and  
Rye Valley District Supervisor Jason Parris.*

*NAYS: None.*

*ABSTAINERS: None.*

*ABSENT: Vice Chair, Chilhowie District Supervisor Michael Sturgill.*

**RESOLUTION  
SMYTH COUNTY BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2024/25 – AMENDMENT #1**

**WHEREAS**, the Smyth County Board of Supervisors, on June 20th, 2024 adopted the Fiscal Year 2024/25 Budget in the original amount of \$146,646,737; and

**WHEREAS**, the aggregate amount of budget amendment #1 is \$4,942,421 which would increase the Fiscal Year 2024/25 budget to a total of \$151,588,158 as shown in greater detail on Exhibit A attached hereto.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Smyth County Board of Supervisors sets forth and approves the amended Smyth County Budget for the Fiscal Year 2024/25 in the amount of \$151,588,158.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the approval of this budget amendment #1 shall indeed constitute an appropriation of the same funds.

**Adopted** this the 22nd day of August 2024

**ATTEST:**

**SMYTH COUNTY  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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Shawn M. Utt, Clerk

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Charles Atkins, Chair

Exhibit A  
 FY2024/25  
 Budget Amendment #1 (Aug. 22, 2024)

Part 1. REVENUES

Fund	Department	Line Item Number	Account Title	Adopted Budget	Amount of Amendment	Budget with Amendment	Notes
Fund 001	Sheriff	001-023020-	Byrne/Justice Assistance Grant	\$ -	\$ (44,749)	\$ (44,749)	Additional grant funds for equipment
Fund 001	Local Funds Transfer	001-040000-0002	Smyth County School Board	\$ 13,398,174	\$ 4,465,960	\$ 17,864,154	Carryover from previous year
Fund 001	Local Funds Transfer	001-040000-0005	Local Funds Transfer-Use of Fund Balance	\$ (500,000)	\$ (4,512,920)	\$ (5,012,920)	
Fund 009	Local Funds Transfer From General Fund	009-022000-0001	Transfer from General Fund	\$ (9,682,312)	\$ (4,465,960)	\$ (14,148,292)	Carryover from previous year
Fund 302	Public Safety Comm. Bond	302-010001-0002	Interest	\$ (9,000,000)	\$ 713,584	\$ (8,286,416)	Balance available as of June 30, 2024
Fund 305	Building Study Construction	305-010001-0002	Interest	\$ (12,775,000)	\$ (300,000)	\$ (13,075,000)	Accumulated interest as of July, 2024
Fund 777	Special Projects Fund	777-010001-0003	Revenue from Previous Years	\$ -	\$ (798,336)	\$ (798,336)	Carryover from previous year
<b>Total Revenues With Amendment</b>				<b>\$ (146,645,737)</b>	<b>\$ (4,942,421)</b>	<b>\$ (151,588,158)</b>	

Part 2. EXPENDITURES

Fund	Department	Line Item Number	Account Title	Adopted Budget	Amount of Amendment	Amended Budget Amount	Notes
Fund 001	Sheriff	001-021070-	Byrne/Justice Assistance Grant	\$ -	\$ 72,789	\$ 72,789	New Grant funding for equipment purchase
Fund 001	Volunteer Fire Departments	001-032020-5904-1	Contributions -Vol Fire Departments	\$ 60,000	\$ 18,900	\$ 78,900	Carryover for purchase of UTV / Equipment
Fund 009	Smyth County School Board	009-099990-5301	Instruction (61000)	\$ 47,316,508	\$ 2,200,000	\$ 49,516,508	Carryover from previous year
Fund 009	Smyth County School Board	009-099990-5307	Capital Outlay-Facilities (66000)	\$ 2,110,000	\$ 2,265,960	\$ 4,375,960	Carryover from previous year
Fund 302	Public Safety Comm. Bond	302-012010-0001	Construction Funds	\$ 9,000,000	\$ (713,584)	\$ 8,286,416	Balance of funds availbe June 30, 2024
Fund 305	Building Study Construction	305-010001-0003	Building Study Fund	\$ 12,775,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 13,075,000	Accumulated interest as of July, 2024
Fund 777	Special Projects Fund	777-010000-0011	Marion Inter. School Renov.	\$ -	\$ 798,336	\$ 798,336	Carryover from previous year
<b>Total Expenditures With Amendment</b>				<b>\$ 146,645,737</b>	<b>\$ 4,942,421</b>	<b>\$ 151,588,158</b>	

Revenues	\$ (146,645,737)	\$ (4,942,421)	\$ (151,588,158)
Expenditures	\$ 146,645,737	\$ 4,942,421	\$ 151,588,158
Difference	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

- Royal Oak District Supervisor Courtney Widener made a motion to approve the resolution for FY25 Budget Amendment #1 in the amount of \$4,942,421. Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe Call seconded the motion.

After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: Chair, Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins, Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe Call, Royal Oak District Supervisor Courtney Widener, Park District Supervisor Kristoper Ratliff, North Fork District Supervisor Rick Billings, and Rye Valley District Supervisor Jason Parris.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINERS: None.

ABSENT: Vice Chair, Chilhowie District Supervisor Michael Sturgill.

8/22/2024 5:37 PM Minutes from the August 8th, 2024 meeting.

- A motion was made by Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe Call to approve the meeting minutes of the August 8th, 2024 meeting. Rye Valley District Supervisor Courtney Widener seconded the motion.

After consideration, the motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: Chair, Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins, Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe Call, Royal Oak District Supervisor Courtney Widener, Park District Supervisor Kristoper Ratliff, North Fork District Supervisor Rick Billings, and Rye Valley District Supervisor Jason Parris.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINERS: None.

ABSENT: Vice Chair, Chilhowie District Supervisor Michael Sturgill.

**8/22/2024 5:38 PM** Chair, Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins opened Citizens Time.

Rose Likins, Director of Smyth County Public Libraries, gave updates on new programs offered and upcoming events.

Jerry Harmon of 301 Park Boulevard, Marion shared his displeasure with the Town of Marion and his opinion on an impossible situation with a VDOT-placed pavement barrier and no solution from the Town. Mr. Harmon advised of his business (Park Place Drive-In) will be closing after this year due to these issues.

Charles Wassum, 321 Wassona Drive, Marion requested the Board reach out to the Town of Marion to try and reach a solution for Mr. Harmon.

**8/22/2024 5:51 PM** With no more citizens wishing to speak, Chair, Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins closed Citizens Time.

**8/22/2024 5:51 PM** Mr. Utt read the minutes of the August 15<sup>th</sup> Budget Committee and presented the following recommendations:

- *Chilhowie District Supervisor Michael Sturgill made a motion to recommend the Board of Supervisors serve as the fiscal agent for the Appalachian Center for Hope for grant funds through Health Resources and Services Administration. Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins seconded the motion, and it was approved by the Committee.*

**RESOLUTION OF IN SUPPORT FOR SMYTH COUNTY TO SERVE AS  
FISCAL AGENT FOR FEDERAL FUNDING APPROPRIATION FOR  
THE APPALACHAIN CENTER FOR HOPE**

***WHEREAS**, the Appalachian Center for Hope, Inc. ("ACH") grew out of community responses to the results of a community Health Assessment conducted in 2017 where leaders from all sectors shared information on the challenges of addiction and recovery; and,*

***WHEREAS**, the Smyth County Board of Supervisors has long supported the initiatives of ACH to provide a cross-sector response to the substance use challenges in Smyth County and greater southwest Virginia; and*

***WHEREAS**, the ACH and Smyth County are partnering with the acquisition and renovation of an unused building on the campus of the Southwest Virginia Mental Health Institute to house the recovery center and its programming; and*

***WHEREAS**, ACH has been extremely fortunate to have received funding from all levels of government including funds from the Virginia Opioid Abatement Authority for which the County is required to serve as fiscal agent; and*

***WHEREAS**, additional funding in the amount of \$650,000 from a "Congressional*

*Directed" grant fund has been awarded to ACH through the efforts of Senator Warner and Senator Kaine to be disbursed through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) for which the County has also been asked to serve as fiscal agent.*

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Smyth County Board of Supervisors hereby agrees to serve as a partner with ACH in the receiving, spending, tracking and reporting of the Federally designated funding related to the ACH project; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Smyth County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the County Administrator to execute all documents necessary to finalize this arrangement with ACH and Federal funding agencies.

**ADOPTED** this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2024.

**ATTEST:**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Shawn M. Utt, Clerk of the Board*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Charles Atkins, Chair*

*After consideration, the Budget Committee recommendation PASSED by the following vote:*

**AYES:** *Chair, Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins,  
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe Call,  
Royal Oak District Supervisor Courtney Widener,  
Park District Supervisor Kristoper Ratliff,  
North Fork District Supervisor Rick Billings, and  
Rye Valley District Supervisor Jason Parris.*

**NAYS:** *None.*

**ABSTAINERS:** *None.*

**ABSENT:** *Vice Chair, Chilhowie District Supervisor Michael Sturgill.*

- *Chilhowie District Supervisor Michael Sturgill made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #2 in the amount of \$15,000 for the Circuit Court Clerk's reimbursement grant. Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by the Committee.*

**SMYTH COUNTY BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2024/25 – AMENDMENT #2**

**WHEREAS,** *the Smyth County Board of Supervisors, on June 20th, 2024, adopted the Fiscal Year 2024/25 Budget in the original amount of \$146,646,737; and*

**WHEREAS,** *in the meeting of August 22nd, 2024, the Smyth County Board of Supervisors adopted an amended budget (Budget amendment #1) for Fiscal Year 2024/25 in the amount of \$151,588,158; and*

**WHEREAS,** *the aggregate amount of budget amendment #2 is \$15,000 which would increase the Fiscal Year 2024/25 budget to a total of \$151,603,158 as shown in greater detail on*

Exhibit A attached hereto.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Smyth County Board of Supervisors sets forth and approves the amended Smyth County Budget for the Fiscal Year 2024/25 in the amount of \$151,603,158.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the approval of this budget amendment #2 shall indeed constitute an appropriation of the same funds.

**Adopted** this the 22nd day of August 2024

**ATTEST:**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Shawn M. Utt, Clerk of the Board*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Charles Atkins, Chair*

Exhibit A  
 FY2024/25  
 Budget Amendment #2 (8/22/2024)

**Part 1. REVENUES**

Fund	Department	Line Item Number	Account Title	Adopted Budget	Amount of Amendment	Budget with Amendment	Notes
Fund 001	Compensation Board	001-023080-0002	Circuit Court Records Preservation	\$ (62,000)	\$ (15,000)	\$ (77,000)	Budget Neutral Reimbursement for records retention
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>Total Revenues With Amendment</b>				\$ (151,588,158)	\$ (15,000)	\$ (151,603,158)	

**Part 2. EXPENDITURES**

Fund	Department	Line Item Number	Account Title	Adopted Budget	Amount of Amendment	Amended Budget Amount	Notes
Fund 001	Clerk of the Circuit Court	001-021060-8888-71	Records Preservation	\$ 50,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 65,000	Budget Neutral Reimbursement for records retention
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>Total Expenditures With Amendment</b>				\$ 151,588,158	\$ 15,000	\$ 151,603,158	

Revenues	\$ (151,588,158)	\$ (15,000)	\$ (151,603,158)
Expenditures	\$ 151,588,158	\$ 15,000	\$ 151,603,158
Difference	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

After consideration, the Budget Committee recommendation PASSED by the following vote:

**AYES:** Chair, Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins,  
 Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe Call,  
 Royal Oak District Supervisor Courtney Widener,  
 Park District Supervisor Kristoper Ratliff,  
 North Fork District Supervisor Rick Billings, and  
 Rye Valley District Supervisor Jason Parris.

**NAYS:** None.

**ABSTAINERS:** None.

**ABSENT:** Vice Chair, Chilhowie District Supervisor Michael Sturgill.

**8/22/2024 5:55 PM** Mr. Utt read the minutes of the August 22nd Budget Committee that was held prior to the Board meeting and presented the following recommendation:



- *Royal Oak District Supervisor Courtney Widener made a motion to recommend proceeding with Edmonds software and authorizing the County Administrator to execute any necessary documents pending County Attorney review. Chilhowie District Supervisor Michael Sturgill seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by the Committee.*

*After consideration, the Budget Committee recommendation PASSED by the following vote:*

*AYES: Chair, Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins,  
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe Call,  
Royal Oak District Supervisor Courtney Widener,  
Park District Supervisor Kristoper Ratliff,  
North Fork District Supervisor Rick Billings, and  
Rye Valley District Supervisor Jason Parris.*

*NAYS: None.*

*ABSTAINERS: None.*

*ABSENT: Vice Chair, Chilhowie District Supervisor Michael Sturgill.*

**8/22/2024 5:55 PM** Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe Call read the minutes of the August 15th Water and Sewer Committee and presented the following recommendations:

- *Rye Valley District Supervisor Jason Parris made a motion to recommend accepting the Virginia Resource Authority Loan package for Groseclose sewer and authorize the County Administrator to sign any related documents as well as direct staff to continue to seek other funding opportunities. North Fork District Supervisor Rick Billings seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.*

*After consideration, the Water and Sewer Committee recommendation PASSED by the following vote:*

*AYES: Chair, Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins,  
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe Call,  
Royal Oak District Supervisor Courtney Widener,  
Park District Supervisor Kristoper Ratliff,  
North Fork District Supervisor Rick Billings, and  
Rye Valley District Supervisor Jason Parris.*

*NAYS: None.*

*ABSTAINERS: None.*

*ABSENT: Vice Chair, Chilhowie District Supervisor Michael Sturgill.*

- *North Fork District Supervisor Rick Billings made a motion to recommend declining all bids for the Konnarock Community Center water project and authorizing staff to complete the project inhouse. Rye Valley District Supervisor Jason Parris seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.*

*Discussion continued regarding the size of the water line due to potential backflow and the need for only a 2-inch line due to the need of the community center but not many residential homes in the area.*

*After consideration, the Water and Sewer Committee recommendation PASSED by the following vote:*

**AYES:** Chair, Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins,  
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe Call,  
Royal Oak District Supervisor Courtney Widener,  
Park District Supervisor Kristoper Ratliff,  
North Fork District Supervisor Rick Billings, and  
Rye Valley District Supervisor Jason Parris.

**NAYS:** None.

**ABSTAINERS:** None.

**ABSENT:** Vice Chair, Chilhowie District Supervisor Michael Sturgill.

**8/22/2024 6:06 PM** Mr. Williams read the minutes of the August 15th Ordinance Committee and shared it was informational only, no actions were taken.

**8/22/2024 6:06 PM** Mr. Williams presented the following proposed Resolution for Declaration of Drought Disaster Area for Smyth County for review and consideration:

**RESOLUTION OF DECLARATION OF DROUGHT DISASTER AREA  
FOR SMYTH COUNTY, VIRGINIA**

**WHEREAS**, the Smyth County Agricultural Extension Office has apprised the Board of Supervisors of the extent of agricultural losses in Smyth County due to the extended drought conditions during the calendar year 2024, and;

**WHEREAS**, these losses have been estimated by the Agricultural Extension Office to include as follows:

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Reduced Production</u>	<u>Value</u>
Pastures	60%	\$1,750,000
Second Hay Harvest	90%	\$3,500,000
Corn	50%	\$2,500,000
<b>Total Value of Forage Losses Due to Dry Weather</b>		<b>\$7,750,000</b>

**WHEREAS**, the loss of these commodities will have a significant negative economic effect on the agriculture sector of Smyth County's economy; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Smyth County Board of Supervisors hereby requests the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia to declare Smyth County a drought disaster area for Calendar Year 2024; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Smyth County Board of Supervisors directs the County Administrator to forward copies of this Resolution to the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Smyth County Agricultural Extension Office and to Congressman Morgan Griffith, 9<sup>th</sup> Virginia Congressional District.

**ADOPTED** this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2024.

**ATTEST:**

**SMYTH COUNTY  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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Shawn M. Utt, Clerk of the Board

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Charles Atkins, Chair

- *Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe Call made a motion to approve the for Declaration of Drought Disaster Area for Smyth County. North Fork District Supervisor Rick Billings seconded the motion.*

*After consideration, motion PASSED by the following call vote:*

**AYES:**           *Chair, Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins,  
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe Call,  
Royal Oak District Supervisor Courtney Widener,  
Park District Supervisor Kristoper Ratliff,  
North Fork District Supervisor Rick Billings, and  
Rye Valley District Supervisor Jason Parris.*

**NAYS:**           *None.*

**ABSTAINERS:** *None.*

**ABSENT:**       *Vice Chair, Chilhowie District Supervisor Michael Sturgill.*

**8/22/2024 6:10 PM** County Attorney Report:

County Attorney Scot Farthing had nothing new to report.

**8/22/2024 6:10 PM** County Administrator Report:

Mr. Utt shared information about grants pertaining to the Saltville Library project and hopes to have more details at the next meeting.

Mr. Utt next shared the EDA voted to transfer the Teleperformance property to the County to allow the County the ability to facilitate the construction of the new Sheriff's office.

- *Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe Call made a motion to authorize County Administrator to execute the Certification of Release to the Smyth County EDA as presented related to the Teleperformance property. Royal Oak District Supervisor Courtney Widener seconded the motion.*

*After consideration, motion PASSED by the following call vote:*

**AYES:**           *Chair, Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins,  
Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe Call,  
Royal Oak District Supervisor Courtney Widener,  
Park District Supervisor Kristoper Ratliff,  
North Fork District Supervisor Rick Billings, and  
Rye Valley District Supervisor Jason Parris.*

*NAYS: None.*

*ABSTAINERS: None.*

*ABSENT: Vice Chair, Chilhowie District Supervisor Michael Sturgill.*

**8/22/2024 6:16 PM** Supervisor Comment Time

Saltville District Supervisor Roscoe Call thanked everyone and shared his prayers are with all officers as we all work through the tragedy that took the life of Deputy Reedy.

Park District Supervisor Kristopher Ratliff thanked everyone for allowing him to join electronically and thanked the staff for all they do as well.

Royal Oak District Supervisor Courtney Widener thanked everyone on the Board and in Administration for providing support and assistance in Deputy Reedy's services. Mr. Widener shared he was astonished by the support from community in this tragic event. Mr. Widener shared this tragedy would affect the lives of especially Marion and Smyth County Officers in the days to come and asked the community to continue to gather in support. He asked everyone pray for the families and officers that continue to protect and serve.

Rye Valley District Supervisor Jason Parris shared his appreciation for living in Smyth County, with such an incredible support from community he is proud to live in Smyth County. Mr. Parris urged anyone who is concerned or would like Smyth County to grow to be involved.

North Fork District Supervisor Rick Billings stated Officer Reedy's death was a tragedy, but shared Smyth County is still a safe and good place to live. Mr. Billings urged everyone to continue praying for all those affected.

Chair Atkins, District Supervisor Charles Atkins, expressed his gratitude to Marion Automotive and HS Williams for their assistance for Deputy Reedy's prayer vigil so parking would be available at no cost to the County. Mr. Atkins shared the community support has been outstanding.

**8/22/2024 6:32 PM** With no further business to discuss, Chair, Atkins District Supervisor Charles Atkins adjourned the meeting.