Virginia:

AT A REGULAR MEETING of the Nelson County Board of Supervisors at 2:00 p.m. in the General District Courtroom located on the third floor of the Nelson County Courthouse, in Lovingston, Virginia.

Present: Ernie Q. Reed, Central District Supervisor – Chair

Dr. Jessica L. Ligon, South District Supervisor - Vice Chair

J. David Parr, West District Supervisor Jesse N. Rutherford, East District Supervisor Candice W. McGarry, County Administrator

Amanda B. Spivey, Administrative Assistant/Deputy Clerk Grace E. Mawyer, Director of Finance and Human Resources

Dylan M. Bishop, Director of Planning and Zoning

Absent: Thomas D. Harvey, North District Supervisor

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Reed called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. with four (4) Supervisors present to establish a quorum. Mr. Harvey was absent.

- A. Moment of Silence Attendees observed a moment of silence.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance Dr. Ligon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Reed read the rules for the Public Comment portion of the agenda and said that Dr. Ligon would serve as timekeeper.

Mary Reinman – Afton, VA

Ms. Mary Reinman stated that she would like to discuss an issue that she became aware of a few years ago, when her brother expressed interest in living near her. She said that he quickly realized that the reason he could not find a house was due to competition from companies. She said that one company purchased five houses at once, including three that were not even on the market. She commented that a quick search online showed there are currently over 1,300 short term rentals just in Afton, and only 19 properties for sale. She noted that of those 19 properties, only three were homes for sale for under \$1 million.

Ms. Reinman stated that this indicates that there is a severe shortage of affordable housing in Afton, and this was the reason. She said that on her daily drive from her house to Waynesboro, she passes eight properties that are listed on Airbnb within the first mile. She noted that the number was 10 if she counted the two short term rentals in her neighborhood. She commented that considering this is rural Virginia, the density of Airbnbs was noticeably intense. Ms. Reinman noted her attendance during the community meetings held for input on zoning, and commented that during that meeting, residents consistently brought up the issue of short-term housing and the lack of affordable housing. She stated that this issue is concentrated in the Northern District, but it is also spreading to other areas of the County. She stated that it was an issue across the entire country.

Ms. Ryman added that she received weekly contacts from people who want to purchase their house. They often use aggressive tactics, making it difficult for regular individuals to find a place to live. She said that she is here to request the Board to work with the Planning Commission to implement stronger zoning regulations, requiring short-term housing to be zoned as subordinate use. She commented that she understood that some current properties may be grandfathered in, and Wintergreen would not be held to that standard. She requested the Board to support long-term, affordable housing in the County. She then provided the Board with a letter she wrote summarizing the issue, along with the most recent letter they received from a company offering to buy their house.

Edith Napier Wardlaw - Arrington, VA

Ms. Edith Napier Wardlaw stated that she appreciated the opportunity to speak with the Board today as the Chairperson of the Nelson County Department of Social Services, a position she assumed on July 1, 2025. Ms. Napier stated that on behalf of the Department of Social Services, she would like to express their sincere gratitude for the ongoing commitment of this Board of Supervisors and the County Administrator in working towards providing suitable facilities for their department. She commented that most of them were likely aware that Social Services relocated to their current location from the Quonset hut with the intention of remaining

there for no more than five years until appropriate facilities could be secured. However, those five years had now exceeded 30 years.

Ms. Napier said that she would like to extend special thanks to each of the Supervisors for their continued dedication to fulfilling the County's promise to the citizens of Nelson and to the Social Services department. She stated that the community truly deserved the facilities that had been in development over the past year.

Ms. Napier stated that the Social Services department was also actively working to enhance communication with their community partners as well as with the Board. She noted to the Board that if they reached out to their Social Services personnel and did not receive a response, to please contact her. She said that as Chair of the Board, she would ensure that they received an answer. She indicated that she would need to consult with the Social Services Department to obtain the necessary information.

Ms. Napier stated that she had made it clear to the department that the needs of the Nelson citizens and the requirements of their mission took precedence over providing updates to her. She commented that with such a small office, many roles were managed by a single individual. She indicated that if an employee was out in the field, she may need to wait for a response, which may lead to some delay in replying to the Board. She indicated that she would always keep the Board informed as they worked to address their concerns. She acknowledged that she and their staff were only human and would inevitably make mistakes, even when striving to do their best. She assured that they were committed to minimizing mistakes and to being as responsive as possible. She noted that if she asked for additional time to provide a response, please trust that she was sincerely working to get them the information needed, not simply postponing the matter. She reiterated her thanks to the Board.

Daniel Rutherford, Nelson County Commonwealth's Attorney

Mr. Daniel Rutherford, Commonwealth's Attorney for Nelson County, stated that he wanted to share OASIS data from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. He said that this public data showed like kind counties in white, yellow, and red. He said that Nelson was in red, which was severely concerning. He said that there had been 117 referrals, 31 of which were accepted for review, but none of those 31 were investigated. In the far-right corner, the data showed where law enforcement officers (LEO) had investigated 13 cases and the Commonwealth's Attorney had prosecuted five cases.

Mr. Rutherford said that the data also showed that other similar localities in terms of population, such as Allegheny, Amelia, and Brunswick, had some investigations and referrals. He clarified that this was not about mistakes; he understood that all people were fallible and imperfect. He stated he was here to ensure that people did what they were supposed to do. He said that on pages 1-5 was the data he had collected, and a subsequent sheet from Nelson County which provided historical data on referrals for past years. He noted that from 2022-2023, out of 167 referrals, 79 were accepted for review. From 2021-2022, out of 183 referrals, 125 were accepted for review; 20 of those were investigated, and nine cases were founded. He noted that the information also included prosecution statistics from law enforcement and from everywhere else. Mr. Rutherford stated that there was not a communication problem, as he was always available no matter where he was located.

Mr. Rutherford emphasized that the statistics showed a significant decrease from referrals to acceptance from 2020 to 2024. He said that wanted to emphasize that these statistics were not his; they were from the Commonwealth of Virginia and were seriously troubling. He said that he understood that lapses in communication happened. He stated that the lack of investigations and the need for prosecution of only five cases, despite 117 referrals, was concerning. He said that he did not know if this could be fixed with better training, but he wanted to clarify to the Board that communication was not a problem with his office and DSS, nor his department and the Sheriff's Office, or anything else.

Mr. Reed closed the public comment period.

The Board added a Closed Session to the Afternoon agenda.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Rutherford moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Parr seconded the motion.

Mr. Reed noted that he wanted to make sure some comments he had made during the July 8, 2025 meeting were included in the meeting minutes. He said that regarding the appointment of Kate Rutherford to the Department of Social Services, he had stated that the application had just been received by the Board of Supervisors and, in his estimation, the Board did not have sufficient time to review the application. He had therefore requested the Board defer action until the following month, which they did not. He said that these comments were in the recording of the meeting and he wanted to ensure they were reflected in the record. He requested the vote include the amended minutes in the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Rutherford amended his motion to reflect Mr. Reed's amendment request. Dr. Ligon seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion, Supervisors approved the motion by roll call vote (4–0), and the following resolutions were adopted:

A. Resolution – R2025-53 Minutes for Approval

RESOLUTION R2025-53 NELSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVAL OF MINUTES (December 10, 2024, July 8, 2025 and July 14, 2025)

RESOLVED, by the Nelson County Board of Supervisors that the minutes of said Board meetings conducted on **December 10**, **2024**, **July 8**, **2025** and **July 14**, **2025** be and hereby are approved and authorized for entry into the official record of the Board of Supervisors meetings.

B. Resolution – R2025-54 FY25 Budget Amendment

RESOLUTION R2025-54 NELSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AMENDMENT OF FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 BUDGET August 12, 2025

I. Appropriation of Funds (General Fund)

 Amount
 Revenue Account (-)
 Expenditure Account (+)

 \$ 214.96
 3-100-001901-0033
 4-100-031020-3039

C. Resolution – R2025-55 FY26 Budget Amendment

RESOLUTION R2025-55 NELSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AMENDMENT OF FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 BUDGET August 12, 2025

 Appropriation of Funds (General

<u>Amount</u>	Revenue Account (-)	Expenditure Account (+)
\$ 1,044.02	3-100-002404-0001	4-100-031020-5419
\$ 173.54	3-100-002404-0001	4-100-031020-5419
\$ 17,945.00	3-100-002404-0064	4-100-081020-7070
\$ 4,000.00	3-100-001901-0060	4-100-999000-9905
\$ 23,162.56		

II. Transfer of Funds (General Fund Departmental)

<u>Amount</u>	Credit Account (-)	Debit Account (+)
\$ 15,758.00	3-100-003303-0036	3-100-002404-0009
\$ 15,758.00		

III. Transfer of Funds (General Fund Recurring Contingency)

<u>Amount</u>	Credit Account (-)	Debit Account (+)
\$ 58,751.96	4-100-999000-9901	4-100-033010-6001
\$ 58,751.96		

IV. Transfer of Funds (Debt Service Fund)

	<u>Amount</u>	Credit Account (-)	Debit Account (+)
\$	298,566.54	4-108-095100-9150	4-108-095100-9122
•	208 566 54		

D. Resolution - R2025-56 Purdue Pharma & Sackler Family Opioid Settlement Participation

RESOLUTION R2025-56 NELSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

APPROVAL OF THE COUNTY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE PROPOSED DIRECT SETTLEMENT OF OPIOID-RELATED CLAIMS AGAINST THE SACKLER FAMILY, AND DIRECTING THE COUNTY ATTORNEY TO EXECUTE THE DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THE COUNTY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE SETTLEMENT

WHEREAS, the opioid epidemic that has cost thousands of human lives across the country also impacts the Commonwealth of Virginia and its counties and cities, including the County of Nelson, by adversely impacting the delivery of emergency medical, law enforcement, criminal justice, mental health and substance abuse services, and other services by Nelson County's various departments and agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Virginia and its counties and cities, including Nelson County, have been required and will continue to be required to allocate substantial taxpayer dollars, resources, staff energy and time to address the damage the opioid epidemic has caused and continues to cause the citizens of the Commonwealth and Nelson County; and

WHEREAS, a settlement proposal has been negotiated that will cause the Sackler family, the owners of the Purdue Pharma family of companies, to pay an aggregate of \$6.5 billion dollars nationwide to resolve opioid-related claims against them; and

WHEREAS, the County has approved and adopted the Virginia Opioid Abatement Fund and Settlement Allocation Memorandum of Understanding (the "Virginia MOU"), and affirms that this pending settlement with the Sackler family shall be considered a "Settlement" that is subject to the Virginia MOU, and shall be administered and allocated in the same manner as the opioid settlements entered into previously with opioid distributors McKesson, Cardinal Health, and AmerisourceBergen, opioid manufacturers Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Teva Pharmaceuticals, and Allergan, and retail pharmacy chains CVS, Walgreens, Walmart, and Kroger;

WHEREAS, the County Attorney has reviewed the available information about the proposed settlement with the Sackler family and has recommended that the County participate in the settlement in order to recover its share of the funds that the settlement would provide;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Nelson County Board of Supervisors, this 12th day of August, 2025, approves of the County's participation in the proposed settlement of opioid-related claims against the Sackler family, and directs the County Attorney to execute the documents necessary to effectuate the County's participation in the settlement, including the required release of claims against the Sackler family.

E. Resolution – R2025-57 Authorization for Public Hearing on Purchasing Policy

RESOLUTION R2025-57 NELSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AUTHORIZATION FOR PUBLIC HEARING TO AMEND ARTICLE I, IN GENERAL, SECTION 21 PURCHASING PROCEDURES AND POLICIES OF THE CODE OF NELSON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

RESOLVED by the Nelson County Board of Supervisors pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of §15.2-1427 of the Code of Virginia, 1950 as amended, that the County Administrator be and is hereby authorized to advertise a public hearing notice for the conduct of a public hearing on **Tuesday**, **September 9**, **2025 at 7:00 p.m.** in the General District Courtroom of the Courthouse in Lovingston.

The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments on an Ordinance proposed for passage to amend Article I, In General, Section 2-1, Purchasing Procedures and Policies of the Code of Nelson County, Virginia. The Ordinance proposed for passage would increase the County's purchase order threshold from \$2,500 to \$5,000 and increase the capitalization threshold in fixed asset inventory from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

Introduced: Staff Introductions

Grace Mawyer, Director of Finance and Human Resources, introduced two of the County's new staff members, Mr. Cody Barker and Ms. Faith Stevens. She said that they were excited to have Mr. Barker joining County staff as a Planner for the Planning and Zoning Office, effective August 4, 2025. She said that they were also excited to have Ms. Faith Stevens joining County staff as an Administrative Assistant I and Permit Technician for the Building Inspections Office, effective August 11, 2025.

IV. PRESENTATIONS

A. VDOT Report

Robert Brown, VDOT Residency Administrator provided the following report:

Mr. Brown reported that the needed pipe replacement on Route 617 Rockfish River Road was the result of last year's tropical storm and flood, and he indicated that they planned to begin this pipe replacement project on August 18, 2025, with the goal of completing it within the next four weeks. He explained that they would be closing the road and setting up a detour for that project. He also reported that in Gladstone, replacement of a collapsed pipe along Route 656 would also begin on August 18th.

Mr. Brown said that VDOT's Shipman Area Headquarters had completed a pipe inventory of all the cross pipes on their roads, and they had found a significant number of pipes in the area east of 29 that were in poor condition. He reported that VDOT had secured additional funding and would be intensifying their focus on replacing pipes on their roadways in the eastern part of Nelson County. He noted that this area had the highest number of pipes that were deemed to be in poor condition, so they would be prioritizing this area for now. Mr. Brown reported that they had also begun their four-lane primary mowing, which should be completed within the next couple of weeks. He noted that their contractor for secondary mowing was expected to arrive in Nelson within the next week, after finishing work in Appomattox and Campbell.

Mr. Brown explained that the Board had been provided with a Resolution of support for the Route 151/6 roundabout Smart Scale project, which he noted was similar to the resolution of support the Board approved when the application was first submitted. He said that it also included reference to the 48 public comments they had received at the public hearing, with 39 in support, 6 opposing the project, and 3 which were undecided. He noted that the public hearing was well attended, with one of the highest numbers of attendees he had seen,

reporting that 148 individuals signed in. He indicated that he did not hear a significant amount of opposition and he believed this project would be a long-term benefit to that intersection.

Supervisors then discussed the following VDOT issues:

Mr. Rutherford:

Mr. Rutherford thanked Mr. Brown for his response related to road issues in Schuyler at 800, Clarks Hill and Salem Road. He said that one additional issue was that the trees along Rockfish River Road in Schuyler needed to be trimmed back so they were not growing into the road.

Dr. Ligon:

Dr. Ligon suggested that she and Mr. Brown get a lunch meeting scheduled to discuss the Gladstone speed limit issue and a couple of other topics.

Mr. Parr:

Mr. Parr expressed his thanks to Mr. Brown and to VDOT for addressing the crossover at Saunders Brothers, noting that there was a lot of pedestrian traffic back and forth with the employees. He said that he had received another request for a speed study there, but he was aware that VDOT had looked at that multiple times. Mr. Brown replied that he had told Mr. Saunders that he tried running that request up the flagpole again, but he did not get anywhere with that request. Mr. Parr said that he had told Mr. Saunders that as well. He understood that people would fly off of Saunders Hill, and when a truck was pulling out from Saunders Brothers, it was concerning, but it was an attention span issue. Mr. Brown noted that there was a lot of sight distance in that area.

Mr. Parr said that the south exit of Napier Loop, coming out onto Route 29, there were trees that needed to be cut back, particularly now that school buses were using this crossover, it would greatly assist with sight distance. Mr. Brown noted that VDOT had cut those trees back last year, but they would look at them again.

Mr. Rutherford asked Mr. Brown if there was a timeframe for the pipe replacement at the Food Mart and Chicken Coop. Mr. Brown said that it was on his radar, but they had had to prioritize other projects that had taken precedence. He said that they had not yet had the opportunity to schedule the replacement, but VDOT was aware that it was needed.

Mr. Reed:

Mr. Reed said that he wanted to thank Mr. Brown in person for the 45-mile-per-hour sign on Route 6 near Adial Road. He noted that the turnout for the roundabout at 151 and 6 public hearing demonstrated that his District was especially concerned about traffic safety issues.

1. Continued Support of Smart Scale Project – 151/6 Roundabout (R2025-58)

Mr. Rutherford moved to adopt Resolution R2025-58, Continued Support of Smart Scale Project (UPC 23198) Roundabout at Intersection of Routes 151 and 6. Mr. Parr seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Supervisors approved the motion by roll call vote (4–0) and the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLUTION R2025-58 NELSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CONTINUED SUPPORT OF SMART SCALE PROJECT (UPC 23198) ROUNDABOUT AT INTERSECTION OF ROUTES 151 AND 6

WHEREAS, the Nelson County Board of Supervisors endorsed the submission of the 2024 Smart Scale application for the Route 6/ Route 151 Intersection Improvement Project to replace the uncontrolled T-intersection with a single lane roundabout to reduce conflict points and improve capacity.

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) approved funding for the Route 6/ Route 151 Intersection Improvement Project under Smart Scale.

WHEREAS, in accordance with the statutes of the Commonwealth of Virginia and policies of the Commonwealth Transportation Board, a Design Public Hearing was held for the above-mentioned project on Thursday May 22, 2025, between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. at the Rockfish Valley Community Center on 190 Rockfish School Lane, Afton, VA 22920. The Public Hearing utilized an open forum with VDOT staff.

WHEREAS, the Design Public Hearing was well attended with 148 individuals signing the sign-in sheet, which is well above the Lynchburg District average attendees at a project public hearing. Since there were not enough brochures and comment sheets to accommodate all attendees, brochures and comment sheets were mailed to all who signed in on the next day, May 23, 2025. The comment period was also extended 10 days to provide an opportunity for citizens or organizations to provide comments and/or suggestions on the proposed project

WHEREAS, a total of 48 comments were received either at the public hearing, by mail, or email. Twenty (20) comments were provided at the public hearing, eighteen (18) were emailed and ten (10) were mailed by USPS. No media was present.

- Thirty-nine (39) support the project
- Six (6) oppose the project
- Three (3) are undecided

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Nelson County Board of Supervisors does hereby endorse the design of the Route 6/ Route 151 Improvement Project as presented at the May 22, 2025 Public Hearing.

B. NCCDF/County Residential Project in Roseland

Margaret Clair, Executive Director of Nelson County Community Development Foundation (NCCDF), stated that this project was first presented to the Board of Supervisors a few years ago in 2022, and she would provide the update as of August 12, 2025. She explained that they had received American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (TJPDC), which was almost \$350,000. She indicated that they had applied for and received another \$220,000 grant through Virginia Housing, which went through the Planning District Commission as well.

Ms. Clair said that the remaining amount needed to complete the project was approximately \$130,000. She noted that NCCDF had secured \$65,000 from the Perry Foundation, which required matching funds. She reported that they were in the process of fundraising and applying for grants and they had raised \$6,500 so far, including a \$3,500 grant from the Youth Philanthropy Council and some individual donors. She said that if any of the Board members were interested in donating, there was a QR code on the back of the card that she had provided to Ms. McGarry that they could use to make a personal contribution. She said that they were working to meet their deadline of the end of the year.

Ms. Clair noted that they could not accept government funds, so it was essential that they rely on personal donations or grants. She continued that they had a year to complete the project, and they were currently building duplexes on five acres in Roseland. She noted that they had completed the engineering plan for three duplexes, but they only had the funds to complete two, so they were focusing on those. She explained that the modular duplexes were approximately 900 square feet each, with two bedrooms and one bathroom in one unit, which would be handicap accessible, and two bathrooms in the other units. She stated that the total budget for the project was approximately \$682,000. Ms. Clair reported that they were currently down to the final \$65,000 needed to raise, and they must have the Certificate of Occupancy by December for the TJPDC grant, which she did not foresee being a problem at this point.

Ms. Clair stated that the duplexes would be rentals; the NCCDF would own the properties. She said that the rents they typically charged were well below the allowable rents. She noted that they would not charge more than 30% of the tenant's income, regardless. She indicated that some of the HOME ARP funds were reserved for subsidizing the properties, but not to a significant extent. She said that they had discussed asking Nelson landowners deed their land to the NCCDF for life-long affordable rentals, but she had seen limited success in that so far. She added that the HOME ARP funds were specifically meant for combating homelessness and for people at risk of homelessness, so that would likely be the only preference they would stipulate for this development.

Ms. Clair said that they already had a list of approximately 50 individuals who were in need of affordable rentals, and new applicants were added to the list every week. She said that this information was available on their website for anyone who needed to get on the list.

Mr. Rutherford asked if the duplexes would be on County water and sewer.

Ms. Clair said that they were only connected to public sewer. She said that they had to implement a specific design, which required one grinder pump and one septic tank for every unit, rather than one building. She said that she could have done it for one building, but her engineer was not in agreement. She noted that the Service Authority requested this design primarily due to concerns over ownership of the systems, rather than volume and capacity. She said that the Code was somewhat ambiguous on this point.

Mr. Rutherford asked if it was State Code that was unclear. Ms. Clair replied that it was reflected in the Nelson County Code, which required each dwelling to have one. She said that it did not specify the size of the dwelling or the amount of water or usage. She said that it was primarily about ownership. She said that it took them about two months to figure that out, and her engineer did not want to do the single building.

Dr. Ligon asked if the NCCDF was requesting to waive the connection fee and not the continued cost of using the system.

Ms. Clair confirmed that was correct. She said that it would be most helpful to waive those fees, which were \$2,000 per unit, or \$8,000 in total. Mr. Rutherford asked if they could give her money. She noted that they could give her money, but it could not meet the match. She indicated that personal donations could match the grant funds. She indicated that she may be back next year with a high school house that would be going on one of the NCCDF lots in Arrington.

Mr. Rutherford said that in reference to the connection fees, he would like to point out that 10 years ago, connection fees for public water and sewer used to be about 20% higher than installing a well and septic tank, but now the connection fees were about 30% cheaper in many cases.

Dr. Ligon asked if there was a past precedent for how the Board handled this type of request.

Ms. Clair said that she was uncertain. She said that in the past, while she did not know the exact dollar range, the County and NCCDF had been partnering with affordable housing since the very beginning. She said that they had partnered to establish the Service Authority, which Mr. Woody Greenberg could speak to as well since he had been on the NCCDF Board since the beginning and she had only been with NCCDF for five or six years. She noted that they had collaborated on projects like Montreal Village and they had also worked with Habitat for Humanity. She said that the waiving of fees and other incentives had been ways for the County to support their work in ways that were not overly burdensome.

Ms. McGarry explained that this was authorized by their County Code Section 12-151, which stated that County water and sewer system fees may be waived or reduced by the Board of Supervisors, where deemed to be in the County's best interest. Ms. Clair noted that she was adding four affordable rentals. Ms. McGarry said that this initiative aligned with the Board's established priorities of creating local communities; two of the focus areas identified by the Board, along with two related strategies. She said that staff believed that this project would be a suitable way for the Board to support affordable housing in the County in partnership with the Community Development Foundation on the project.

Mr. Rutherford moved to adopt Resolution R2025-59, Public Sewer Connection Fee Waiver for Nelson County Community Development Foundation Duplex Housing Project in Roseland. Dr. Ligon seconded the motion.

Dr. Ligon said that she was not against this request, but she wanted to state for the record that the Piney River Water and Sewer System was already operating at a significant financial loss, which the Board would be discussing later during today's meeting. Ms. Clair noted that the Board would have four new accounts that would pay every month, no matter what they raised the rate to, because NCCDF would be paying it. She indicated that NCCDF already pays for two accounts and these additional accounts would bring the total to six accounts. She also indicated that NCCDF would be paying for the cost of the four grinder pumps needed. She commented that affordable rentals were hard to come by in that area, or any area of the County.

There being no further discussion, Supervisors approved the motion by roll call vote (4–0) and the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLUTION R2025-59 NELSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PUBLIC SEWER CONNECTION FEE WAIVER FOR NELSON COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION DUPLEX HOUSING PROJECT IN ROSELAND

WHEREAS, the County has partnered with Nelson County Community Development Foundation ("NCCDF") a non-profit agency, to complete an affordable housing project in Roseland, which will construct two duplexes on St. James Place, located within the service area of the County-owned Piney River Sewer System; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors has established priorities and associated implementation strategies based upon the Comprehensive Plan as follows:

CH 5 Creating Livable Communities

- Focus Area: Expanding Housing Opportunities
 - o <u>Strategy Priority 3:</u> 5.7 Work with developers, non-profit agencies, and community groups to preserve and increase the supply of obtainable housing.
- Focus Area: Support Livable Communities
 - Strategy Priority 2: 5.11 Target housing near the County's existing growth areas where public utilities are available with a range of housing types and densities; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Code of Nelson County, Virginia, Article III, Division 10, Section 12-151, water and wastewater connection fees for the County-owned water and sewer system may be waived or reduced by the Board of Supervisors, where deemed in the County's best interest.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with its established priority of Creating Livable Communities and associated strategies, and pursuant to Nelson County Code, Section 12-151, the Nelson County Board of Supervisors does hereby deem it in the County's best interest to waive the sewer connection fees to the County-owned Piney River Sewer System, for the two duplexes being built on NCCDF property at St. James Place, for a total of four connections.

C. Nelson County Emergency Operations Plan

John Adkins, Director of Emergency Services, said that as required by law, they were due for Board approval of their revised Emergency Operations Plan every four years. He explained that the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) was a document that outlined how their organization would respond to emergencies or disasters, detailing procedures, responsibilities, and authorities for various entities involved in the response, ensuring a coordinated and effective approach.

Mr. Adkins said that in addition to being required by Code, it was an essential part of disaster response and recovery, as well as mitigation activities. He explained that it served as the baseline for all of their response and recovery efforts. He said that their plan was divided into two sections: the base plan and the appendices. He explained that the base plan included key components such as: planning and assumption considerations, roles and responsibilities, concept of operations, incident management actions, and ongoing plan management. He noted this part, the base plan, required Board approval.

Mr. Adkins said that the appendices covered emergency support functions, including their communications plan, sheltering, public health, firefighting, and long-term recovery and mitigation plans. He noted that due to the fluidity of these plans, they could be updated without Board approval. He said that the appendices may include lists of personnel with phone numbers and email addresses or other small pieces of information that may change at a more frequent pace than the general plan. He noted for this reason, Board approval was not required for these appendices.

Mr. Reed noted that there were some amendments to the original document that was included in the packet. He asked if the revised document included the changes that Ms. McGarry had previously mentioned to him.

Ms. McGarry confirmed that that was correct. The primary change was updating the titles to align with Section IV Concept of Operations in the general section, ensuring that the titles matched the current County Code, whereas they had been previously different in the original submission. She said that this would also align with their next annual Board of Supervisors resolution, which made appointments for the Director of Emergency Services and the Coordinator of Emergency Services related to the Emergency Operations Plan.

Mr. Parr moved to adopt Resolution R2025-60, Approval of Nelson County's Emergency Operations Plan August 2025. Dr. Ligon seconded the motion.

Mr. Parr noted that while the table of contents referred to page numbers, those page numbers were not included in the Emergency Operations Plan document. He said that it would be helpful if those page numbers could be included. Mr. Reed agreed.

There being no further discussion, Supervisors approved the motion by roll call vote (4–0) and the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLUTION R2025-60
NELSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
APPROVAL OF NELSON COUNTY'S EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN
AUGUST 2025

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Nelson County, Virginia recognizes the need to prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural and man-made disasters; and

WHEREAS, the County of Nelson has a responsibility to provide for the safety and well-being of its citizens and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the County of Nelson has established and appointed a Director and Coordinator of Emergency Services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY PROCLAIMED by the Board of Supervisors of Nelson County, Virginia that the Emergency Operations Plan as revised August 2025 is officially adopted;

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that the Director of Emergency Services, or his designees, are tasked and authorized to maintain and revise as necessary this document over the next four (4) year period or until such time it be ordered to come before this Board.

V. NEW & UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Authorization to Contract with Coleman-Adams – DSS Building Project

Ms. McGarry stated that before the Board was Resolution R2025-61, which would authorize the award and execution of an agreement for the construction of the Nelson County Department of Social Services building with Coleman-Adams, which would be in an amount not to exceed \$5,684,799. Ms. McGarry explained that the resolution would authorize them to award and execute the agreement as approved by the County Attorney. She said that they were still working on some of the language of the general conditions. She noted that the Board's authorization today would allow that to move forward, in addition to formally awarding the contract. She indicated that once the agreement was executed, they would receive all the necessary documentation, such as certificates of insurance and pay and performance bonds from Coleman-Adams. She said that the Resolution also authorized them to issue a Notice to Proceed with the project.

Mr. Rutherford asked if this was the owner's original contract agreement or the one they had drafted. Ms. McGarry stated that these documents were the drafted by the County Attorney.

Mr. Rutherford asked if they would receive additional documents later, as they related to the construction warranty, or performance bond information. Ms. McGarry said that they would have get of that information upon execution of the agreement, which would be on file and ready to go. She said that this would be in place before they issued the Notice to Proceed.

Mr. Parr moved to adopt Resolution R2025-61, Resolution Authorizing the Award and Execution of an Agreement for Construction of Nelson County Department of Social Services. Mr. Rutherford seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Supervisors approved the motion by roll call vote (4–0) and the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLUTION R2025-61 NELSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD AND EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NELSON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, in accordance with §2.2-4300 et seq. of the Code of Virginia, 1950 as amended, sealed bids were advertised and subsequently received on July 2, 2025, and opened publicly on July 3, 2025, for the project known as the Nelson County Social Services Building, and

WHEREAS, four sealed bids were received and evaluated, with the lowest responsive and responsible bidder being Coleman-Adams Construction, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the consulting Architect, PMA Architecture. along with County staff, has evaluated the bid submitted by Coleman-Adams Construction, Inc. and has recommended its acceptance by the County;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Nelson County Board of Supervisors, the County Administrator, Candice W. McGarry, be and is hereby authorized to award and execute an agreement as approved by the County Attorney on behalf of Nelson County with Coleman-Adams Construction, Inc. for the construction of the Nelson County Nelson County Social Services Building, as recommended by County staff and the County's Architect, PMA Architecture for a contract amount not to exceed \$5,684,799.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon execution of the Agreement and the provision of all necessary documentation, such as a certificate of insurance and pay and performance bonds by Coleman-Adams Construction, Inc., the County Administrator, Candice W. McGarry, is authorized to issue Coleman-Adams Construction, Inc. a Notice to Proceed.

B. Authorization to Issue Purchase Order for DDS Building Furniture

Ms. McGarry stated that they had received a quote from Image Business Interiors for the furniture in the new building, which was the not-to-exceed amount of \$305,191.84. She said that this fell within the allocated furniture budget of \$330,000. She said that the procurement process was being handled through Image Business Interiors (IBI), and they would be ordering the furniture through OMNIA Partners, a public sector procurement consortium. She noted that also listed were the various cooperative procurement contracts that would be utilized for this furniture. She indicated that staff was requesting the Board's authorization to proceed with signing off on the quote and initiating the purchase order for the furniture.

Mr. Parr moved to adopt Resolution R2025-62, Resolution Authorizing the Award and Execution of an Agreement with Image Business Interiors for the Provision of Furniture and its Installation in the New Department of Social Services Office Building. Mr. Rutherford seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Supervisors approved the motion by roll call vote (4–0) and the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLUTION R2025-62 NELSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD AND EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH IMAGE BUSINESS INTERIORS FOR THE PROVISION OF FURNITURE AND ITS INSTALLATION IN THE NEW DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES OFFICE BUILDING

RESOLVED, by the Nelson County Board of Supervisors, the County Administrator, Candice W. McGarry, is hereby authorized to execute an agreement on behalf of Nelson County with Image Business Interiors (IBI), in the "not to exceed" amount of \$305,191.84, for the provision and installation of furniture for the new Social Services office building, as recommend by PMA Architecture, and being within the furniture budget of \$330,000.00. Procurement of said furniture is via OMNIA Partners, a public sector procurement consortium utilizing Carolina Business Furniture OMNIA Contract #R191813, Teknion OMNIA Contract #R240116, HON OMNIA Contract #R240117, Sit On It OMNIA Contract #R191803, and Studio TK OMNIA Contract #R191816.

C. Piney River Water and Sewer Rates

Ms. McGarry said that she believed this was their third iteration of some rate options for the Board's consideration today. She said that Option 1 was a proposed six-year rate schedule. She said that the assumptions involved in this chart were based on the 2025 Service Authority rates as the six-year target for the Piney River water and sewer rates. She said that this chart did not include a rate escalation factor, instead, it used a lower rate of increase in years one through three and a higher rate of increase in years four through six to achieve the 2025 Service Authority target rates by year six.

PROPOSED 6-YEAR RATE SCHEDULE – OPTION 1

Assumptions:

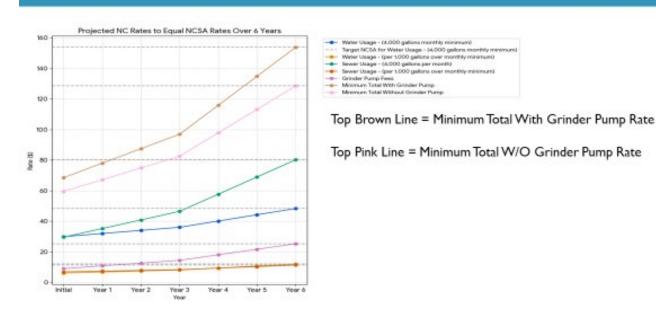
- Uses 2025 NCSA Rates as 6-YR Targets for PRWS Rates (no rate escalation factors included)
- Uses a lower rate of increase in years I-3 and a higher rate of increase in years 4-6 to reach the 2025 NCSA Target rates in Year 6.

Service	2025 NC PRWS	2025 Target NCSA	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Water Usage - (4,000 gallons monthly minimum)	\$29.90	\$48.30	\$31.94	\$33.99	\$36.03	\$40.12	\$44.21	\$48.30
Water Usage - (per 1,000 gallons over monthly minimum)	\$6.10	\$12.00	\$6.76	\$7.41	\$8.07	\$9.38	\$10.69	\$12.00
Sewer Usage - (4,000 gallons per month)	\$29.60	\$80.15	\$35.22	\$40.83	\$46.45	\$57.68	\$68.92	\$80.15
Sewer Usage - (per 1,000 gallons over monthly minimum)	\$6.85	\$11.30	\$7.34	\$7.84	\$8.33	\$9.32	\$10.31	\$11.30
Grinder Pump Fees	\$9.00	\$25.25	\$10.81	\$12.61	\$14.42	\$18.03	\$21.64	\$25.25
Minimum Total With Grinder Pump	\$68.50	\$153.70	\$77.97	\$87.43	\$96.90	\$115.83	\$134.77	\$153.70
Minimum Total Without Grinder Pump	\$59.50	\$128.45	\$67.16	\$74.82	\$82.48	\$97.81	\$113.13	\$128.45

Mr. Rutherford asked if they recently had another subcommittee meeting. Ms. McGarry said that they had not had another meeting as they were not prepared to have a productive discussion.

She showed an example of plotting the rates and what it looked like on a curve. The top brown line represented the minimum total with the grinder pump rate, while the top pink line represented the minimum total without it. She noted that everything below that were the components shown in the chart.





Ms. McGarry said that Option 2 was a six-year rate schedule, and the assumptions for this scenario included using a 2031 Service Authority rate as a six-year target for the Piney River water and sewer rates. Ms. McGarry said that this assumed a 15% rate escalation every two years, resulting in a 45% increase by year six. She explained that the base rate in year one was set at \$75 for the minimum total of the grinder pump, and then a 10% increase was applied to year two. She noted that years three through six experienced linear increases to reach the 2031 NCSA target rates in year six. She noted that the current 2025 Service Authority rates were approximately achieved in year four in this scenario.

PROPOSED 6-YEAR RATE SCHEDULE - OPTION 2

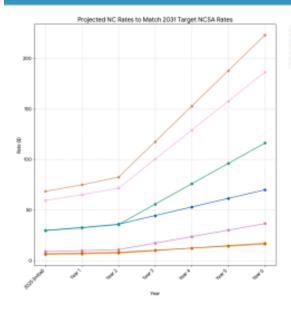
Assumptions:

- Uses 2031 NCSA Rates as 6-YR Targets for PRWS Rates (Assumes 15% rate escalations every 2 years = 45% by year 6)
- Uses a base rate in Year I for Minimum Total with Grinder Pump of \$75 and a 10% increase applied to Year 2.
 Years 3-6 increase linearly to reach the 203 I NCSA Target rates in Year 6
- Note: 2025 NCSA Rates are approximately achieved in Year 4

Service	2025 NC PRWS	2025 NCSA	2031 Target NCSA Est. 45%	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Water Usage - (4,000 gallons monthly minimum)	\$29.90	\$48.30	\$70.04	\$32.74	\$36.01	\$44.52	\$53.03	\$61.53	\$70.04
Water Usage - (per 1,000 gallons over monthly min)	\$6.10	\$12.00	\$17.40	\$6.68	\$7.35	\$9.86	\$12.38	\$14.89	\$17.40
Sewer Usage - (4,000 gallons per month)	\$29.60	\$80.15	\$116.22	\$32.41	\$35.65	\$55.79	\$75.94	\$96.08	\$116.22
Sewer Usage - (per 1,000 gallons over monthly min)	\$6.85	\$11.30	\$16.39	\$7.50	\$8.25	\$10.29	\$12.32	\$14.36	\$16.39
Grinder Pump Fees	\$9.00	\$25.25	\$36.61	\$9.85	\$10.84	\$17.28	\$23.73	\$30.17	\$36.61
Minimum Total With Grinder Pump	\$68.50	\$153.70	\$222.87	\$75.00	\$82.50	\$117.59	\$152.69	\$187.78	\$222.87
Minimum Total Without Grinder Pump	\$59.50	\$128.45	\$186.25	\$65.15	\$71.66	\$100.31	\$128.97	\$157.61	\$186.25

She provided the graphical plotting of Option 2 rates as well, in which the top brown line represented the minimum total with the grinder pump, while the top pink line represented the minimum total without it. She noted that the components underneath showed the individual rates.

PROPOSED 6-YEAR RATE SCHEDULE - OPTION 2



Top Brown Line = Minimum Total With Grinder Pump Rate

Top Pink Line = Minimum Total W/O Grinder Pump Rate

Ms. McGarry stated that Option 3 was also a six-year rate schedule and she explained that the assumptions for this scenario included using the 2031 Service Authority rates as the six-year target for their rates. She noted that it also assumed a 15% rate escalation every two years, resulting in a 45% increase by year six. She pointed out that this scenario used a lower rate of increase in years one through three and a higher rate of increase in years four through six to reach the six-year target rate of the 2031 Service Authority rates. She noted that the 2025 Service Authority rates were slightly overachieved in year four, but just very slightly.

PROPOSED 6-YEAR RATE SCHEDULE - OPTION 3

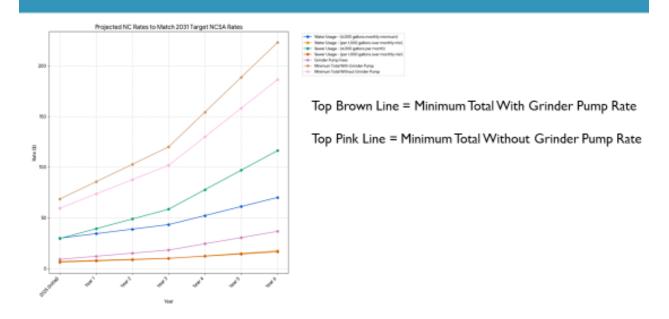
Assumptions:

- Uses 2031 NCSA Rates as 6-YR Targets for PRWS Rates (Assumes 15% rate escalations every 2 years = 45% by year 6)
- Uses a lower rate of increase in years I-3 and a higher rate of increase in years 4-6 to reach the 2031 NCSA Target rates in Year 6.
- Note: 2025 NCSA Rates are slightly over-achieved in Year 4

			2031 Target						
Service	2025 NC PRWS	2025 NCSA	NCSA Est. 45%	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Water Usage - (4,000 gallons monthly minimum)	\$29.90	\$48.30	\$70.04	\$34.36	\$38.82	\$43.28	\$52.20	\$61.12	\$70.04
Water Usage - (per 1,000 gallons over monthly min)	\$6.10	\$12.00	\$17.40	\$7.36	\$8.61	\$9.87	\$12.38	\$14.89	\$17.40
Sewer Usage - (4,000 gallons per month)	\$29.60	\$80.15	\$116.22	\$39.22	\$48.85	\$58.47	\$77.72	\$96.97	\$116.22
Sewer Usage - (per 1,000 gallons over monthly min)	\$6.85	\$11.30	\$16.39	\$7.91	\$8.97	\$10.03	\$12.15	\$14.27	\$16.39
Grinder Pump Fees	\$9.00	\$25.25	\$36.61	\$12.07	\$15.14	\$18.20	\$24.34	\$30.47	\$36.61
Minimum Total With Grinder Pump	\$68.50	\$153.70	\$222.87	\$85.65	\$102.80	\$119.96	\$154.26	\$188.57	\$222.87
Minimum Total Without Grinder Pump	\$59.50	\$128.45	\$186.25	\$73.58	\$87.67	\$101.75	\$129.92	\$158.08	\$186.25

She provided the chart for that schedule, showing how the rates increased.

PROPOSED 6-YEAR RATE SCHEDULE - OPTION 3



Ms. McGarry provided another chart which showed the water and sewer connection fees comparatively, which she noted that the Service Authority rates were approximately double the 2013 Piney River County rates.

PRWS WATER AND SEWER CONNECTION FEES COMPARED TO NELSON COUNTY SERVICE AUTHORITY

		RATES	
Fee/Charge Description	2024 NCSA - Lovingston, Schuyler, Gladstone	2024 NCSA - Wintergreen Mountain (Where Different)	2013 Piney River County-O2013-04
Connection Fees - (Water & Sewer) - each			
5/8" to 3/4"	\$ 4,000.00		\$ 2,000.00
- Full 3/4" (3/4")	\$ 6,000.00		\$ 3,000.00
- One Inch (1")	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 5,000.00
- One & One Half (1 1/2")	\$ 17,500.00		\$ 8,000.00
- Two Inch (2")	\$ 32,000.00		\$ 16,000.00
- Three Inch (3")	\$ 64,000.00		\$ 32,000.00
- Four Inch (4")	\$ 100,000.00		\$ 50,000.00
- Six Inch (6")	\$ 200,000.00		\$ 100,000.00

Ms. McGarry stated that there were other fees and charges that differed between them, as noted before. She clarified that the water and sewer availability fees only applied to the Wintergreen system and did not need to be considered for equalization. She noted that they did have had yard hydrant fees, unauthorized water and sewer use fees, additional daily charges, copies of the County rules and regulations, new service opinion fees, voluntary disconnect reconnect fees, and misuse damage fees, which were all shown side by side in the provided chart.

OTHER FEES/CHARGES THAT DIFFER BETWEEN COUNTY AND NCSA

Fee/Charge Description		2024 NCSA - Lovingston, Schuyler, Gladstone		2024 NCSA - Wintergreen Mountain (Where Different)	2013 Piney River County-02013-04		
Availability Fees							
Availability Fee - Water Availability Fee - Sewer			5	3.50 5.00	5		
Yard Hydrant Fees Yard Hydrant Fees - (1,500 gal, base charge monthly - NC, 4,000 gal, NCSA) additional if on separate meter	s	48.30	s	52,90	s	7.50	
Fire Protection Fees Fire Protection Fees - (annual per hydrant) Can be Paid Quarterly (County Pays NCSA)	s	981,41				N/A	
Unauthorized Water/Sewer Use Fees Additional Daily Charge	\$	1,000.00			\$	500.00	
Septage Hauler's Fees - (per gallon)	\$	0.16	Ė			N/A	
Copies of Authority/County Rules & Regulations	\$	10.00	t		\$	2.50	
New Service Opinion Fee - (add'l charge of time & material i actually located or dug up)	\$	50.00			\$		
Voluntary Disconnect/Reconnection Fees (water service)		N/A	ļ		5	25.00	
Misuse/Damage Fee . (actual cost for time & materials for all damages over minimum)	s	500.00			s		

She asked the Board to consider the water and sewer usage fee rate increase options presented.

Ms. McGarry stated that the County Attorney had advised the Board that it could provide public hearing notice for and set rates for multiple years at a time. She said that the Board was requested to consider staff development of alternative rate increase options for water and sewer usage fees, and then consider addressing other fees and charges for ordinance amendments. She noted that if they were ready to proceed, the Board may direct staff to prepare a resolution authorizing a public hearing on the proposed rates for the Board's consideration at the September meeting and a public hearing in October. She noted that they had previously discussed targeting a January 1, 2026 effective date, which would be a mid-year change for the fiscal year, so they would only have six-months of the rate differential.

Dr. Ligon asked if staff had calculated the rates necessary for the water and sewer service to reach the breakeven point. Ms. McGarry said that staff had not put it together for this presentation, but could provide it to the Board when they were able to calculate it.

Ms. Mawyer said that she believed it was not an easy task to come up with an accurate estimate. She said that she took a year's worth of expenses from the Service Authority that the County paid and divided that between water and sewer. She said that however, this was just an average, as the actual costs could vary. She said that to get a more precise estimate, she divided the monthly average cost by the number of customers, which came out to be \$45.86. She said that however, this was a flat rate, and it did not account for the separate costs of water, sewer, and grinder pump, which would require further analysis to accurately divide out.

Mr. Parr said that ultimately, their long-term goal was to transition out of this business after the next six years. He said that therefore, trying to determine how to make this profitable was a moot point for him, as they were already planning to exit the business.

Dr. Ligon stated that the negative operations were part of the reason the Service Authority did not want to handle this. She noted that another reason was because the County's rates were not commensurate with theirs, so she wanted to tackle at least one of those problems as a sign of good faith. She also was hopeful they would vote on several rate increases that were predictable to the public as well as to the Service Authority, so they would be able to take it before the rates were equal.

Ms. Mawyer said that this estimate only included the usual monthly costs that were billed. She said that it did not include any additional capital repair costs that they had incurred.

Ms. McGarry said that if the Board decided to implement multiple rates, she would suggest considering a less than six-year block of rates, and they could still provide this information as it was part of the consideration for the multiple years of rates they were evaluating at this time.

Mr. Reed asked if they should consider two to three years of rate increases with the Resolution. Ms. McGarry said that would be her recommendation, but ultimately, it was at the Board's discretion. She said that staff was requesting the Board's direction regarding the exact rates they would like to advertise and to be included in a Resolution for authorization.

Mr. Reed asked what the Board's thoughts were on the three options before them.

Mr. Parr said that he believed Option 3 to be the most suitable approach for residents. He said that it began slowly in the initial years and then gradually increased over the next few years, giving residents enough time to prepare.

Mr. Reed stated that he felt it would be more appropriate to implement a linear increase instead of a curve, but he would defer to the rest of the Board. He noted that both Option 2 and 3 were good options as they both intended to end up at the same rates as the Service Authority.

Dr. Ligon stated that she did not have a preference for a specific option. She was just glad this was moving forward.

Mr. Rutherford asked if there was consensus to move forward with Option 3.

Mr. Reed confirmed that there was Board consensus to proceed with Option 3.

Ms. McGarry asked how many years of rates the Board would like to advertise. Mr. Parr and Mr. Rutherford suggested three years. Mr. Reed was in agreement.

Dr. Ligon said that it may be favorable to advertise four years of rates so that they would meet the Service Authority's rates within that timeframe. The Board was in agreement to advertise for four years.

Ms. McGarry stated that the Board could adopt less than advertised if necessary. She said that the next consideration was whether they should address the connection fees simultaneously.

Dr. Ligon said that yes, she would like to make them the same. The Board was in agreement to also consider making the connection fees the same.

Mr. Rutherford asked if they would determine the timeline for when the rates took effect after the public hearing, or if it should be included in the Resolution. Ms. McGarry said that she believed it should be included in the Resolution for the public hearing so it could be included in the notice.

Mr. Rutherford asked if it would be better to have a January 1, 2026 effective date at the mid-year point. Ms. McGarry replied that it would be up to the Board to decide the effective date.

Mr. Reed confirmed there was Board consensus to advertise the first effective date for January 1, 2026 and the others thereafter on July 1.

Mr. Rutherford commented that there would be a lot of people paying connection fees very soon. Ms. McGarry asked if there were a lot people planning to connect in Piney River. Mr. Rutherford noted that there were.

Ms. McGarry asked if they should address other fees.

Mr. Parr asked for more information about the yard hydrant fee. Ms. McGarry said that the yard hydrant fee for County service is based on 1,500 gallons charged monthly, while the Service Authority fee is based on 4,000 gallons charged monthly. She said that this is why the County's fee is \$7.50 versus the Service Authority's fee of \$48.30.

Dr. Ligon said that the fees were another point she thought they should try to get in line with the Service Authority. Mr. Reed said that it sounded like they should equalize the rates across the board. Ms. McGarry said that they could implement January 1 effective dates for the other fee changes.

Dr. Ligon asked if they had anyone who could provide educational information for grinder pumps. Ms. McGarry said that she was not aware of any specific plans. She said that they could collaborate with the Service Authority to develop an educational piece that they could distribute. Mr. Reed said that was a really good point. He said that he thought an educational piece about equalizing the rates and why it was necessary would be beneficial. He said that providing more information would help the Service Authority feel confident that users of the system would understand how to use it correctly.

Ms. McGarry said that she believed they had discussed the possibility of identifying repeat offenders with the grinder pump replacements. She said that although they had not yet been able to accomplish this, it remained on their to-do list.

Mr. Reed asked if the Board would still be receiving updates after the public hearing and after the Resolution was passed.

Ms. McGarry confirmed that was correct. She thanked the Board for their input to get things moving.

D. Consider Rescheduling November Board meeting

Mr. Reed confirmed there was Board consensus to reschedule the Board meeting to November 13, 2025.

Mr. Parr moved to adopt Resolution R2025-63, Rescheduling the November 2025 Regular Meeting from November 11, 2025 to November 13, 2025.

Dr. Ligon seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Supervisors approved the motion by roll call vote (4–0) and the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLUTION R2025-63 NELSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RESCHEDULING OF NOVEMBER 2025 REGULAR MEETING

WHEREAS, the Nelson County Board of Supervisors hereby establishes that an alternate date for the Board's regular monthly meeting on November 11, 2025 is necessary due to the Veterans Day holiday and the attendance of some members of said governing body at the annual conference of the Virginia Association of Counties through November 11, 2025;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Nelson County Board of Supervisors pursuant to§15.2-1416 (Regular meetings) of the Code of Virginia that the regular meeting of the Board on Tuesday, November 11, 2025 be and hereby is rescheduled to Thursday, November 13, 2025.

VI. REPORTS, APPOINTMENTS, DIRECTIVES AND CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Reports
- 1. County Administrator's Report

Ms. McGarry provided the following report:

- A. DSS Building Ms. McGarry reported that VRA Financing closed on August 5, 2025, \$8,145,000 was borrowed at 4.4583% for a term of 25 years, with payments due in October and April. The first year of payments is interest only with principal and interest beginning in October 2026. No new County funds were required to pay this debt service; this financing was part of the debt service reserve being maintained in the debt service fund budget. Staff will have Davenport provide an update to our Debt Capacity Analysis including this borrowing and the VPSA borrowing for the NCHS renovation project.
- **B.** Department of Social Services Agency Corrective Action Plan Ms. McGarry reported that the second CAP meeting was held on July 31, 2025, with she, Ms. Napier, Mr. Burdette, meeting virtually with the Regional DSS Office team to review their findings in the practice areas of Child Protective Services, Foster Care Prevention/In-home Services, Permanency Services, and Resource Family Services. Regional consultants in these areas are rotating through the local agency each week to perform reviews. The agency is still working to close cases in the backlog and current case data entry in case tracking systems has improved in some service areas and has room for improvement in others. Documentation of casework in their systems is still a challenge. Mr. Burdette reported he is looking at case data in Safe Measures and reviewing it with staff regularly. Various trainings for staff have occurred or are scheduled and they are in the process of getting another Services Supervisor approved by the State and hope to have approval by September.
- C. 2026 Reassessment: Ms. McGarry stated that Wampler-Eanes is scheduled to report to the Board at the September 9, 2025 regular meeting. They will finish up with field work in October and notices should go out to property owners in November. The County will begin recruiting for Board of Equalization members who will meet with property owners on their assessment appeals after the Assessors have held their hearings with property owners.
- **D.** Larkin Phase 1 Well Evaluation & Dillard Creek Flow Evaluation Ms. McGarry stated that once both of these reports are received, staff will schedule CHA to present these to the Board at a regular meeting. In speaking with Mr. Steele, it would be beneficial to review both reports together at the same time. We have tentatively scheduled them for the September meeting; however, if they are received in enough time prior to then, the Board could consider meeting for a work session.

Ms. McGarry asked if the Board had a preference to have CHA report at the September meeting, or hold a work session. Mr. Reed noted that Mr. Rutherford may not be in attendance at the September meeting and Mr. Rutherford confirmed that it was possible that he may not be able to make the meeting. He noted that a work session at a later date could work. Dr. Ligon suggested that Ms. McGarry could let the Board know when the reports were received, and then they could determine how to proceed.

- E. TJPDC Proposed Smart Scale Area Type Change Rural Area Ms. McGarry reported that TJPDC is proposing to request a change in Area Type from Type "C" to Type "D" for our Planning District localities. All other PDCs with rural areas are categorized as "D" in which the highest weighted factor is safety. Analysis of 3 Smart Scale Rounds showed that with few exceptions, projects within the TJPDC area would have received higher scores and been ranked more competitively if categorized as Area Type "D". The TJPDC is looking to make the decision to request this change at their September 4th meeting. Given a favorable vote, it would be forward to the CTB for their consideration and potential action prior to the end of the calendar year. That timeframe would allow the change to be incorporated into the next round of Smart Scale. No action by the Board is required.
- **F.** Lovingston TAP Grant Sidewalk Improvement Project Ms. McGarry reported that VDOT is in the Preliminary design process with its consultant, Rinker Design Associates (RDA) and a December/January public hearing will be held on the design proposal. The Right of Way phase for temporary construction easements will take about 1 year and the project is about 2 years out from construction.
- **G. Piney River Pump Station (Phase II)** Ms. McGarry reported that the quote received on the specifications for the pump station is \$263,103 and is subject to escalation for any price increases of materials or components greater than 5% after the time of quote. Manufacturing is estimated to take 24-38 weeks from when Smith and Loveless receives approved submittal data. Staff is preparing to proceed and is gathering pricing information related to installation. The FY26 budget currently includes \$323,125 for this project.
- **H. Tipping Floor Replacement Project** Ms. McGarry stated that staff is preparing to re-engage with Architectural Partners on bidding this project out in the next couple of months; working through the logistics and public notification of the Transfer Station closure.
- I. Meals and Lodging Tax Collection & Lodging Entity Tracking Ms. McGarry referenced the charts provided to the Board and noted that the number of Lodging Units is 824, up from 823 in the previous report.
- **J. Staff Reports** Ms. McGarry stated that the department and office reports for June/July have been provided.

Dr. Ligon asked if staff could provide the Planning Commission members with the map of Airbnbs in the County. Ms. McGarry confirmed that they would do so.

Mr. Parr asked for the date of their work session to discuss the space needs of the courthouse.

Ms. McGarry stated that it was scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on August 19, 2025. She said that preliminary information would be shared this Friday.

Mr. Reed said that he would like to note one thing without having to read through everything. He said that the change from type C to type D in the Smart Scale project with TJPDC was noteworthy. He explained that this change would result in Nelson County being rated higher in areas of economic development and traffic safety. He said that these were two things that were necessary and important for the County. He said that it was clear in the provided information that, had this change been in effect earlier, they would have been rated higher in Smart Scale projects, which would have helped them in securing those projects. He said that while it was not an absolute guarantee, it would be a significant advantage relative to other competitive jurisdictions in the Commonwealth. He commended TJPDC for advocating for their County.

Mr. Rutherford said that regarding the short-term rental information from July 2025 and August 12, 2025, the graph showed \$1.5 million for the year to date. Ms. McGarry said that it was for the calendar year. Mr. Rutherford commented that it appeared that meals tax was significantly lower in comparison to other years.

2. Board Reports

Mr. Rutherford:

Mr. Rutherford said that he missed the last PDC meeting, so he would let Mr. Reed report on that. He said that otherwise, he had some traffic and VDOT-related interactions in Schuyler and Faber and not much else to report.

Dr. Ligon:

Dr. Ligon stated that she wanted to highlight the productive meeting they had with the Planning Commission. She said that they thoroughly reviewed the ordinances and were hoping to provide recommendations at their next joint meeting to improve their productivity. She said that although they initially struggled to get started, once they found their rhythm, she believed they covered a substantial amount of material, and she was looking forward to continuing that success.

Mr. Parr:

Mr. Parr said that the Emergency Services Council did not meet in July, but the DSS Board did meet. He said that they continued to have significant communication concerns with the DSS office. He said that everyone was aware of the emails from the Sheriff and the Commonwealth Attorney, as well as the presentation from the Commonwealth Attorney earlier in today's Board meeting. He said that after some recent activity, they were still trying to get to the bottom of the issue, but they did receive a verbal two-weeks' notice from a supervisor in the office. He said that although no written notice was received, the fact that this happened was quite concerning to him, whether it was an actual notice or simply a gesture of frustration. He said that he was unsure, but either way, it was a concern. He said that however, they would delve into this further later.

Mr. Reed:

Mr. Reed said that from the recent TJPDC meeting, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's funding for rural development and rehabilitation was typically capped at \$5,000 per project, requiring matching funds, but it appeared that there may be an increase in this funding amount for the upcoming year. He said that while it was not yet confirmed, this could lead to more opportunities for rehabilitation projects in Nelson County if it materialized, which was a positive development.

Mr. Reed said that in addition, he attended the Nelson County Public Schools Convocation, which was a new experience for him. He said that it was the largest-scale spirit pep rally for staff that he had ever seen, with School Board members in attendance. He said that he was able to attend and found it to be a great event, which boded well for the upcoming year. He said that the new staff were introduced to the rest of the staff in the community, and the "OneNelson" sense of community was certainly present.

B. Appointments

Ms. Spivey said that there were currently no applicants to be considered for appointments. She noted that as a reminder for upcoming appointments, they were seeking an alternate position on the Board of Zoning Appeals. She reported that they were also looking to fill seats for the South District and West District on the Library Committee. She said that she may have a West District applicant pending, but the information had not yet been officially received. She said that they were seeking a landowner for the Agricultural and Forestal District Advisory Committee.

Ms. Spivey said that she had received an email from Mark Stapleton, who was currently serving on the Criminal Justice Board, indicating that he was stepping down due to commitments that had limited his availability to attend meetings. She said that he had expressed concern that someone with more experience in law enforcement, judicial proceedings, and jail operations would be a better fit for an appointment in one of those fields, and they would be looking for someone to fill that position.

C. Correspondence

1. Nelson Chamber of Commerce – Christmas Lights

Mr. Rutherford stated that the Nelson County Chamber of Commerce was responsible for administering the Christmas lights in Lovingston, Shipman, and surrounding areas. He said that they were now facing challenges that may prevent them from continuing this tradition. He said that he had had discussions with them regarding potential strategies and coordination for transferring the responsibility to another entity. He said that he did not immediately suggest Nelson County, and he would like to explore other options.

Mr. Rutherford said that he had considered organizations such as the Lovingston Merchants Association, but his concern was that they may only be willing to take on the responsibility for their specific area of Lovingston. He said that as far as he knew, the Chamber of Commerce was not seeking any monetary compensation for the lights; they simply wanted to transfer ownership and responsibility for their administration and maintenance. He said that he was fairly confident that he could find an entity willing to take on the Lovingston portion of the lights, but he was uncertain about organizations that could take over the Shipman portion of the lights.

Mr. Rutherford said that the Christmas lights were a significant part of the Village of Lovingston, especially during the holiday season. He said that he hoped that they could find a solution that worked for everyone. He said that he wanted to emphasize that he was not volunteering the County for this responsibility, and he had not asked the Board to take any action. However, he did want to bring this to their attention because these lights were not limited to his District.

Ms. McGarry said that she would like to note that the correspondence from the Chamber of Commerce had indicated that there was some equipment that may need attention due to safety concerns.

Mr. Rutherford said that he was not familiar with the Christmas light display tradition in other localities, such as the Town of Amherst, Scottsville, and others. He said that it may be a County-related initiative, but he believed that it was essential that they discuss this topic now, as Christmas was approaching.

Dr. Ligon said that they could contact the Electric Co-Op, AEP, and other electric companies to see who was responsible for the maintenance of the connections of the poles. Mr. Rutherford said that there probably were costs associated with that piece. He said that this was a new issue for him, but he would be interested in learning how the Town of Amherst managed their Christmas light installations.

Dr. Ligon noted that the cost of electricity to power the Christmas lights had been higher than estimated in the past. She said that she would like to receive a cost estimate for the Christmas lights, including new lights along 151 in Piney River.

Mr. Rutherford said that he was aware that Schuyler was interested in having Christmas lights as well. He believed there were some liability issues that would need to be worked out, especially if they handed the responsibility to another organization. Dr. Ligon asked staff to see if there were certain requirements of the individuals actually installing the lights on the power poles. Ms. McGarry noted the County Maintenance staff installed the lights in Nellysford. Mr. Rutherford noted that the County may consider taking responsibility for this initiative.

Dr. Ligon added that if it was going to be the County's responsibility, they needed to adhere to an established schedule for putting them up and taking them down.

Ms. McGarry stated that she would follow up with more information.

Ms. McGarry said that she wanted to add to Correspondence an email that they received this afternoon, which she had forwarded to everyone. She said that the email was related to Monticello Area Community Action Agency (MACAA)'s delay in providing after-school care. Mr. Rutherford asked if the County had sent MACAA's funding yet. Ms. McGarry noted that they received money from the County on a quarterly basis. She stated that the facility would not be able to provide services at the start of school, which was today. She said that the reasons for this were complex. She said that they hoped to open the after-school program as soon as the license applications were submitted and approved by the Virginia Department of Education.

Ms. McGarry stated that according to their list, there were five major reasons for the delay, which included low student enrollment, with only six students at Rockfish and five at Tye River. She noted that MACAA indicated that the number of students had increased since the open house at both schools last week. She said that there was also a delay in hiring teaching personnel at both schools, as they had not received enough applications to proceed with background checks for the childhood services director from Minnesota. She commented that the application for license had not been submitted to the Virginia Department of Education.

Ms. McGarry said that once these items were completed, they would submit the application for license to VDOE. She said that they would also have an on-site visit by the Virginia Department of Education on Tuesday, August 19, 2025, and may be able to open shortly thereafter. She said that staff would be closely monitoring the situation.

D. Directives

There were none.

The Board took a brief recess.

Closed Session

Mr. Rutherford moved that the Nelson County Board of Supervisors convene in closed session to discuss the following as permitted by Virginia Code Sections 2.2-3711 -

(A)(1) - "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;" – Personnel

(A)(8) - "Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. 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."

Mr. Parr seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Supervisors voted unanimously (4-0) by roll call vote to approve the motion.

Supervisors conducted the closed session and upon its conclusion, Mr. Rutherford moved to reconvene in public session. Mr. Parr seconded the motion and there being no further discussion, Supervisors voted unanimously (4-0) by roll call vote to approve the motion.

Upon reconvening in public session, Mr. Rutherford moved that the Nelson County Board of Supervisors certify that, in the closed session just concluded, nothing was discussed except the matter or matters specifically identified in the motion to convene in closed session and lawfully permitted to be discussed under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act cited in that motion. Mr. Parr seconded the motion and there being no further discussion, Supervisors voted unanimously (4-0) by roll call vote to approve the motion.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS (AS PRESENTED)

There was none.

VIII. ADJOURN & CONTINUE - EVENING SESSION AT 7PM

At 5:36 p.m., Mr. Reed adjourned and continued the meeting to 7:00 p.m.

EVENING SESSION 7:00 P.M. – NELSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Reed called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with four (4) Supervisors present to establish a quorum. Mr. Harvey was absent.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Heather Goodwin - Arrington, VA

Ms. Heather Goodwin stated that recently, she had become aware of the fact that a grant was obtained by this County and the Board of Supervisors in 2020 for the Smart Scale funding for safety improvements, or at least that was how it was proposed, at the intersection of Oak Ridge Road and Route 29. She stated that this was not one of the intersections where people were getting killed in the County; in fact, in the 35 years she had been here, there had been no fatalities at that intersection. She commented that she was not aware of the last fender bender at that intersection. She noted that they were all painfully aware of the few intersections in the County that had experienced more than double the average fatality rate of the state.

Ms. Goodwin stated that in 2020, the Board filed and received a \$5.2 million grant that had been awarded under the guise of being for safety improvements at the intersection of Oak Ridge Road and 29. She commented that the only events occurring at that intersection were the events at Oak Ridge, and the Lockn' farm adjacent to them. She emphasized that when those special events occurred, as part of the special event permitting process, it was required that the road was shut down. She noted it was a requirement from VDOT and it was not a tax payer expense, rather the expenses are borne by the promoter of the events. She stated that there was no traffic going in and out that would be impacted. She said that this year, the proposal was coming to fruition, with

several hundred feet of turn-lane expansions between Tye River Elementary School and the intersection at Oak Ridge Road, and slightly shifting the road coming out of Oak Ridge Road into 29. She commented that the proposed improvements did not change the actual shape or curvature of the road, which she believed were the actual issues with the road.

Ms. Goodwin acknowledged that the Board's hands were somewhat tied with this issue, as the project had been pending for several years. She understood after talking with VDOT at the recent Sheriff's safety meeting where this intersection's grant was discussed but not identified as a specific safety concern, that the Board had the option to withdraw the request. She asked that the Board please consider withdrawing the request and explore whether or not the costs spent on engineering improvements for safety at an intersection where they were unnecessary, could be waived

Ms. Goodwin noted that VDOT had indicated at the safety meeting that they would recommend it be waived, and this would prevent them from spending \$5 million on an intersection that did not need this help. She commented that although the returned funds may not go to another intersection in Nelson, they would be used to make actual life and safety improvements elsewhere, and she would much rather have the money go to safety improvements of an intersection that actually needed it. She requested the Board to please consider withdrawing the application.

Mr. Reed closed the public comment period.

III. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Withdrawal of Property from Agricultural & Forestal District – Greenfield – 196.375 acres

Dylan Bishop, Director of Planning and Zoning, stated that the Planning and Zoning Department had received an application from Jim and Joan Klemic to remove 196.34 acres of property from the Greenfield Agricultural and Forestal District (AFD). She explained that this was a voluntary program in which farmers, foresters, and landowners may form an Agricultural and/or Forest Conservation District for the purpose of conserving areas that are rural and agricultural. She noted that the property owner continues to hold fee simple title to the land, but the easement restrictions run with the land for a set number of years. She explained that AFDs were established by the State of Virginia as a means for Counties to offer incentives to landowners to maintain their property for agriculture and forestry.

Ms. Bishop stated that the benefits include eligibility for land use taxation, protection from eminent domain and municipal annexation, and protection from frivolous nuisance complaints. She indicated that these protections were in effect for the duration of the contract period, and as a result, the County was able to more accurately plan land use in the region, since the owner agreed not to convert the property to a more intensive use. She noted that the rural nature of the landscape was maintained and the tax rates remained low since residential development was slowed and County resources were not overburdened. She reported that there were five Agricultural Forestal Districts in the County; one in each Election District. She noted that per the County Code Section 9-205, withdrawal of land from an existing AFD requires a public hearing. Ms. Bishop indicated that there were six parcels included in the withdrawal request, which were indicated on the provided map.

Ms. Bishop stated that the AFD Advisory Committee met on April 25, 2025 to review and discuss the Klemics' application for withdrawal, and the Committee subsequently recommended approval of the request to the Planning Commission. She reported that on June 25, 2025, the Planning Commission held a public hearing and also recommended approval of the withdrawal request to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Reed asked if there were any comments from the public during the Planning Commission's public hearing.

Ms. Bishop replied that there were none other than Susan McSwain, who was a member of the Agricultural Forestal District Advisory Committee.

Mr. Reed opened the public hearing. There were no persons wishing to speak, and the public hearing was closed.

Mr. Rutherford moved to approve Ordinance O2025-07 – Amendment of the Code of Nelson County, Virginia Chapter 9 Planning and Development, Article V, Agricultural and Forestal Districts Withdrawal of Klemic Parcels from the Greenfield Agricultural and Forestal District.

Dr. Ligon seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Supervisors approved the motion unanimously (4-0) by roll call vote and the following ordinance was adopted:

ORDINANCE O2025-07 NELSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AMENDMENT OF THE CODE OF NELSON COUNTY, VIRGINIA CHAPTER 9 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, ARTICLE V, AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTAL DISTRICTS WITHDRAWAL OF KLEMIC PARCELS FROM THE GREENFIELD AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTAL DISTRICT

WHEREAS, Jim and Joan Klemic have filed an application to remove 196.34 acres of property from the Greenfield Agricultural and Forestal District; and

WHEREAS, the parcels to be removed from the Greenfield Agricultural and Forestal District are as follows:

Parcel Number	Acreage
13 A 1	23.9
7 A 87	31.85
13 A 1A	31.4
7 A 88	22.945
7 A 93A	44.94
6 A 158B	41.34

WHEREAS, participation in the Agricultural and Forest Conservation District Program is a voluntary program in which farmers, foresters and landowners may form an Agricultural and/or Forest Conservation District for the purpose of conserving areas that are rural and agricultural. The property owner continues to hold fee simple title to the land, but the easement restrictions run with the land for a set number of years; and

WHEREAS, Sec.9-205 of the Code of Nelson County, Virginia allows that any time after the creation of an agricultural and forestal district, any owner of land lying in such district may file a written request with the program administrator to withdraw all or part of their land from the district for a good and reasonable cause; and

WHEREAS, the Agricultural and Forestal District Advisory Committee met on April 25, 2025 to review and discuss the Klemics' application for withdrawal, and the Committee subsequently recommended approval of the request to the Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, on June 25, 2025, the Nelson County Planning Commission held a public hearing to review the Klemics' request and voted to recommend approval of the withdrawal to the Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, after reviewing the Planning Department's report, the Agricultural and Forestal District Advisory Committee's recommendation, and considering the Planning Commission's recommendation as well as the comments from the public received at the public hearing on June 25, 2025, the Board is in agreement to allow the withdrawal of the Klemics' parcels from the district;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Nelson County Board of Supervisors that the Code of Nelson County, Virginia, Chapter 9 Planning and Development, Article V, Agricultural and Forestal Districts be amended to remove Jim and Joan Klemic's 196.34 acres of property from the Greenfield Agricultural and Forestal District and the Board of Supervisors directs that a copy of this ordinance of withdrawal be submitted to the Commissioner of Revenue, the State Forester, and the State Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The Commissioner of Revenue shall delete the information of said parcels from the land book and tax map, and the Board of Supervisors shall remove the identification of such parcel from the zoning map where applicable;

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, by the Nelson County Board of Supervisors that this Ordinance becomes effective upon adoption.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS (AS PRESENTED)

There was none.

V. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:10 p.m., Mr. Rutherford moved to adjourn and continue the meeting to August 19, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. Mr. Parr seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Supervisors approved the motion unanimously (4-0) by roll call vote and the meeting was continued.