

**CRAIG COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MARCH 5<sup>th</sup> , 2026 AT 6:00 P.M.  
CRAIG COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

**AT A REGULAR MEETING of the Craig County Board of Supervisors conducted on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of MARCH 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the Craig County Court House Courtroom.**

**PRESENT:**

Jesse Spence, Chair  
Jordan Labiosa-Vice Chair  
Carl Bailey-Supervisor  
Brian Lipes-Supervisor

Dan Collins – Clerk  
Amy Bryson-Deputy Clerk

Keith Dunbar-Supervisor- Absent, on phone

**OPEN MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mr. Spence. The invocation was given by Mr. Lipes, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**REQUESTS TO POSTPONE, ADD TO OR CHANGE THE ORDER**

- A. X. HEAR THE PUBLIC to new VII. Above New Business
- B. VIII. G. Consider a MOTION to Purchase 2 New Compactors

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF CRAIG  
COUNTY, VIRGINIA, HELD AT THE CRAIG COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
ON THURSDAY, MARCH 5<sup>th</sup> , 2026

**RESOLUTION APPROVING AND CONCURRING IN CERTAIN ITEMS SET  
FORTH ON THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA FOR THIS DATE  
DESIGNATED AS THE CONSENT ITEMS**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors of Craig County, Virginia, as follows:

1. That the certain section of the agenda of the Board of Supervisors for December 4<sup>th</sup> , 2025, designated as the Consent Items be, and hereby is, approved and concurred in as to each item separately set forth in said section designated Items 1 through 2, inclusive, as follows:
  1. Approval of minutes – February 5<sup>th</sup> , 2026
  2. Claims and Warrants
2. That the Clerk to the Board is hereby authorized and directed where required by law to set forth upon any of said items the separate vote tabulation for any such item pursuant to this resolution.

The Board of Supervisors of Craig County, in a regular meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2026 adopted this Resolution.

Mr. Spence asked for a motion on R26-12. Mr. Bailey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lipes to approve Resolution R26-12. Voting was as follows: Mr. Labiosa, yes, Mr. Lipes, yes, Mr. Bailey, yes, Mr. Spence, yes.

## BRIEFINGS

- A. Brian Blevins, Assistant Resident Engineer, for Brian Blevins, VDOT, - No Land Development projects, and no permit issued 12/23/2025 to 01/20/202. A TE work order was requested for curve warning signs along Route 42 (Cumberland Gap Road). Review found a number of locations for signage improvements. A portion of the improvements were included in a high safety improvement program (HSIP) contract that is being advertised this spring. The Remainder will be completed by VDOT crews this spring.
- Route 311 Crosswalk in New Castle – This section of Route 311 is on the 2026 resurfacing schedule which will include an updated, high visibility crosswalk. Also moving forward with installation of enhanced ADA ramps at crosswalk. Design sketch under development. Route 311 School Bus Stop – Meeting is scheduled to discuss in February. Current school bus stop sign has been moved prior to the curve. **Ditching, Pipe Cleaning, and Shoulders**, County-wide grading and stabilizing. Shoulder work and culvert cleaning on Route 311 (Paint Bank Road) in the Potts Mountain area. Hand patching on Route 630 (Northside Road), Route 632 (Johns Creek Road), and Route 658 (Johns Creek Road). Pipe replacements on Route 617 (CC Mountain Road). **Completed Projects** Pipe cleaning in the Sinking Creek area. Countywide dead animal removal. Countywide snow removal. Hand patching on Route 42 (Cumberland Gap Road), Route 311 (Craig Valley Drive), and Route 611 (Peaceful Valley Drive). Mow trimming on Route 615 (Craigs Creek Road), and Route 658 (Johns Creek Road). Grading on Route 617 (CC Mountain Road), Route 618 (Broad Run), Route 620 (Millers Cove), and Route 651 (Hall Road).
- B. Trace Bellassai, Broadband Information Technology – Updated the board from the recent meeting with RiverStreet, looking at improving services throughout the county including fiber. Plan for major improvements to be made from now till 2028.
- C. Dr. Jason Wheeler, Superintendent Craig County Schools – Dr. Wheeler thanked VDOT for their assistance. Dr. Wheeler updated the board on the school closings and looking forward to Spring and warmer weather. Focusing on end of the year assessments and getting the students ready. Mr. Spence asked if there were any updates on the boiler schedule, Dr. Wheeler is looking at the summer months and working on schedule. Thank you.
- D. Woody Lipps, Craig Botetourt Scenic Trail-Mr. Lipps updated the board on the trail and the trash and debris from dumping cleanup. According to the report below, Mr. Lipps added another 15 tires, another quarter ton truck full of garbage that was recovered yesterday. Mr. Lipps explained to the board this trash is in hollows that feeds directly into the creek. The garbage is a mix of tires, chemicals, animal carcasses, heavy metals. The volunteers are almost done with the cleanup on the trail however, at Mill Creek we are seeing dumping again, within one month more tires have been dumped.

**The Cleanup Continues** 240 tires removed. Two, one-ton dump truck loads of scrap metal, appliances, auto parts, bed springs, and fence wire. Six, or seven,  $\frac{3}{4}$  ton truck loads of household trash including; 5-gallon buckets, paint products, garden sprayers, bottles, cans, jars, plastic, pressure treated wood scraps, furniture items, and a propane grill. One, badly rusted 55-gallon drum, original contents unknown. **Overall Project Update:** Bridge designs completed in February. Phase 1 project design completed by the end of March. (Craig County Schools to Parr in Botetourt County, 20 miles) Additional grade stabilization and maintenance planned to start in late April on 2, or 3, sections. Project Phase 1 construction bidding announcement expected in August or September. Time for construction completion on Phase 1; two years. The Greenway Coordinator position is moving; now being hosted by the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission as a member of their staff. The position has been advertised and interviews are being conducted. This position will be available to all the communities in our planning district and especially for the management plan for the trail. That is the hope. Mr. Spence asked about the bidding process, Mr. Lipps explained in a year they will start the bidding process, more than the bridges, and once contract is awarded looking at two years to completion.

- E. Marge Lewter, Preserve Craig- Ms. Lewter briefed the Board of Supervisors on the Raptor Station at Hanging Rock, still supporting, they will be creating an access road, there is a hike on Sunday if anyone wants to join us. Dark Skies initiative is gaining interest around the county, a stargazing project, and a project at the school. She also alerted the board regarding the MVP booster site.

Bill Wolf, Preserve Craig-Mr. Wolf updated the Board on the Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) that needs more compression stations to move the gas up and down the mountains and is looking at several locations, one being Craig. He presented a picture of the compressor station. MVP first choice is Elliston, Montgomery, yet we are alternate one, in Sinking Creek, Craig County. Mr. Wolf suggests that we file as late interveners. He is willing to help prepare documents and guide us through the process. He reminded the board that MVP made many promises throughout the years and they have not upheld their promises. They promised to keep the board informed, they would come to the meetings and report on progress. They promised to provide proper fire equipment to all the volunteer fire departments within reasonable distance to better fight these types of fires if something happened with a blast zone of half a mile. They want to increase the volume by 30 percent higher than originally proposed volume. These compressor stations have very large engines that run continuously day and night that can be heard miles away, creating hundreds of tons of pollutants into the air and water. Also, the boost station will generate large amounts of light like a large industrial site in Roanoke. The pressure on lines will increase the pressure to above 225% over the original proposal, these pipes are laid on rock in which the pipes failed causing over 1000 fines/incidence of noncompliance in Virginia and West Virginia. Mr. Wolf is asking the board to pass the resolution and file as an intervener. Supervisor Labiosa asked if imminent domain would be used to expand their footprint? Ms. Lewter and Mr. Wolf confirmed that

eminent domain for at least 25 acres, with 25 extra acres for construction. Mr. Spence asked about the sites and alternative site regarding the notification. Mr. Wolf discussed with Preserve Criag Lawyers the intent of the law has been violated that there was inadequate notice. MVP believes that alternate sites do not need to be notified.

- F. Amanda McGee, Director of Development, Roanoke Valley Regional Commission- Ms. McGee reviewed the (5) year Hazardous Mitigation plan for the area and the plan updates. The Plan covers Allegheny County, Botetourt County, Roanoke County and Craig County. This is a Federally required document that enables funding sources from FEMA and VDEM for listed projects. The Hazardous Mitigation Plan covers hazardous identification, risk assessment, capabilities, mitigation goals and strategies, and mitigation action plans. Jurisdiction takeaways- Craig County maintains lower amount of staff to handle mitigations, no certified flood plain manager - since 1991 71 claims for flood have been paid out totaling \$1,271.108.00 - 202 structures are at flood risk in the community with 6 being repetitive loss structures - 41 NFIP (National Flood Insurance Program) Policies in the County-2 in New Castle - Approximately 12% federal pass-thru dollars, several HHPD (High Hazard Potential Dam) dams along Johns Creek. We will review every year on goals and progress. Next steps are adoption by resolution. Thank you.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

**R26-13**

### **A Resolution Re-appointing Tina Crawford to the Craig County Tourism Commission**

**WHEREAS**, membership in the Craig County Tourism Commission (CCTC), in accordance with Resolution R.12-01 passed by the Board of Supervisors of Craig County, will consist of five (5) citizens appointed by the Board with representation as equally distributed around the five magisterial districts as practical.

**WHEREAS**, these representatives shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Supervisors and will serve for (4) year staggered terms, and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Tina Crawford served the unexpired term of Ty Walker from November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025, and would like to continue to serve the Tourism Commission for another (4) year term, and we thank her for her continued

**WHEREAS**, The Craig County Tourism Commission has nominated Tina Crawford to fulfill another (4) year term term January 1<sup>st</sup> , 2026 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2028, and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors of Craig county that the Tourism Commission recommends the approval for the appointment of Tina Crawford on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2026.

Mr. Spence asked for a motion on R26-13. Mr. Labiosa made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bailey to approve Resolution R26-13. Voting was as follows: Mr. Labiosa, yes, Mr. Lipes, yes, Mr. Bailey, yes, Mr. Spence, yes.

**R26-14**

## **A Resolution Reappointing Angela Huffman to the Social Services Board**

**WHEREAS**, the Craig County Department of Social Services recommends appointments to the Craig County Board of Supervisors, and

**WHEREAS**, Angela Huffman has been recommended to serve a second (4) year term representing the Simonsville District, that had expired on June 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors desire to appoint Angelea Huffman to continue to serve on the Social Services Board representing the Simonsville District another four-year term beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 and ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2029, and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors of Craig County that Angela Huffman is hereby reappointed as the Simonsville District Social Services Board Member for the (4) year term that ended June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and a new term that started July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2029 is hereby approved.

The Board of Supervisors of Craig County, in a regular meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2026 adopted this Resolution.

Mr. Spence asked for a motion on R26-14. Mr. Lipes made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bailey to approve Resolution R26-14. Voting was as follows: Mr. Labiosa, abstain, Mr. Lipes, yes, Mr. Bailey, yes, Mr. Spence, yes

**A Resolution Reappointing  
Jeanette McClanahan to the Social Services Board**

**WHEREAS**, the Craig County Department of Social Services recommends appointments to the Craig County Board of Supervisors, and

**WHEREAS**, Jeanette McClanahan has been recommended to serve a second (4) year term representing the New Castle District, that had expired on June 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors desire to reappoint Jeanette McClanahan to continue to serve on the Social Services Board representing the New Castle District another four-year term beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 and ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2028, and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors of Craig County that Jeanette McClanahan is hereby reappointed as the New Castle District Social Services Board Member for the (4) year term that ended June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and a new term that started July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2028 is hereby approved.

The Board of Supervisors of Craig County, in a regular meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2026 adopted this Resolution.

Mr. Spence asked for a motion on R26-15. Mr. Bailey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lipes to approve Resolution R26-15. Voting was as follows: Mr. Labiosa, abstain, Mr. Lipes, yes, Mr. Bailey, yes, Mr. Spence, yes.

**A Resolution Recommending the Appointment DSS, New Director,  
Matt Wade as Representative for Craig County to the  
TAP Board of Directors**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors appointed Patricia Franklin, as Craig County Representative to the TAP Board of Directors on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024,

for a second three-year term, she has resigned from Director of Social Services and has graciously agreed to continue to serve until a replacement is found, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors wishes to appoint our new Director of Craig County Social Services, Matt Wade to finish serving Patricia Franklins three-year term starting on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026 to May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2027, to serve, and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors of Craig County that the appointment of Matt Wade to finish serving Patricia Franklins three year term starting on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026 to May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2027, as the Craig County representative to the TAP Board of Directors is hereby approved.

The Board of Supervisors of Craig County hereby adopted this resolution in a regular meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of March 2026.

Mr. Spence asked for a motion on R26-16. Mr. Bailey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lipes to approve Resolution R26-16. Voting was as follows: Mr. Labiosa, yes, Mr. Lipes, yes, Mr. Bailey, yes, Mr. Spence, yes.

**R26-17**

**A Resolution to Approve Appointment of  
Matt Wade as Representative, Director  
to the Department of Social Services  
Community Policy & Management Team**

**WHEREAS**, the Virginia Department of Social Services requires in the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§2.2-5204 & 2.2-5205. Section 1, that the Board of Supervisors ratify the appointment of representatives to the Community Policy & Management Team (CPMT) to oversee and manage the Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth and Families funds, and

**WHEREAS**, Patricia Franklin was appointed to the CPMT as the Department of Social Services Director on 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2022, and the Board appreciates her services, and

**WHEREAS**, Matt Wade has been hired as Director to the Craig County Department of Social Services as of February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors would like to appoint Matt Wade as the DSS Director Representative to the CPMT for a term beginning March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors of Craig County that Matt Wade is hereby appointed to the CPMT as the Department of Social Services Director.

The Board of Supervisors of Craig County, in a regular meeting on 5<sup>th</sup>, day of March, 2026 adopted this Resolution.

Mr. Spence asked for a motion on R26-17. Mr. Bailey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lipes to approve Resolution R26-17. Voting was as follows: Mr. Labiosa, abstain, Mr. Lipes, yes, Mr. Bailey, yes, Mr. Spence, yes.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**R26-18**

### **RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF CRAIG, VIRGINIA PROVIDING COMMENTS TO FERC ON THE PROPOSED MVP BOOST PROJECT**

**WHEREAS**, Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC (MVP) filed an application (CP26-14-00) with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) requesting authorization for its MVP Boost Project. The Boost Project consists of a new 136,900 Horsepower Swann Compressor Station to be constructed in the Sinking Creek Community of the County of Criag, Virginia (“the Boost Project”); and

**WHEREAS**, FERC is requesting public comments on the environmental impacts of the Boost Project including construction and operation of the Swann Compressor Station in the Sinking Creek Valley, in Criag County, Virginia; and

**WHEREAS**, proposed site, off Cumberland Gap Road near Huffman, in Craig County, Virginia, would require about 3,600 feet of new road constructed along the MVP Mainline and may require bridge upgrades along the existing road. Preliminary review of topography indicates that substantial cut and fill would be required for this site, and the disturbance area to accommodate the compressor station would be about 25.1 acres, and

**WHEREAS**, The nearest source for three-phase power at a distribution voltage would be from an existing substation to the east of the site and would require an additional 26 acres to be cleared. Land cover is primarily hayfield and pasture, and the site contains soil classified as Farmland of Statewide Importance, and

**WHEREAS**, there is very little topographic or vegetation screening and therefore noise and visual impacts are expected to be greater. Additional land would need to

be acquired for the site, access, and construction workspace. For the reasons described above, especially because the site falls outside of the desired hydraulic modeling section of MVP Mainline, MVP does not consider Swann Alternative Site 1, the Sinking Creek to be environmentally or technically preferable to the proposed site for the Swann Compressor Station.

**WHEREAS**, the County is concerned with the direct, indirect and cumulative impacts, on the natural, physical and human environments that may be caused from adverse hazardous air emissions and from greenhouse gases emanating from the Swann Compressor facility that will impact the air and water quality, wild life and socioeconomic factors in the County of Montgomery, Virginia; and

**WHEREAS**, the County requests that FERC require an impartial Environmental Impact Statement (“the EIS”) to be prepared to address the significant environmental effects the Boost Project will have on the natural, physical and human environments in the County of Craig, Virginia; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Craig requests that the EIS involve extensive analysis and public input in order to protect the citizens of Craig County and its environment from any significant environmental impacts resulting from the Boost Project.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Craig, Virginia that the Board of Supervisors hereby oppose the Boost Project from being located in the Sinking Creek Community due to the environmental impact and lack of adequate hydraulic modeling, along with access to the proposed site, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Board of Supervisors further oppose the Boost Project without an impartial EIS first addressing the adverse environmental and socioeconomic impacts resulting from the Boost project; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Craig, Virginia that the Board of Supervisors respectfully asks that FERC require an Environmental Impact Statement be prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in order to provide an impartial analysis of the significant environmental consequences of the Boost Project and to ensure that environmental factors and alternatives are considered in the decision making process on whether to permit this facility to be built.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Board of Supervisors of the County of Criag, Virginia hereby directs the Clerk to the Board to transmit this Resolution to FERC for inclusion in the scoping period request for comments on the Proposed Boost Project.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Mr. Labiosa, suggested that EDA take a look at projects in the county that might work for tax revenue, for example, the small scale BESS (Battery Energy Storage Unit) project vs a Data Center project. Mr. Labiosa would like to look into more options for the county, maybe EDA to work on considerations.

Mr. Spence asked for a motion on R26-18. Mr. Lipes was motioned, seconded by Mr. Labiosa. Voting was as follows: Mr. Labiosa, yes, Mr. Lipes, yes, Mr. Bailey, yes, Mr. Spence, yes.

## **R26-19**

### **Authorizing Resolution A Resolution of the governing body of County of Craig, Virginia, authorizing the execution and delivery of a Master Equipment Lease-Purchase Agreement and separate Equipment Schedules**

**WHEREAS**, with respect to the acquisition, purchase, financing and leasing of certain equipment for the public benefit; authorize the execution and delivery of documents required in connection therewith; and authorizing the taking of all other actions necessary to the consummation of the transactions contemplated by this Resolution.

**WHEREAS**, County of Craig, Virginia (the "*Lessee*"), a county duly organized and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, is authorized by the laws of such Commonwealth to purchase, acquire and lease personal property for the benefit of the Lessee and its inhabitants and to enter into contracts with respect thereto; and

**WHEREAS**, the Lessee desires to purchase, acquire and lease certain equipment and other property necessary for the Lessee to perform essential governmental functions; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to acquire such equipment and other property, the Lessee proposes to enter into that certain Master Equipment Lease-Purchase Agreement (the "*Master Lease*") and separate Equipment Schedules from time to time as provided in the Master Lease with Atlantic Union Public Finance, Inc. (or its affiliates), as lessor (the "*Lessor*"), the form of which has been presented to the governing body of the Lessee at this meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, the governing body of the Lessee deems it for the benefit of the Lessee and for the efficient and effective administration thereof to enter into the Master Lease and the separate Equipment Schedules as provided in the Master

Lease for the purchase, acquisition and leasing of the equipment and other property to be therein described on the terms and conditions therein provided;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the governing body of County of Craig, Virginia as follows:

***Section 1. Approval of Documents.*** The form, terms and provisions of the Master Lease and the separate Equipment Schedules as provided in the Master Lease are hereby approved in substantially the forms presented at this meeting, with such insertions, omissions and changes as shall be approved by the Board of Supervisors of the Lessee or other members of the governing body of the Lessee executing the same, the execution of such documents being conclusive evidence of such approval. The County Administrator of the Lessee is hereby authorized and directed to execute, and (if required by applicable law or policy of the Lessee) the Deputy Clerk of the Lessee is hereby authorized and directed to attest, the Master Lease and each Equipment Schedule and any related Exhibits attached thereto and to deliver the Master Lease and each Equipment Schedule (including such Exhibits) to the respective parties thereto, and (if required by applicable law or policy of the Lessee) the Deputy Clerk of the Lessee is hereby authorized to affix the seal of the Lessee to such documents.

***Section 2. Other Actions Authorized.*** The officers and employees of the Lessee shall take all action necessary or reasonably required by the parties to the Master Lease and each Equipment Schedule to carry out, give effect to and consummate the transactions contemplated thereby (including the execution and delivery of acceptance certificates and any tax certificate and agreement, each with respect to separate Equipment Schedules, as contemplated in the Master Lease) and to take all action necessary in conformity therewith, including, without limitation, the execution and delivery of any closing and other documents required to be delivered in connection with the Master Lease and each Equipment Schedule.

***Section 3. No General Liability.*** Nothing contained in this Resolution, the Master Lease, any Equipment Schedule nor any other instrument shall be construed with respect to the Lessee as incurring a pecuniary liability or charge upon the general credit of the Lessee or against its taxing power, nor shall the breach of any agreement contained in this Resolution, the Master Lease, any Equipment Schedule or any other instrument or document executed in connection therewith impose any pecuniary liability upon the Lessee or any charge upon its general credit or against its taxing power, except to the extent that the rental payments payable under each Lease (as such term is defined in the Master Lease) are special limited obligations of the Lessee as provided in such Lease.

***Section 4. Appointment of Authorized Lessee Representatives.*** The County Administrator and Deputy Clerk of the Lessee are each hereby designated

to act as authorized representatives of the Lessee for purposes of the Master Lease and each Equipment Schedule until such time as the governing body of the Lessee shall designate any other or different authorized representative for purposes of the Master Lease and each Equipment Schedule.

**Section 5. Designation for Purposes of Section 265(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.** The governing body of the Lessee hereby designates Equipment Schedule No. 2026-01 to be dated March 12, 2026, and that incorporates by reference the terms and conditions of the Master Lease, as a “qualified tax-exempt obligation” for purposes and within the meaning of Section 265(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

**Section 6. Severability.** If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Resolution shall for any reason be held to be invalid or unenforceable, the invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph, clause or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this Resolution.

**Section 7. Repealer.** All bylaws, orders and resolutions or parts thereof, inconsistent herewith, are hereby repealed to the extent only of such inconsistency. This repealer shall not be construed as reviving any bylaw, order, resolution or ordinance or part thereof.

**Section 8. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its approval and adoption.

Adopted and Approved by the governing body of the Lessee this 5th day of March, 2026.

<u>Recorded Roll Call Votes:</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Jesse Spence:	Yes	_____
Keith Dunbar:	Absent	_____
Carl Bailey:	Yes	_____
Jordan Labiosa:	Yes	_____
Brian Lipos:	Yes	_____

Mr. Spence asked for a motion on R26-19. Mr. Spence was motioned, seconded by Mr. Lipos. Voting was as follows: Mr. Labiosa, yes, Mr. Lipos, yes, Mr. Bailey, yes, Mr. Spence, yes

## HEAR THE PUBLIC

Joe Abbott, 2548 Craig Valley Drive-He received a certified letter from VDOT regarding replacing the bridge. Mr. Abbot feels this is waste, fraud and abuse and overreach of government seizing land to build a new bridge that he feels is not necessary. He is concerned that it takes away his creek frontage and devalues his property. He feels that even after floods the bridge can be stabilized for a few hundred thousand dollars or a alternate site. He is looking for advice and help from the board. Supervisor Spence commented that he has not been aware of the project and will be happy to review information and to contact Administration office. Mr. Collins will reach out to VDOT and Supervisor Labiosa asked that VDOT brief the board on the project, so they are aware of current events.

Sheriff Craddock, Craig County Sheriff's Office- The Sheriff gave a brief regarding the staffing shortage for EMS and the Sheriff's Department and is urging the county not to wait another 6 months or year to create a plan. He is concerned, along with EMS the county needs to consider alternative option to retain staff. He is asking the board to consider being competitive with salary and benefits as the surrounding counties, Montgomery and Botetourt. Criag County invests in the training for deputies and EMS only to have staff leave for better pay and benefits. Deputies and EMS workers are working around the clock. Please act before there is a crisis, he needs a deputy in the school, deputies on the roads and a Animal Control Deputy to keep citizens safe. EMS needs staff so that our citizens are not waiting for a ambulance to come from Roanoke or Botetourt counties, in their time of need which can mean the difference in minutes. He is hoping the Board will assist in bring his office and EMS to a he is being heard that the Board will consider staffing levels that will benefit Craig County and our incredible staff.

Adam Murphy, running for the US Congress, Virginia District 9<sup>th</sup> – Mr. Murphy has visited every county in the district. He has visited New Castle several times over the last year. He is introducing himself and inviting everyone to the New Castle Fire Department on Sunday to ask questions and get to know him and his policies. He met Dr. Wheeler, Superintendent of the Craig County Schools, Lenny McDonald, New Castle Mayor, attended the Fall Festival and had an opportunity to speak with both Angies involved in the Craig County Health/Dental Center, he participated in the Criag County Christmas Parade. Please come out and have fellowship and pizza this Sunday, he is looking forward to meeting and working with you on representing Craig County in the US Congress.

Darryl Humphreys, Director of Emergency Management Services – Mr. Humphreys briefed the board that EMS is in a crisis. Mr. Humphreys read a letter from Jim Cady expressing concern about EMS staff shortages and staff morale wanting to leave for better pay and benefits. EMS staff in burnt out and looking at alternatives. Mr. Humphreys is asking the board to act now, or we will need to have to contract out EMS to Roanoke or Botetourt.

Woody Lipps, Recruitment and Retention Ad hoc Committee- Mr. Lipps has been serving on the Recruitment and Retention Ad Hoc Committee, his brief covered the efforts made by the committee and informed the board of a recent survey to EMS staff. The survey revealed the staff wanted to serve their community, wanted to be servicing the county they just have been offered

better paying jobs with better benefits. They need to look at changes, not just pay and benefits, other options. What we don't want to do is ask your employees for their input and then do nothing.

Amber Charette, Chief of Emergency Management Services, Ms. Charette is alerting the board that they cannot lose one more EMS staff member or the county will need to choose what day they would like not to run EMS services. The volunteer EMS is wonderful but cannot be expected to cover days because we don't have the staff to cover it. We have two employees that live outside of the county and travel. The other three live in the county. They have lots of options. She is asking the board to focus on retention before recruitment to keep what they have. Supervisor Labiosa asked, what is the one issue. Ms. Charette, it's overtime of 53 hours a week vs 40 hours a week. Thank you.

Mark Williams, EMS Staff member, He travels for his shift, loves the community, loves the county and wants to continue to serve. He has 25 years of service under EMT and 5 as a paramedic. He has seen firsthand the dedication and sacrifice these people make for their community. Overall, there is a staffing shortage, across the county, they are having a hard time with burnout, long hours and compensation being the top contributing factors. One issue, 40 hours a week, especially for Craig, there are only 5 providers, three paramedics and 2 EMTs, we are just going to be working overtime. That is inevitable with staffing shortages and important that the county have uninterrupted emergency services. Supervisor Labiosa asked what the number one issue was. Mr. Williams responded to the 40 hour week overtime issue.

Sherrif Craddock, wanted to remind the board that hooked on fishing is on May 9<sup>th</sup>, correction from the public agenda. Supervisor Spence asked what the number one issue is. Sherriff Craddock responded that his number one issue is deputies are working around the clock, every day, and the compensation needs to be competitive with surrounding counties. Supervisor Bailey inquired about the two deputies in training. Sherriff Craddock said the deputies will be ready in a year, that is the process for training. The board discussed the application process, number of staff for the Sheriff's office and where the department advertises. Sherriff Craddock responded that we don't have any application being reviewed now as they are advertising to Craig only. Sherrif Craddock suggested looking outside of Craig for advertising for applicants, if there were more staff they wouldn't have to be on call every night. Discussion will continue during the work session, he is concerned about losing deputies.

Sheriff Deputy Jeffery Bryant is asking the board to respond quickly to the recruitment and retention situation at the Sheriff's office. When asked what the number one issue is, Deputy Bryant responded, salary and benefits, we are just not competitive anymore.

Mr. Collins has been working on the overtime issue, on salary and benefits, and adjusting salaries throughout EMS and Sheriff. He is working on a compensation plan and adjusted the 53/40 hours overtime. He asked that they (EMS and Sheriff's department) fill vacancies and address bonuses/advertising/and salary options in which he has or will present to the board. Supervisor Labiosa asked about the retroactive pay for overtime for EMS and where originally the EMS/Fire 53/40 overtime rule came from. Mr. Collins confirmed from Jan 1<sup>st</sup> the payments for overtime for EMS will be released at the end of March and the idea came from Mr. Cady that

combined training of EMS/Fire could use the 53-overtime rule but that is not advantageous for the county. Supervisor Labiosa questioned whether that was sensical, asking employees to do more training and receive less pay. Supervisor Lipes would like a review of the salaries as in the past has overlooked the salaries of EMS and Sheriff departments. Discussions of starting pay/lower to higher salaries on a 40 hour week.

Supervisor Spence closed Hear the Public as there were not other requests.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**R26-20**

### **RESOLUTION APPROVING TIRE AMNESTY DAY AT THE TRANSFER STATION ON APRIL 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026 AND MAY 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2026**

**WHEREAS**, the County of Craig receives Litter Grant funds each year from the Department of Environmental Quality, and

**WHEREAS**, one of the suggested and approved uses of the grant funds is a tire amnesty program, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors voted to hold the county's first Tire Amnesty Day in 2010 with positive response from county citizens, and

**WHEREAS**, the event is held at the Craig County Transfer Station, from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm on Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026 and May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026 open to Craig County residents only, no businesses, which will require a signed affidavit stating that the tires originated in Craig County and limited to 10 tires per household for passenger car tires, lawn mower tires, and small truck tires only, now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Craig County Board of Supervisors that Tire Amnesty Day will be held at the Craig County Transfer Station on Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026 and May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

The Board of Supervisors of Craig County, in a regular meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of March 2026 adopted this resolution.

Mr. Spence asked for a motion on R26-20. Mr. Bailey was motioned, seconded by Mr. Labiosa. Voting was as follows: Mr. Labiosa, yes, Mr. Lipes, yes, Mr. Bailey, yes, Mr. Spence, yes.

**RESOLUTION FOR TEMPORARY CLOSURE  
OF A PORTION OF BARBOUR’S CREEK  
IN CRAIG COUNTY, VIRGINIA  
FOR HOOKED ON FISHING EVENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Dare Program, Department of Game and Inland Fishery along with the Forest Service will be hosting a Hooked on Fishing Day that will be held on Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup> , 2026, and

**WHEREAS**, the portion of Barbour’s Creek located on State Route 617 that is stocked by the Department of Game and Inland Fishery will be closed to anyone over the age of 15 years old;

**WHEREAS**, to expedite this Resolution this portion of Barbour’s Creek will be closed from 5:00 p.m. on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026 (Friday) until ½ hour after sunset on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026 (Saturday).

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Craig County Board of Supervisors hereby agrees to close the portion of Barbour’s Creek for this special event “Craig County Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs Day.” Adopted on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Mr. Spence asked for a motion on R26-21. Mr. Lipes was motioned, seconded by Mr. Bailey. Voting was as follows: Mr. Labiosa, yes, Mr. Lipes, yes, Mr. Bailey, yes, Mr. Spence, yes.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE  
ROANOKE VALLEY-ALLEGHANY REGIONAL  
COMMISSION  
ADOPTING THE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN 2025  
UPDATE**

**WHEREAS** the Commission recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within the region; and

**WHEREAS** the Commission has prepared a multi-hazard mitigation plan, hereby known as the Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025 Update in accordance with federal laws, including the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency

Assistance Act, as amended; the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended; and the National Dam Safety Program Act, as amended; and

**WHEREAS** the Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025 Update identifies mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property in the region from the impacts of future hazards and disasters; and

**WHEREAS** adoption by the Craig County Board of Supervisors demonstrates its commitment to hazard mitigation and achieving the goals outlined in the (title and date of mitigation plan).

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ROANOKE VALLEY-ALLEGHANY REGIONAL COMMISSION THAT:**

Section 1. In accordance with (local rule for adopting resolutions), the Craig County Board of Supervisors adopts the Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025. While content related to Craig County Board of Supervisors may require revisions to meet the plan approval requirements, changes occurring after adoption will not require Craig County Board of Supervisors to re-adopt any further iterations of the plan. Subsequent plan updates following the approval period for this plan will require separate adoption resolutions.

ADOPTED by a vote of 4 in favor and 0 against, and 1 Absent, this 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2026.

Mr. Spence asked for a motion on R26-22. Mr. Labiosa was motioned, seconded by Mr. Lipes. Voting was as follows: Mr. Labiosa, yes, Mr. Lipes, yes, Mr. Bailey, yes, Mr. Spence, yes.

**R26-23**

**A RESOLUTION AMENDING  
THE FISCAL YEAR  
2025-2026 BUDGET**

**WHEREAS**, the Craig County Board of Supervisors (CCBoS) adopted the 2025-2026 Budget on May 1, 2025 for planning purposes, and

**WHEREAS**, the Sanitation and Waste Department (Craig Co Landfill) the Compactor at the Landfill has had to have some major repairs in the last few months, the cost for those repairs has been \$35,000, these repairs were not budgeted for in the current fiscal year, and

**WHEREAS**, It is necessary that the amount of \$35,000 be used from the county fund balance for these needed repairs, and

**WHEREAS**, the Craig County Emergency Services has receive a grant gift from the Community Foundation from an individual in the amount of \$3,810, it was asked that this funding be designated to CCEMS for the purchase of two Video Laryngoscopes for the CCEMS staff, and

**WHEREAS**, the Craig County Department of Social Services has received additional funding from the Commonwealth of Virginia, in the amount of \$305 for the Drive to Thrive program for the youth behind the wheel program expenses, now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Supervisors of Craig County that the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget is hereby amended as follows:

**REVENUE**

**Local**

3-100-041999-0000	Fund Balance	35,000
3-100-016040-0001	Donations Local	3,810

**Commonwealth of Virginia**

3-201-024060-0004	Laser DSS	<u>305</u>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$39,115</b>

**EXPENSES**

**Sanitation and Waste**

4-100-042600-3310	equipment repairs	35,000
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**CC Emergency Services**

4-100-032410-6004	Emerg serv equipment	3,810
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**Social Services**

4-201-053110-0877	drive to thrive	<u>305</u>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 39,115</b>

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the sum of **\$39,115** be appropriated as described above. The Board of Supervisors of Craig County, in a regular meeting on the 5th day of March 2026 adopted this resolution.

Mr. Spence asked for a motion on R26-23. Mr. Bailey was motioned, seconded by Mr. Lipes. Voting was as follows: Mr. Labiosa, yes, Mr. Lipes, yes, Mr. Bailey, yes, Mr. Spence, yes.

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE VIRGINIA REFERENDUM ON APRIL 21, 2026, ON THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT THAT WOULD GRANT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TEMPORARY AUTHORITY TO REDRAW THE STATE'S CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS MID-DECADE**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors of Craig County holds that the integrity of the electoral process is the cornerstone of a representative democracy and that "voters should choose their politicians, rather than politicians choosing their voters"; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2020, Virginia voters overwhelmingly amended the Constitution of Virginia to establish a bipartisan Redistricting Committee, intending to end the practice of partisan gerrymandering and ensure that district lines remain stable for a full decade following the decennial census; and

**WHEREAS**, the General Assembly is currently seeking to bypass these established protections through a proposed constitutional amendment to be voted on in a Special Election on April 21, 2026, which would grant the legislature temporary authority to redraw congressional maps mid-decade; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board opposes the proposed "10-1" Congressional Map, which seeks to engineer a predetermined partisan outcome of ten Democratic seats and one Republican seat, representing a blatant return to the "extreme partisan gerrymandering" that Virginia voters explicitly rejected in 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed redistricting maps threaten the protection of rural interests by diluting the influence of Virginia's agricultural and rural communities, often "packing" rural voters or attaching them to distant urban centers with vastly different economic and infrastructure needs; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board expresses grave concern regarding the procedural integrity of this amendment, noting that the Tazewell County Circuit Court on January 27, 2026, ruled that the General Assembly's actions to be "void *ab initio*" and a "blatant abuse of power" for violating internal procedural rules and failing to provide the constitutionally required public notice; and

**WHEREAS**, rushing a constitutional change through a low-turnout special election-at a taxpayer cost of approximately \$5 million-during an ongoing legal challenge creates unnecessary confusion and erodes public trust in the

stability of our laws.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Supervisors of Craig County:

1. Hereby expresses its unambiguous opposition to the proposed constitutional amendment and the April 21, 2026, special election; and
2. Calls upon the Virginia Supreme Court and the General Assembly to uphold the procedural integrity of the Constitution and protect the independent redistricting process from partisan interference.

The Clerk shall provide copies of this resolution to each member of the Virginia House of Delegates and Senate that represents the County of Craig, and to United States Congressmen that represent the County of Craig.

Date of Adoption: MARCH 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026

<u>Recorded Roll Call Votes:</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Jesse Spence:	Yes	_____
Keith Dunbar:	Absent	_____
Carl Bailey:	Yes	_____
Jordan Labiosa:	Yes	_____
Brian Lipes:	Yes	_____

Mr. Spence asked for a motion on R26-24. Mr. Labiosa was motioned, seconded by Mr. Bailey. Voting was as follows: Mr. Labiosa, yes, Mr. Lipes, yes, Mr. Bailey, yes, Mr. Spence, yes.

## **MOTION FOR COMPENSATION STUDY**

Mr. Collins briefed the board regarding the need for a compensation study. In the budget he mentioned the 2% increase and a 2% COLA for June 2026 and 2027, part of the budgeting package. The comp board is looking to add new sheriffs' positions in the future and to fill all positions open, if possible, in the county and review compensation. Recommendation: employ the Virginia Tech Compensation Study team to review compensation packages for the County of Craig, which includes all county employees. Requests throughout departments for new parttime and full-time employees and promotions totaled \$486,290.00 which is not included in the budget. Clinton Forge, Vinton, just completed their and are very pleased.

Supervisor Labiosa commented that the compensation study and COLA is good however wants to suggest that they look at alternatives besides pay raises and that respectively understand burnout. He would like to see multifaceted options besides raises and more low-cost fringe benefits to the gym/meditation apps but show appreciation and suggested looking at working advantage that is free and has discount tickets for travel and products.

Mr. Collins suggested the study for reference that the county is in line with pay and benefits. EMS and Sheriff is separate issues.

Mr. Lipps, suggested that Dr. Stephanie Davies and was impressed with her work with the Town of Vinton and Clifton Forge who Mr. Lipps spoke with and they were very pleased with the study and felt the study was well worth it and highly recommended addition to the recommendations. For EMS and Sherriff, need to be addressed now and have been getting by with what they have, thank you.

Mr. Spence asked for a motion on Viginia Tech Compensation Study. Mr. Bailey was motioned, seconded by Mr. Spence. Voting was as follows: Mr. Labiosa, yes, Mr. Lipes, no, Mr. Bailey, yes, Mr. Spence, yes.

## **MOTION FOR COMPACTOR FOR TRANSFER STATION**

Mr. Collins reviewed with the board the recent costs for repairs on the main transfer station compactor vs purchasing a new compactor and adding an additional smaller compactor for when the initial repairs are on the compactor which can be a full to half day the compactor cannot be in use. He also reported to the board that there has been no maintenance on the computer, which is why the compactor with the life span of 25 years at 16 is breaking down. A maintenance agreement would cost the county \$200.00 dollars per year (twice a year for the first year and once a year after). They have reviewed the 42-station compactor is being repaired but the main station is needed.

Mr. Spence asked for a motion to purchase a new compactor for the Main Transfer Station, \$123,750.00. Mr. Labiosa made a motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Bailey to approve motion. Voting was as follows: Mr. Labiosa, yes, Mr. Lipes, yes, Mr. Bailey, yes, Mr. Spence, yes.

## **INFORMATION**

- A. Treasurer's Report
- B. Communication Upgrades Coming with Funding

## **REPORTS AND INQUIRIES**

No reports of inquiries.

## **BUDGET REVIEW WORK SESSION**

Mr. Collins reviewed the budget with the board, reviewed advertising for the budget and Supervisor Labiosa asked for the budget meeting to be changed from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> of April at 5:30.

Discussion on EMS vs Carillion base salary and recruiting vs longevity pay.

Discussion with the Sheriff department and surrounding competitors in Roanoke and Montgomery vs similar population counties (not losing any deputies to Bath or Highland Counties) and compensation differences/workload with those surrounding counties. Population vs employees, one tenth of the force missing in Roanoke means Craig County doesn't have anyone working for the Sheriff's department.

Discussion on the compensation study and extra funds that might be available.

Discussion with department heads about being competitive with recruitment and compensation being made over a three-year period and in the meantime, there are opportunities.

Discussion on using Volunteer EMS for additional runs and days other than the weekends only, and options for more.

Supervisor Spence, since there is no motion, the board will delay discussion to the 19<sup>th</sup> continued meeting at the work session.

## **CONTINUE MEETING ON MARCH 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

Since there is not motion to adjourn, Mr. Spence will continue the meeting at 8:55 pm to March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 5:30 pm the meeting

\_\_\_\_\_, CHAIRMAN  
CRAIG COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

\_\_\_\_\_, CLERK  
CRAIG COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISOR

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