

A Work Session of the Westmoreland County Board of Supervisors was held Monday, March 24, 2025, in the public meeting room of the George D. English, Sr. Memorial Building, located at 111 Polk Street, Montross, Virginia. Those members present were Darryl E. Fisher, W. W. Hynson, Jeffrey McCormack, Mathew Ingram, and Timothy J. Trivett. Also present, Richard Stuart, County Attorney, Jim Taylor, County Administrator, and Donna Cogswell, Assistant County Administrator.

Chairman Fisher asked the public to keep the Bozeman family in their thoughts and prayers. They had a tragic accident that occurred last week, claiming the life of a young ambulance driver, Jacob Bozeman. Jacob's father, Travis Bozeman, works for Westmoreland County in the Sheriff's Office and Emergency Services.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m.

2. CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Trivett asked to amend the agenda to remove item 4B. Presentation on the Westmoreland County Public Schools Budget. The Superintendent was unable to attend and sends her regrets.

With no further discussion and upon motion by Mr. McCormack, second by Mr. Hynson and carried unanimously, the Board approved the agenda with the noted amendment.

3. COMMENT PERIOD

A. Chairman and Board Member Comments

The Chairman made a statement regarding the allegations toward Northern Neck Regional Jail. He stated that the county has been in partnership with Northern Neck Regional Jail for 30 years, and during that time, the operation has endured a lot of scrutiny. He noted that the jail is in great shape, and it is a shame that people can say things and make accusations that are not true and the press will pick it up and

make it seem to be true. The Chairman invited the public and the other Board members to come and visit the jail and have a tour. Chairman Fisher stated that he is the longest-tenured member on the jail board and has served for over 30 years, and when someone attacks your integrity, it becomes personal. He noted that if he let things happen that they are being accused of, that would make him a horrible individual.

B. County Administrator Comments

Mr. Taylor went over some topics and gave some updates from the last meeting.

- i. Mr. Taylor thanked the Chairman for his leadership on the jail board. He also serves on the Board, as does Sheriff Balderson. He was able to tour the facility and was impressed.
- ii. He appreciated the Board's flexibility for the early start time for this meeting and appreciated the Planning Commission's flexibility to have to move their meeting location to accommodate the earlier start time of Board. He noted that there is a Zoom link on the county's website that will take them to the Planning Commission meeting.
- iii. He provided an update that the broken down single wide trailer that had fallen off of the trailer and ended up on Erica Road has been removed. He thanked the Sheriff's Office and a local contractor for their quick work in getting that moved.
- iv. The County is working with VDOT to utilize grant money to hire a VDOT third party to pick up trash on the primary and secondary roads. There will be more updates in the future as everything finalizes.
- v. The County is still finalizing the Memorandum of Understanding with the Town of Montross regarding trash pickup and disposal. Mr. Taylor hopes to have the MOU completed this week.

- vi. The solar policy committee met on March 11, 2025, and is scheduling another meeting to include more people and develop a draft policy to present to the Board.
- vii. The audit has not been finalized yet and is still pending. We continue to be responsive with any requested documents. He noted that one of the other surrounding counties' audits has also still not been completed.
- viii. Brickwork is wrapping up at the museum and there is work at the historic courthouse as well that will be done. The next step is to find a painter to paint the exterior trim of both historic buildings and replace the windows of the museum.
- ix. March 29, 2025, is opening day for Westmoreland County Little League. The Board is

Invited to participate in the opening ceremony scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on field D.

4. PRESENTATIONS

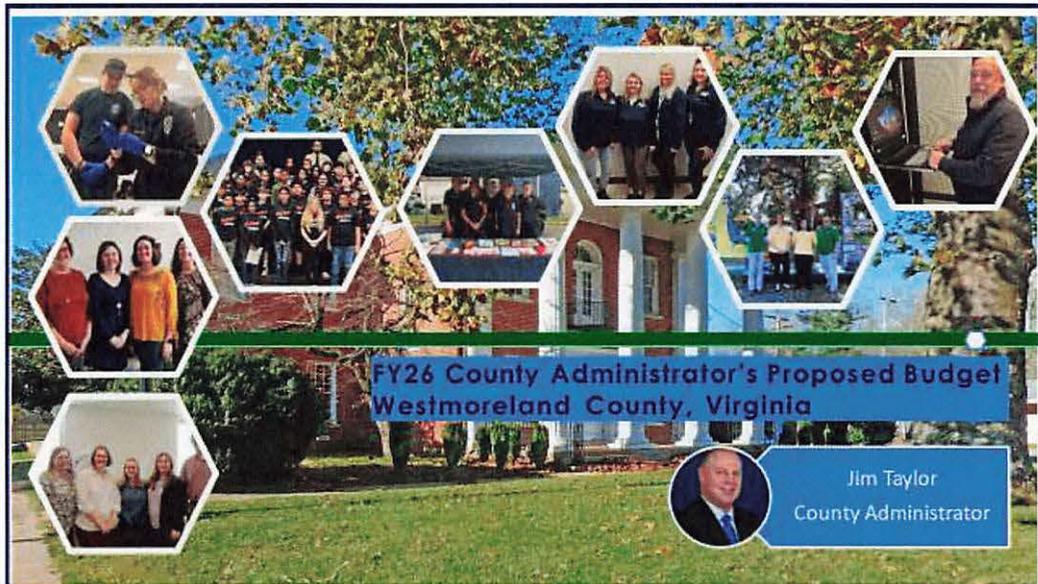
A. County Administrator's Proposed Budget FY25-26, Jim Taylor, County Administrator

Mr. Taylor gave a presentation on the proposed budget for the fiscal year 2025-2026. Mr. Taylor went through the presentation slide by slide. He noted that there are several hardworking and dedicated employees that have helped and made it possible, and he acknowledged Donna Cogswell, Karen Foxwell and Garhett Adams. He also thank Commissioner Will Hoover and Treasurer Sue Jones for their hard work on the budget. He then mentioned the regional partners such as Northern Neck Regional Jail, Rappahannock Regional Library and Regional Community Services Board. He went through budget goals and highlighted that there will be no tax increase for the next fiscal year. He noted that last year they had a real estate tax increase and the goal was not to have another increase going into planning for the budget. He showed a graph of the regional real estate tax rates and that

Westmoreland and King George counties have the same rate at .68. Mr. Taylor stated that they are projecting an increase in revenues of \$750,000 due to the increase in real estate revenues from construction. Personal property values are decreasing next year, however, revenues are up due to new vehicles. We are projecting decline in farm machinery and also machinery and tools, due to the loss of one of the major businesses. The general fund has had a gradual increase over five years, and next year's budget will have a \$2.5 million dollar increase over the current fiscal year. Mr. Taylor went over the significant changes to the budget of revenues and expenditures, an investment income increase of \$147,925, an estimated \$2 million dollar carryover from unused expenditures, (this will go toward a new website, the salary adjustment, multiplier increase for first responders, county covering the health insurance increase, and high school construction debt service). The salary adjustments would be hard to cover without the trash expenditure reduction of about \$1.2 million. Mr. Taylor then went over school funding, stating the local share for the school has increased by 3%. The General Assembly draft numbers are slightly higher than the Governors but we are have included the higher number. Going forward the County will request the schools capital projects to be planned separately. He then showed a comparison of state and local funding and the county's share represents 46% of the total. The Sheriff's Office and Emergency Medical Services are fully funded. Mr. Taylor discussed the proposed new positions such as Director of Economic Development, Code Compliance Officer, Plant

Operator, and part-time seasonal grounds keeper. He stated that all of the current community partners will receive at least level funding and some will be increased slightly. He mentioned the goal is to get the Boys and Girls Club up and running before the summer. Mr. Taylor then gave a breakdown of how the taxes are spent -

education and public safety making up 60 %. He then reviewed a breakdown of the expenditures by department, what their budget was last year, what was requested and the county administrators' recommendations. He noted that most recommendations for each department would be for what they requested. Again, the significant reductions in trash expenditures are helping balance budget needs for the next fiscal year. Mr. Taylor stated that the information and presentation would be posted on the website. He then reviewed the budget, which is \$88 million - including the general fund, water and sewer fund, school funds, and DSS. Mr. Taylor presented a list of the capital improvement requests and stated that the County is working with Davenport to plan for capital projects and long-term needs. The capital improvement plan will be put to the side as they present the operating budget. Administration will be working with Davenport to give recommendations on how to fund and timeline for the capital improvement projects. Once a plan has materialized it will go before the Planning Commission and then Board for review and action.



Introduction

This FY26 proposed budget reflects our commitment to fiscal responsibility while maintaining high quality services to our residents.

- Tradition of sound financial practices and controlled spending
 - Lean departments that only request what they need
 - Hard-working and dedicated staff work above and beyond
 - Strong regional partnerships that save money for our taxpayers
 - The budget represents the people's money, entrusted to us by the citizens
 - We are committed to being good stewards of these resources
-

FY26 Budget Goals

This FY26 proposed budget strives to meet our collective goals:

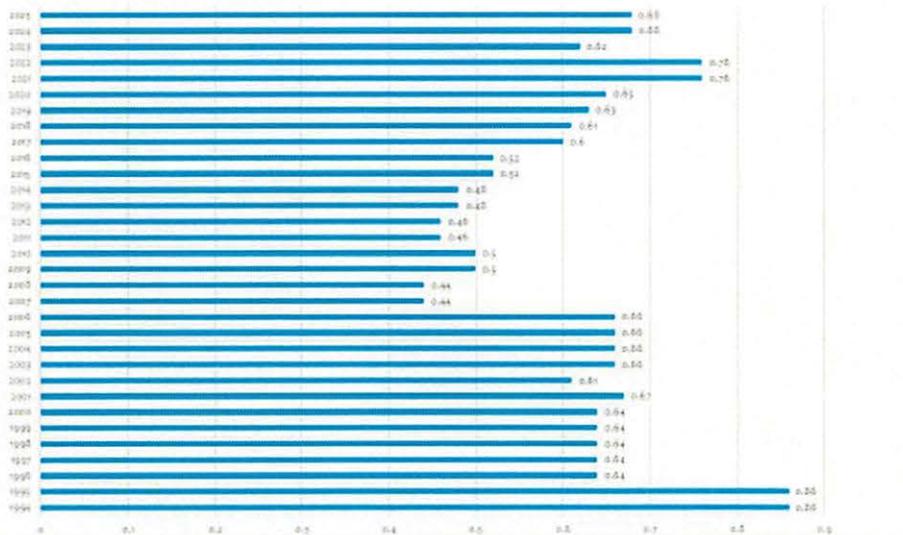
- Tax rate stability
 - Continued investment in our priorities
 - Education of our youth
 - Public Safety
 - Human Services
 - Workforce
 - Buildings and Grounds
 - Support for our Community partners
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No Tax Rate Increase

- Proposed Real Estate Tax Rate remains \$0.68 per \$100 assessed value
- Other tax rates remain the same

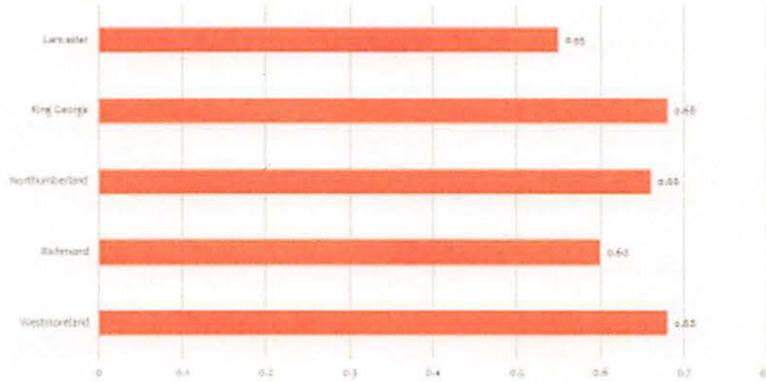


Historical Tax Rate-Real Estate



Regional Real Estate Tax Rates

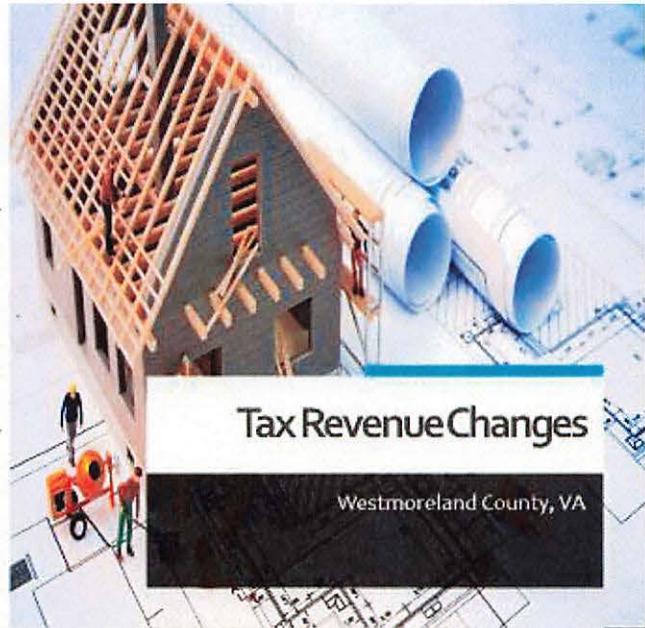
Northern Neck, VA



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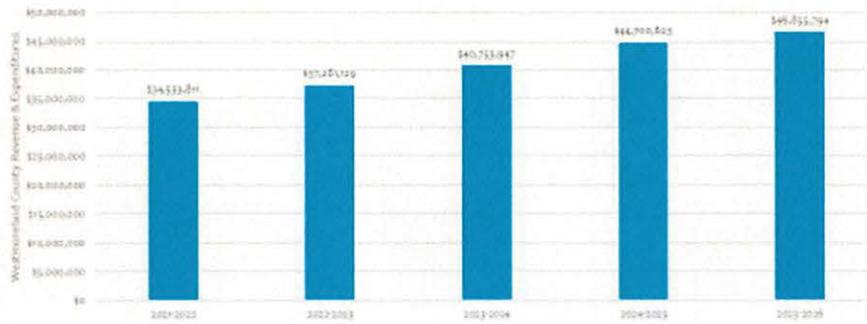
Westmoreland Taxes	FY24-25	FY25-26	\$ Change	% Change
Personal Property	\$6,247,769	\$6,585,453	\$337,684	5%
Mobile Homes	\$36,803	\$38,506	\$1,703	5%
Farm Machinery	\$121,557	\$107,410	(\$14,146)	-12%
Machinery & Tools	\$125,355	\$65,207	(\$60,148)	-48%
Merchant's Capital	\$88,390	\$94,357	\$5,968	7%
Real Estate	\$19,918,115	\$20,397,247	\$479,132	2%
Public Utilities	\$475,426	\$475,426	\$0	0%
Subtotal	\$27,013,414	\$27,763,607	\$750,193	



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Year-Over-Year Changes

General Fund Total Budget



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Significant Changes

FY 2025-2026

Revenues

- \$0.68 Tax Rate (No Increase)
- Total Tax revenue increase, \$750,193
- Investment income increase \$147,925
- Estimated \$2,000,000 in carryover unused expenditures to be returned to County FY25-26
- Land sale to be finalized, \$980,000 (assigned to Judicial Center HVAC)

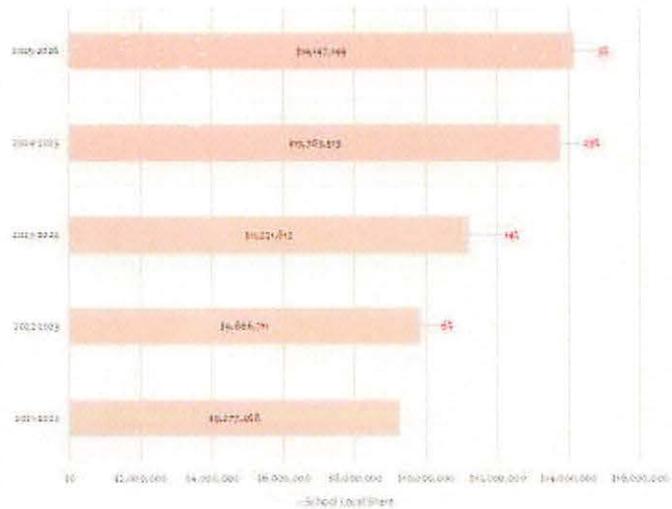
Expenditures

- New website
- Salary market adjustment, \$1,164,680
- Hazardous duty multiplier increase, \$100,567
- Salary increase of 3% (Planned)
- Health Insurance increase, \$190,716
- High school debt service, \$946,922
- Children's Services Act (CSA) Increase, \$202,683
- Trash expenditure reduction, **(\$1,193,891)**
- Public Safety Increase for Sheriff, Fire, and EMS
- Continued funding for community partners

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School Funding

- Local share for Westmoreland County Public Schools has increased by \$363,636, **+3%**
- We are using the General Assembly draft numbers, which are slightly higher than the Governor's proposal
- Capital projects to be planned separately



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Public Safety

- Sheriff's Office and Emergency Medical Services fully funded
- Slight increase for Volunteer Fire Stations
- Increased funding for School Resource Officers and Mobile Integrated Health
- Equipment upgrades, ambulance and vehicles as part of capital improvement program (TBD)



Department	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
EMS	\$3,516,522	\$3,510,667	\$4,054,547	\$4,525,296	\$4,861,026
% Change		-0.2%	+15%	+12.5%	8.6%

Department	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
Sheriff	\$3,094,184	\$3,250,543	\$3,273,336	\$3,513,779	\$3,786,806
% Change		+5%	+1%	+7%	8%

Department	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
Westmoreland VFD	\$113,609	\$119,290	\$122,368	\$197,868	200,000
Substation	\$36,805	\$39,646	\$61,436	\$61,436	\$61,436
Cople VFD	\$15,809	\$19,290	\$22,368	\$197,868	200,000
Substation	\$36,805	\$39,646	\$61,436	\$61,436	\$61,436
Oak Grove VFD	\$113,609	\$119,290	\$122,368	\$197,868	200,000
Colonial Beach VFD	\$113,609	\$119,290	\$122,368	\$197,868	200,000
Testing/Equip/Softwre	\$74,900	\$79,200	\$75,000	\$99,250	\$99,250
Subtotal	\$642,946	\$675,652	\$693,244	\$1,013,579	\$1,022,102
% Change		+5.1%	+2.6%	+16.2%	0.8%

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Workforce

Significant investments to assist in recruitment and retention of staff

- Salary Increase 3%
- Targeted market salary adjustments (recommend effective date May 1, 2025 with adoption of budget)
- Hazardous duty multiplier increase for law enforcement and EMS (regional competitiveness)
- Employee health insurance rates remain the same



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Proposed New Positions

- Director of Economic Development (budgeted in current year)
- Code Compliance Officer/Erosion & Sediment Inspector – Land Use
- Plant Operator (floater)
- Seasonal Groundskeepers - Maintenance



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Human Services and Community Partnerships

- Social Services fully funded
- Children's Services Act (CSA) increase
- Continued investment in Mobile Integrated Health
- Increased funding for Middle Peninsula Northern Neck Community Services Board (behavioral health)
- Increased funding for Central Rappahannock Regional Library
- Continued or increased funding for all current community partners
- New funding for Boys and Girls Club



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Community Partners

FY2025-2026

- Rappahannock Office on Youth
- Legal Aid Works
- The Haven
- Northern Neck Free Health Clinic
- Colonial Beach Humane Society
- Bay Aging
- Westmoreland YMCA
- Westmoreland Little League
- Rappahannock Community College
- Colonial Beach Chamber of Commerce
- Healthy Harvest
- Guadalupe Free Clinic
- Ledwith Lewis Free Clinic
- Boys & Girls Club
- Consortium Workforce Development
- Middle Peninsula Northern Neck Community Services Board
- Rappahannock Regional Library
- Westmoreland Museum/Library

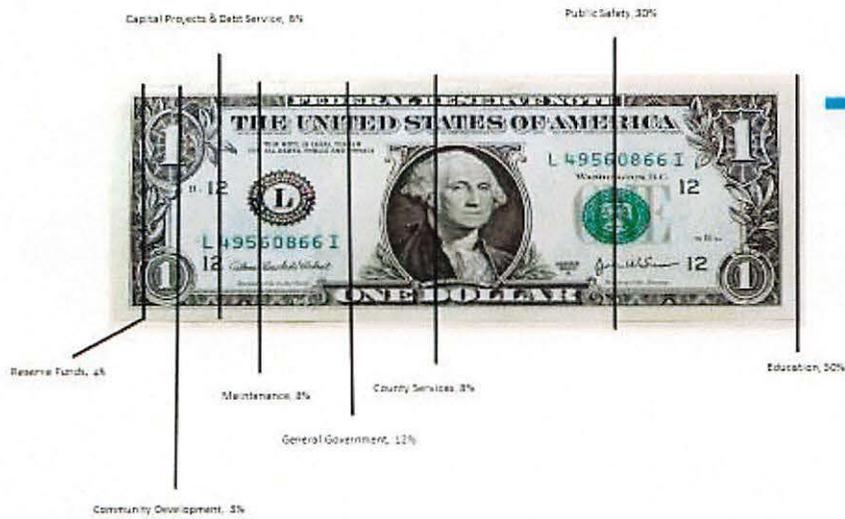
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Where Are My Taxes Going?

Westmoreland County, VA

Department	FY2025-2026	% of Total
Education	\$14,147,149	30%
Public Safety	\$14,197,385	30%
General Government	\$5,588,473	12%
Maintenance	\$3,696,393	8%
County Services	\$3,636,033	8%
Capital Projects & Debt Service	\$2,680,306	6%
Reserve Funds	\$1,707,332	4%
Community Development	\$1,202,719	3%
Total	\$46,855,794	100%

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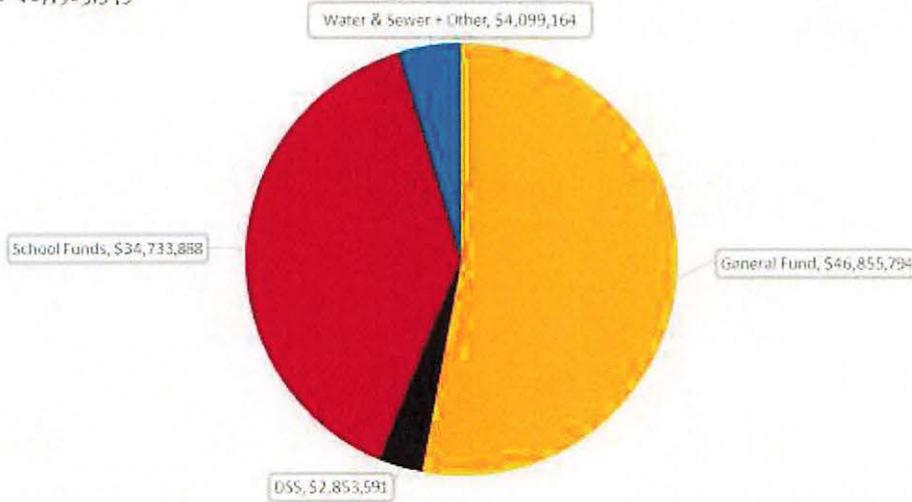
Expenditures By Department

FY2025-2026

Department	FY2025-2026			County Admin Recommendation	Department	FY2025-2026			County Admin Recommendation
	FY2024-2025	Requested	Year-Over-Year Difference			FY2024-2025	Requested	Year-Over-Year Difference	
Board of Supervisors	\$125,353	\$121,563	\$3,790	\$121,563	Street Lights	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$0	\$13,000
County Administration	\$324,199	\$675,700	-\$351,501	\$675,700	Refuse Collection/Waste	\$3,735,400	\$1,791,373	(\$1,944,027)	\$2,161,373
Legal Services	\$121,000	\$121,000	\$0	\$121,000	General Properties	\$1,495,195	\$1,534,578	-\$39,383	\$1,534,578
Independent Auditor	\$79,300	\$79,300	\$0	\$79,300	County Health Department	\$184,755	\$195,993	-\$11,238	\$195,993
Commissioner of Revenue	\$503,814	\$321,553	\$182,261	\$321,553	Mental Health Services	\$97,259	\$107,257	-\$10,000	\$107,257
Assessor	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$0	\$40,000	Children's Services Act	\$1,759,331	\$1,334,718	\$424,613	\$1,334,718
Treasurer	\$461,797	\$514,354	-\$52,557	\$514,354	Community Colleges	\$12,098	\$12,098	\$0	\$12,098
Accounting/Utilities	\$599,570	\$581,920	\$17,650	\$581,920	Recreational Complex	\$19,130	\$19,261	-\$131	\$19,261
Data Processing	\$655,186	\$86,678	\$568,508	\$86,678	Westmoreland Museum	\$40,000	\$50,000	-\$10,000	\$50,000
Information Technology	\$435,933	\$212,335	\$223,598	\$212,335	Rappahannock Regional Library	\$548,439	\$550,536	-\$2,097	\$550,536
Risk Management/Insurance	\$553,550	\$589,988	-\$36,438	\$589,988	Planning	\$505,905	\$543,005	-\$37,100	\$543,005
Dues For Local Government	\$5,450	\$5,450	\$0	\$5,450	Soil & Water Conservation	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$0	\$16,000
Economic Development	\$166,151	\$168,646	-\$2,494	\$168,646	VPI Extension	\$68,694	\$70,851	-\$2,157	\$70,851
Electoral Board & Officials	\$265,450	\$267,724	-\$2,274	\$267,724	Non-Departmental	\$210,703	\$274,301	-\$63,598	\$274,301
Circuit Court	\$1,001,685	\$1,005,290	-\$3,605	\$1,005,290	Transfers	\$14,570,288	\$14,951,777	-\$381,489	\$14,951,777
Commonwealth Attorney	\$696,448	\$769,635	-\$73,187	\$769,635	Contingency Funds	\$39,000	\$39,000	\$0	\$39,000
Sheriff-LE	\$5,007,872	\$5,281,156	-\$273,284	\$5,281,156	Salary Market Adjustment	\$0	\$1,164,680	-\$1,164,680	\$1,164,680
Volunteer Fire Departments	\$1,156,355	\$1,159,484	-\$3,129	\$1,159,484	Undesignated Reserve	\$0	\$41,852	-\$41,852	\$41,852
Westmoreland EMS	\$5,104,686	\$5,592,116	-\$487,430	\$5,592,116	Debt Service	\$1,733,374	\$1,680,296	\$53,078	\$1,680,296
Court Services	\$234,478	\$228,670	\$5,808	\$228,670					
Inspections	\$368,307	\$368,813	-\$506	\$368,813					
Animal Shelter	\$356,687	\$18,111	\$338,576	\$18,111					
					Total	\$41,711,325	\$46,855,794	-\$5,144,469	\$46,855,794

All Funds Budget

All Funds - \$87,903,545



Capital Improvement Requests

Westmoreland County, VA

School:

- WHS – Lighting Behind Bleachers, \$50,000
- Middle School – Rekeying, \$200,000
- WD – Paving, \$150,000
- Middle School – Paving, \$350,000
- WD – Bathroom Renovations, \$100,000
- Cople – Gymnasium, \$3,000,000
- Cople – Rekeying Interior Doors, \$200,000
- WHS – Paint Arrow For Traffic Direction, \$50,000

County:

- Social Services - building, \$25,000,000
- Sheriff - vehicles, \$402,652
- Park Improvements \$200,000
- Economic Development/Tourism, \$100,000
- Public Works and Public Utilities – building, equipment - TBD

Emergency Services:

- EMS Department – ambulances, cardiac monitors, stations, \$5,528,000
- Emergency Management – mobile command unit, \$190,000
- Radio system, \$6,250,000

Glebe Harbor Cabin Point:

- Glebe Harbor Cabin Point – dredging, clubhouse improvements, boat ramp, \$1,385,163

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After Mr. Taylor's presentation, he thanked the Board for the opportunity to present the proposed budget. He stated that the budget positions the county for sustainable growth and continued prosperity and this is accomplished by investing strategically

in economic development, maintaining their commitment to education and public safety and enhancing the service delivery. He noted that we are building a strong foundation for the community's future. Mr. Taylor called up the Budget Manager, Garhett Adams, to discuss the next steps, including public input and necessary actions.

Mr. Adams stated that the next steps are to have the budget available on the website tomorrow morning for people to view. He then stated that they would ask for a motion to advertise the proposed tax rate of .68 with no change. The County is required to advertise the proposed budget in the paper prior to a public hearing. The advertisement state that the public hearing on the proposed budget would be April 14, 2025. Two weeks later on April 28, 2025 the Board can adopt the budget as proposed. Mr. Adams stated that the Finance Department is looking for a motion to advertise the tax rates below.



Motion to Advertise

- The Finance Department would like to make a motion to advertise the following Tax Rates **(NO CHANGE)**.

FY 2025-2026 Proposed		FY 2025-2026 Proposed		Combined	
*School District Tax Rates		General Government Tax Rates		FY 2025-2026 Tax Rates	
Personal Property	1.60	Personal Property	2.15	Personal Property	3.75
Mobile Homes	.46	Mobile Homes	.22	Mobile Homes	.68
Farm Machinery	1.16	Farm Machinery	.20	Farm Machinery	1.36
Machinery & Tools	2.00	Machinery & Tools	.00	Machinery & Tools	2.00
Merchant's Capital	.75	Merchant's Capital	.24	Merchant's Capital	.99
Real Estate	.16	Real Estate	.42	Real Estate	.58
Public Utilities	.16	Public Utilities	.22	Public Utilities	.38

FY 2024-2025 Tax Rates & User Fee		FY 2025-2026 Proposed Tax Rates & User Fee	
Placid Bay Sanitary District		Placid Bay Sanitary District	
Real Estate	.06	Real Estate	.06
Personal Property	0.001	Personal Property	0.001
Road Improvement User Fee Per Lot	144.00	Road Improvement User Fee Per Lot	144.00

FY 2024-2025 Tax Rates & User Fee		FY 2025-2026 Proposed Tax Rates & User Fee	
Globe Harbor Cabin Point Sanitary District		Globe Harbor Cabin Point Sanitary District	
Recreational User Fee Per Lot	243.00	Recreational User Fee Per Lot	243.00



The Chairman asked if there were any questions from the Board members.

Mr. McCormack stated that all departments did a great job with carryover funds and that should be the goal every year. He asked about capital improvement requests, referring to the Social Services request of \$25 million for a new building and further asking the reasoning behind it.

Mr. Taylor stated that they requested a new building and they put all of the requests out there. They will work through a process to prioritize and bring back a recommendation.

Ms. Cogswell stated that they are growing out of their space and their first option was to ask for a new building. She noted that there are state funds available.

Chairman Fisher stated that another building across town was initially supposed to house Social Services. He noted that it is no secret that as the agency has grown the renovated space at the AT Johnson building is not large enough to house the department due to department growth. He continued that it may be an option for Social Services to expand at their current location. The Chairman stated that the

presentation was great and that you cannot put something out there soon enough to start making plans for it. Any capital project takes time especially in a rural community. It starts with an idea, then a plan to figure out how it can be paid and it takes time.

Mr. Taylor stated that the maintenance crew has been down at the current building fixing it up and once completed, they will invite the Board to take a tour.

Mr. Ingram thanked the staff for all of their hard work. He noted that it isn't an easy task every year. The no tax increase for this year shows where the county is financially and the money that was saved last year.

Mr. Trivett thanked everyone for all of the effort they put into the budget. He was happy to hear Mr. Taylor's recommendation to implement the salary study in May since the funding is there. He felt that the employees have done a great job and the team that was working on the salary study did a great job as well.

Mr. Hynson thanked Mr. Taylor for the presentation and said that it was very well thought out. He noted that next year is the 250th anniversary of the county and he was happy that Mr. Taylor started working on upgrades to the old courthouse and the museum. He noted that there will be a lot of tourists coming to the county and it is important to have the historical places in shape for visitors.

Chairman Fisher stated that they are at a point where they can entertain a motion to set the proposed rates to be advertised in motion. They would advertise on March 25, 2025, set the public hearing for April 14, 2025, and if all goes well, look at the adoption on April 28th, 2025.

Mr. McCormack stated that he didn't have an issue giving a motion, but he felt that they should hear the Sherriff's Office, Emergency Services, and Maintenance presentations as they may want to add something before it's advertised.

The Chairman stated that would be fine, they will hear the presentations first and then come back to take action.

B. Sheriff's Office Budget FY25-26, C. O. Balderson, Sheriff

Sheriff Balderson stated that he was putting the budget together and had met with Mr. Taylor and Ms. Cogswell on many occasions, and he knows now why it is his 18th budget presentation. He stated that his budget is the same that it has always been; he tried to be as conservative as he can but also look after the wellbeing of the residents and employees that are in high risk and danger. He noted that there isn't a huge increase other than under the vehicle line. There are three in the patrol division and one for animal control. As well as part-time and overtime monies. This year, he added some expenses to part-time monies because they are at a place where people from dispatch are going to retire. Sherriff Balderson reached out to them with the leave issue where leave accrues and they cannot get someone in, and they end up having to pay overtime. He requested \$35,000 to help keep overtime down and fill part-time positions with retirees. They already know how to do the job, automatic fit and know the system. He noted that it would be an asset to the county and to how he can fluctuate his budget. Vehicles are his highest budget line. He noted that the price where the Board assisted him with the five extra vehicles that were in the budget currently saved the county \$25,000. They originally approved the monies in FY23- FY24, but it paid for the vehicles in the current budget cycle. He suggested that going forward there will be a proposal coming from him including five vehicles a year due to the vehicles averaging 30,000 miles per year, so they only last five years. Once the miles and the day-to-day wear and tear accumulate, they will break at some point when you start putting money into vehicles, their shelf life are getting to the end, its best to just replace them. He stated that he was able to get away with requesting three vehicles, but there could be a time when he may need as many as six. It would give them an outlook on where that goes. Sherriff Balderson stated that they did ask for additional monies for part-time courts. The county has a trial coming up at the end of April, early May, it got continued. The first

trial was a week long, and the resources that were spent were \$5,976.34. That is one trial for one week, it doesn't include the juvenile court cases, general district court, and circuit court that had to be held. He noted that he tries to foresee things so he doesn't have to come before the Board and ask for additional funds.

Sherriff Balderson thanked the Board, Mr. Taylor and Ms. Cogswell for taking a look at the compensation study and the implementation of the study. He stated that it will benefit the county when taking on new employees and the retention of the current ones. He thanked the members of the committee for their hard work on the salaries.

The Chairman asked if any Board members had any questions.

Mr. McCormack asked if it is included in the budget when big events are scheduled in the county and additional police presence is needed. He also asked what the expenditure was on the Sheriff's Office for the event last weekend.

Sheriff Balderson answered no it is not in the budget and those expenditures are substantial. He stated he did not have an exact figure, but it wouldn't be any less than \$6,000 due to fuel and time. There is a lot that goes into preparing for a large event.

Mr. McCormack stated that Mr. Taylor shared a number with him being \$25,000-\$30,000 a weekend that is not budgeted.

Mr. Trivett asked Sheriff Balderson how many years he has been on the jail board and if he has seen anything that would lead him to believe anything the acquisitions would be accurate at Northern Neck Regional Jail.

Sherriff Balderson stated that he has been on the jail board for 18 years and he has not witnessed anything like the acquisitions. He noted that every organization has speed bumps, but he agreed with what Chairman Fisher stated. He noted that if anything was being done to any individual he would be the first jumping up and down wondering what is going on and how can it be rectified. They take regular tours of the building and they did not see anything. He stated that if there is an issue

that occurred and that is their belief, he can't change their beliefs but saying that the way the jail is being managed is horrible and there being civil rights violations are not true.

Mr. Ingram stated that he knows that Sheriff Balderson gets beat up whenever he asks about new vehicles and people don't understand why these vehicles are so important to the Sheriff's Office. He noted that the vehicles are constantly being used and the maintenance can be very costly once the mileage is higher. He felt that it should be budgeted every year while coming into the fleet. He thanked Sheriff Balderson for looking forward to this so there aren't any issues when an emergency call comes in and you can save someone's life.

Sheriff Balderson stated when they ask for new vehicles, they don't trade the old vehicle in due to not getting a lot of funds for them. They recycle so if a vehicle is coming off of the road on a full patrol may be used as a spare for civil process.

The Chairman echoed the other Board members' comments, and he thanked Mr. Trivett for his comments on the accusations at the Northern Neck Regional Jail. He stated that he didn't know how you could imagine having four sheriffs from four different localities that sit on that board that would condone the actions that they are being accused of, and there are also county administrators and board members as well that meet monthly and have access. He shows up unannounced and has never found anything out of the ordinary to that extent. If a mistake has been made, it has been addressed and brought to the board.

Chairman Fisher stated to the public that in the budgetary process, the staff has met with and have had conversations with the presenters and have come to an understanding of the budget figures at hand.

C. EMS Budget FY25-FY26, Blake Byrd, Chief of Emergency Services

Chief Byrd did a presentation on the budget, and he thanked Mr. Taylor and Ms. Cogswell for an easy and streamlined process. He noted that in July 2024, this Board

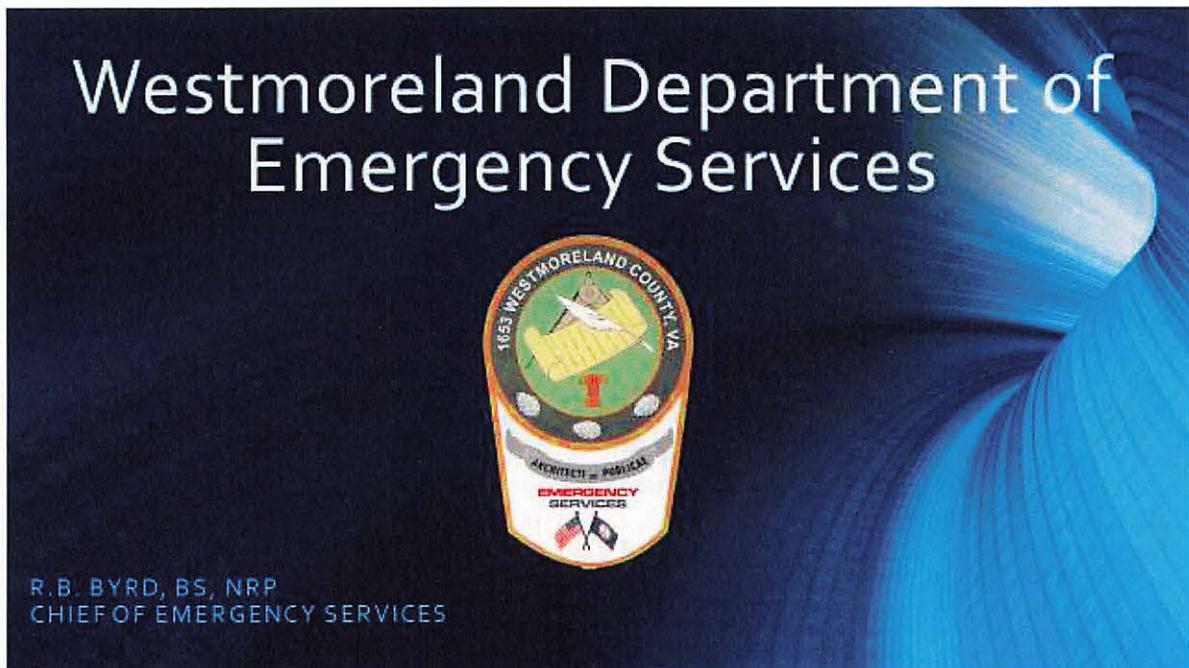
appointed him as Chief of Emergency Services. The ambulances and Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) are seen in the county rather regularly. Emergency Management, hazardous materials, and communications are behind the scenes. Chief Byrd also oversees the entirety of the public safety radio systems, as well as, the backbone and the hardware of the radio system. Also, anything to do with the towers throughout the county are overseen by emergency services. Chief Byrd then went through each slide regarding the accomplishments in the department. He noted that they are the first Mobile Healthcare program in the Northern Neck, and they have taught nationally to other rural departments that haven't established these programs. He stated that they have had a lot of accomplishments, and he thanked the Board and the staff for giving them what they needed over the years to make the system work for the citizens of this county. He then went over divisional tasks and stated that the biggest one is the delivery of pre-hospital emergency care. They issue over a thousand hours to education every year internally so the employees do not have to go outside so they can maintain a work- life balance. He then went over the Agency organizational chart. He stated that the Deputy Chief functions as the Chief of EMS. Deputy Chief Manthey oversees the EMS department, OSHA, and public communications. He noted that it is just him and Deputy Chief Manthey in the administration office. MIH is under EMS due to them having a waiver from the state office to provide that service. He stated that anyone of them can go from being behind a desk developing a budget to being a paramedic on the frontline on a medic unit. They can do many different functions and jobs depending on the task at hand. Chief Byrd went over the EMS Staff Composition and volume. He stated that over the years, they have maintained a steady volume, and it hasn't slowed down. Since COVID-19, it has gotten a lot busier and continues to climb. When he started with the department, they were running 1500 calls annually and it is up to almost 4,000. Chief Byrd went over revenue recovery over the years, and he stated that they have had an increase over the years, and they bring back a little over \$1

million dollars to the county. This year, they are projecting \$1.1 million. He then went over divisional tasks and stated that if you were to ask him if Mobile Integrated Healthcare would take off like it has, he would have said no. He noted that it is very hard to do mobile health from a medical unit. If someone calls, they take them to the hospital and have little to no follow up on what happens to them. MIH fills the gap to help the people when they come home and to make sure the department is meeting the measure. Mental health advocacy and mental health in the public safety spectrum have taken off. Liaison with the outside entities, so often multiple county agencies are dealing with the same individual that Westmoreland was oblivious to before implementing MIH. They have all been able to come together through the committees that Captain Bounds has implemented and help people that call 911 and not necessarily need an ambulance. They can allocate resources through MIH to maintain the system for what it is and get people what they need. He then talked about the divisional tasks of Emergency Management and stated that it is worst-case scenario planning for events such as hurricanes, tornados, and straight-lined winds. They are redrafting the emergency operation plan, which is customized to fit this locality. OSHA, county-wide radio systems functions under Emergency Management. Chief Byrd went over how a budget is stratified and stated that for several years, each department operated under separate budgets. When Chief Byrd met with Mr. Taylor and Ms. Cogswell they concluded that it was better served to be all one department out of one budget. This year's budget is higher compared to this year's due to it including all departments under one budget. 74% of the budget totals are salaries due to them being a large staff-wide department. 10% is EMS operating costs such as vehicle fuel, supplies, etc. 16% is emergency management, and it is high due to them inheriting the contracts to the radio system. He noted that the county saves a lot of money by maintaining the contract, and the contract company is at the ready if anything happens. He stated that the emergency services' requests are salary and wage adjustments. They pushed out the

replacement ambulance and radio upgrade/replacement to a capital improvement plan after talking with Mr. Taylor and planning with Davenport. Chief Byrd was thankful when he watched the board meeting where it was discussed and how much support they received. People are the most valuable asset and they have been able to put together a team of extraordinary talent. Being able to recruit them and keep the ones they have will be a game changer. He stated the salary request was the main thing they wanted to focus on in this budget year. Chief Byrd then went over how important employee retention is for his department. From start to finish, it takes a provider 3-4 months to be fully operational. He stated that they have 2 new medic units that are in the system and they ordered them in July and September of 2022. They are asking to place an order in July 2025, which will not have to be paid for 2 more budget cycles. Their average mileage is 40,000 per year, and the current ambulance they are requesting to replace already has 113,609 miles. By the time it would be replaced, it would have over 200,000 miles and 10,000 engine miles. They have broken down before and it has caused issues with long wait times for a replacement. They paid \$360,000 two years ago and the price for a new ambulance currently is \$427,000 with a proposed increase in August 2025. They are also requesting to continue the mobile healthcare program, which they received a grant initially. They have trained 12 ALS providers that they still maintain currently. They have grants for everything, such as the equipment, computers, and the position itself. Chief Byrd stated that they are only requesting the budget include the position salary, they have everything else they need. They are also asking for a radio upgrade, and Chief Byrd stated that the radio system itself is a massive undertaking. The need they have now is the upgrade to their current radio system and the purchasing of new radios. The system was updated 10 years ago, and a lot of the current radios are aging out and need to be upgraded to interface with the interface of mutual aid partners. The total request is \$350,000, and it includes the purchase of additional equipment and upgrades for the current ones. A year ago, they signed an agreement

with the Town of Colonial Beach. The station is outdated and is not designed for long-term use. Being in the town helps with call times and being able to turn a call around faster. He then went over the current situation, the need for a system replacement of the radios, and the estimated budget need.

**** EMS BUDGET PRESENTATION ON NEXT PAGE****



Department Accomplishments

- 2x Peninsula EMS Agency of the Year award (2021 & 2024)
- 2x Virginia Office of EMS Governor's Award nominee (2021 & 2024)
- 5x American Heart Association Mission Lifeline recipient (2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024)
- 4x Mary Washington Healthcare Lightning Fast Award recipient
- First Mobile Healthcare program in the Northern Neck
- First PEMS agency to go live with internal medication system

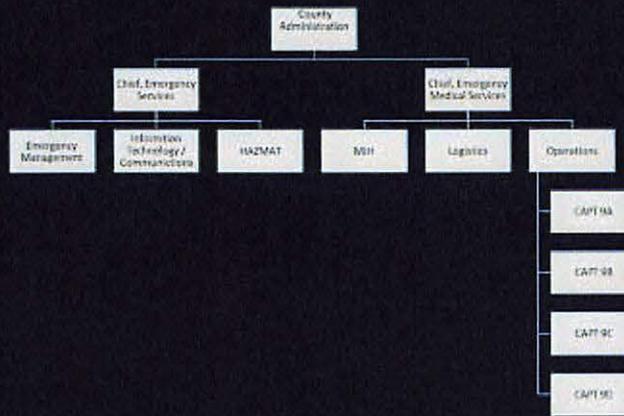


Divisional Tasks

Emergency Medical Services

- Delivery of pre-hospital emergency care to the citizens and visitors of Westmoreland County.
- Development of pre-hospital protocols (Westmoreland specific care guidelines).
- Oversight of pre-hospital medication systems specific to Westmoreland County.
- Maintenance of countywide AED program.
- Maintenance of countywide ambulance fleet
- Delivery of training to all members of Westmoreland Emergency Services (1,000+ hours annually).
- Public education delivery to citizens and civic organizations.
- New provider education delivery (EMT and Advanced EMT)
- Quality improvement oversight (adherence to county patient care protocol)

Agency Organization

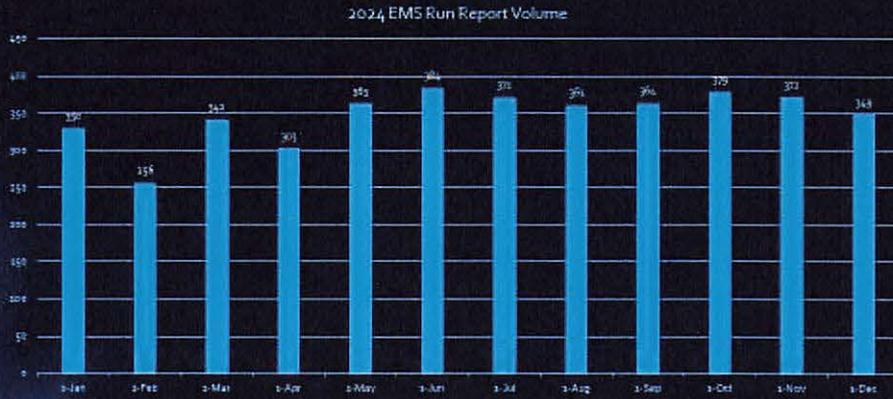


Emergency Medical Services Staff Composition

- Minimum Daily Staffing-9 personnel
- 4 EMT's, 4 Paramedics, 1 EMS Supervisor
- 4 Advanced Life Support Ambulances, 1 Advanced Life Support ORV
- 40 total field personnel
- Daily supervision-EMS Captain/EMS Lieutenant
- Oversight-Deputy Chief of Emergency Services



Emergency Medical Services-2024 Volume



EMS Revenue Recovery-Return to Locality



Divisional Tasks

Mobile Integrated Healthcare

- Patient interaction follow-up (EMS)
- Harm reduction partner behind Narcan
- Public education on one-patient interaction
- Mental health advocate for both first responders and citizens
- Resource Allocation for Patients with Medical Needs
- Liaison with outside entities (DSS, hospital systems, law enforcement, etc.)



Divisional Tasks

Emergency Management

- Development of county plans (Emergency Operating Plan, Hazard Mitigation, etc.)
- Oversight of partnership grants
- Liaison with state organizations such as VDEM and DEQ
- Maintenance of the Emergency Operations Center
- Oversight of countywide public safety radio system, including tower sites, hardware (end-user), and software
- Hazardous materials liaison with state partners
- Support agency for initial hazardous materials responses for the fire departments
- OSHA compliance-county wide

Budget Proposals



How The Budget Is Stratified

Overview

- **Consolidation:** Emergency Services has merged into a single department
- **Objective:** Streamline operations and improve financial tracking

Benefits of Consolidation

- **Operational Efficiency:** Enhanced coordination among divisions
- **Ease of Management:** Simplified tracking of expenditures across all services

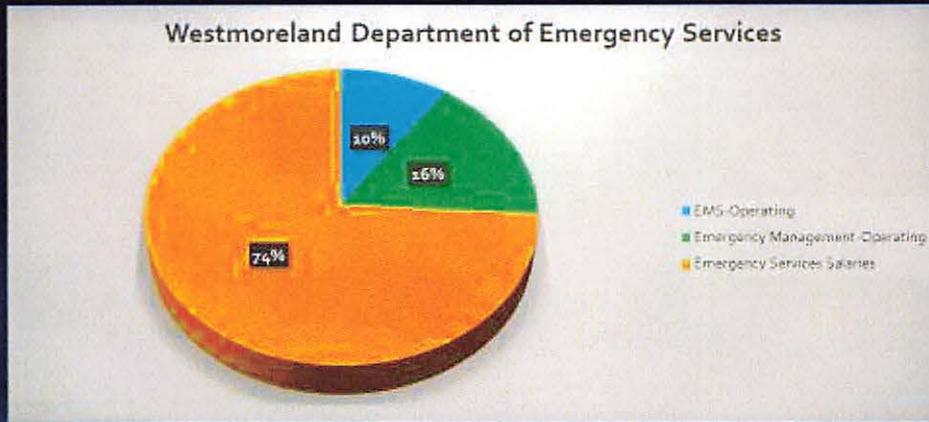
Financial Implications

- **Single Budget:** All divisions now operate under one consolidated budget
- **Overall Amount:** The total budget may appear higher, reflecting combined needs rather than individual divisions

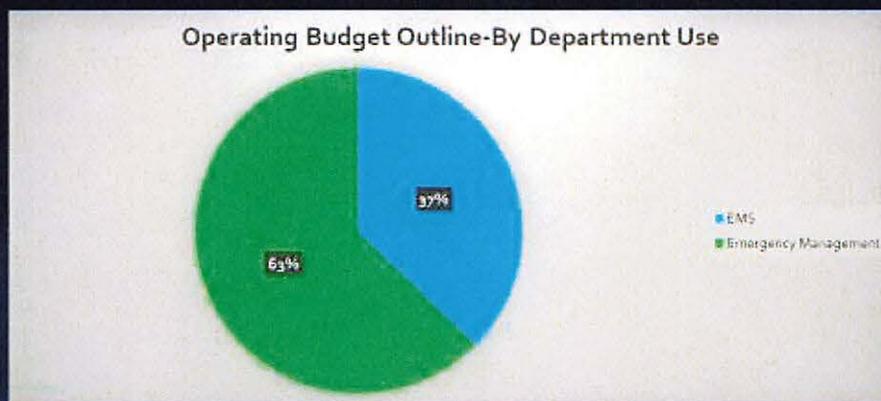
Conclusion

- Consolidating Emergency Services into one department enhances operational efficiency and provides a clearer financial overview, ultimately benefiting service delivery and resource management.

Budget Totals



Budget Illustrations



Emergency Services Requests-All Divisions

- Salaries and wages adjustment
- Replacement ambulance*
- Radio upgrades/replacement*



Current Starting Salaries-New Provider

EMT Basic-No experience

Base Salary-\$31,502

Proposes Salary-\$45,565

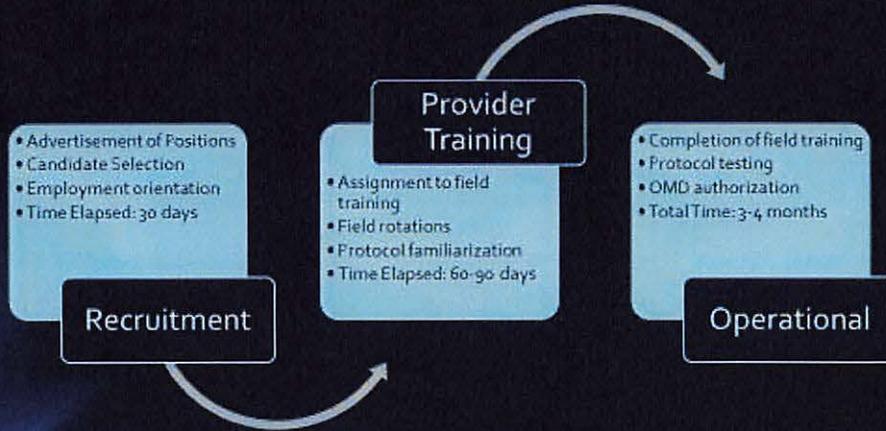
EMT Paramedic-No experience

Base Salary-\$42,000

Proposed Salary-\$58,130

****New pay scale alleviates the salary request****

Importance of Employee Retention



Ambulance Purchase

Annual Mileage & Usage

- **Average Annual Mileage:** 40,000 miles-current in service medic unit 113,609-projected 200,000+ at time of replacement
- **Current Unit Breakdown:** Ambulances have broken down en route to receiving facilities.

Justification for Purchase

- **Safety Concerns:** Breakdown incidents during patient transportation pose risks to patient safety.
- **Reliability:** The new medic unit will reduce the need for outside assistance during emergencies.
- **Lead Time:** A 2-year lead time for ordering highlights the importance of making informed decisions.

Financial Impact

- **Initial Investment:** \$427,000
- **Long-term Savings:** Reduced maintenance costs and improved service reliability.

Mobile Integrated Healthcare

Program Overview

- **Founded:** Through federal grant funding
- **Initial Funding:** \$400,000 received by Westmoreland Emergency Services

Current Status

- **Equipment & Supplies:** Existing and sufficient for program needs
- **Funding Source:** Currently funded and reimbursed by the federal grant

Future Funding Request

- **Position Funding Request:** Seeking budget allocation for the position only
- **Change in Funding:** The position will no longer be reimbursed by the grant moving forward

Conclusion

Continued funding for the Mobile Integrated Healthcare position is crucial for maintaining high service quality and promoting community health outcomes.

Budget Proposal: Emergency Management Radio Upgrades

Overview

- **Purpose:** Funding for new mobile and portable radios
- **Total Request:** \$350,000

Current Equipment Status

- **Existing Units:** Approaching end of life
- **Increased Demand:** Additional units are needed due to the expansion of the public safety fleet

Budget Proposal: Emergency Management Radio Upgrades

Funding Allocation

- **New Radios:** Purchase of additional mobile and portable radios
- **Firmware Updates:** Ensuring interoperability with mutual aid companies
- **Compatibility:** Upgrading current radios to align with Westmoreland County's upgraded system

Importance of Upgrades

- **Enhanced Communication:** Critical for effective emergency response and collaboration
- **Safety Assurance:** Reliable communication is essential for public safety personnel

Moving Into The Future

New EMS Station for Colonial Beach

Current Situation:

- A temporary EMS station in use has been relocated to a building that has flooded multiple times.
- The station is outdated and not designed for long-term use.
- Retrofitted to accommodate 24/7 staffing but not undergoing remodeling due to its location in a floodplain.

Need for New EMS Station:

- **Flooding Risk:** The current station has been repeatedly flooded, creating a significant hazard for first responders and patients.
- **Outdated Facility:** The station does not meet modern standards for EMS operations, impacting efficiency and safety.
- **Safety Concerns:** The floodplain location restricts permanent renovations, resulting in ongoing vulnerability.
- **Urgency:** A new, resilient EMS station is critical for ensuring continuous emergency medical services in the area.

Estimated Budget Need: \$1,000,000

Moving Into the Future

Replacement of County-Wide Public Safety Radio System

Current Situation:

- The initial system was implemented in 1999 and updated in 2019.
- Key components are outdated and require replacement.
- The system is at capacity and exceeding operational limits.

Need for System Replacement:

- **Aging Infrastructure:** The current radio system is over 20 years old, with vital components in need of replacement.
- **Limited Capacity:** The system is unable to support growing communication demands, which could delay critical responses.
- **Public Safety Risk:** The use of outdated technology can lead to communication failures during emergencies, thereby compromising public safety.
- **Capacity Overload:** Increased demand and population growth are straining the current system's limits.

Estimated Budget Need: \$4,500,000-\$7,000,000 (Component driven final cost)

Conclusion

- The main request is the implementation of the proposed salaries and wages for Westmoreland County Employees.
- The purchase of an ambulance is paramount to avoid delays in delivery in a high-mileage travel environment.
- Radio system updates are crucial for both additional capacity and enhanced safety of first responders.



After Chief Byrd's presentation, he asked if the Board had any questions.

Mr. Ingram thanked Chief Byrd and the department for everything they do in the county. He had an opportunity in December 2024 to tour the stations and he thanked him for the opportunity. He noted that everything Chief Byrd is asking for is not a want, it is a need.

Mr. Trivett complimented Chief Byrd and Deputy Chief Manthey for their outstanding work for what they have done this past year. He noted they have made the department professional, as far as training and staff, he has heard more compliments than he ever has and people are realizing that it is Westmoreland ambulances that are helping them. He also complimented Captain Bounds on the MIH program and said that it is invaluable. He is looking forward to the years to come and is thankful that the Board can supply the salary increase due to it being beneficial for retention and onboarding new ones. He noted that the multiplier will make a big difference not just in EMS but the Sheriff's office as well.

Chairman Fisher echoed the other Board members comments and stated that 20-25 years ago he would have only dreamed to be on the path they are on now in a rural community. A lot was taken for granted, they have come so far, and the citizens of Westmoreland have benefitted tremendously. He noted that nothing just happens, people make it happen and they make the ideas come true.

D. Maintenance/Utilities Budget FY25-26, Donna Cogswell ,Assistant County Administrator

Donna Cogswell, Assistant County Administrator, gave a presentation on the Maintenance/Utilities budget. Ms. Cogswell went through the presentations slide by slide. She went over what the department oversees, noting they are responsible for a wide variety of things. She reviewed the organizational chart and stated that considering the responsibilities they have, there are only 2 supervisors and 8 full-time employees and 6 of those employees are at the waste water treatment plants, with the remaining 2 in general maintenance. Also under general maintenance, there are 4 part-time employees at the transfer station, and 2 seasonal part-time

positions. She explained at the county has 3 wastewater treatment plants there and each has 2 employees. Each locations requires different operator's licenses, from class 4 up to class 1. She explained a test is required for each operator's license which are administered through the VA Department of Health. The operators are responsible for regular testing at the plants that they have to report to DEQ, which have strict guidelines. Each location is a different type of treatment facility; for example, Coles Point has over 99 acres of spray fields and 108 acres of drip fields. She spoke about the public utility fees and stated that there is no increase in utility fees for the customers; it is \$42 every month and is billed bimonthly. There will be an increase in connection fees. The grinder station in Washington District Sewer minimum cost will increase from \$10,022 to \$12,801. The changes are due to an increase in contractor charges and an increase in the cost of materials. Her next slide spoke to property maintenance noting that 45 county owned properties need to be mowed from spring to fall. The county has hired a part-time employee who focuses on the county park, along with one of the supervisors. They are doing a great job. She stated that they would like to get 2 part-time seasonal employees to help with the mowing other areas, including the transfer station and waste water treatment plants. She then spoke about general maintenance and stated that most people handle a variety of tasks, such as transfer station oversight, street sign replacement, replacing lightbulbs, hanging pictures, etc. They help troubleshoot all of the issues at the county buildings, new and existing sewer systems, and waste water treatment plant problems. She then showed a chart of how many connects for the different fiscal years and stated that they are currently at 3,719 connections and still have 3 months left of the fiscal year. She reviewed the operating budget and stated that the public utilities operating budget increased by 12% and total maintenance increased by 8% due to cost in material going up. Ms. Cogswell spoke of the future plans for the maintenance department and stated that they are hoping to have a part time seasonal groundskeeper and full time plant operator floater

position approved. There is also talk about a maintenance facility so they can put all of their equipment, materials, and vehicles in one location. She gave a short term solution of another storage facility. The other issue is vehicles and she noted that most of their vehicles have reached their life expectancy and have over 200,000 miles. They are looking at replacing some vehicles over the next few years. Also, she noted some updates need to be made to the electronic panels at the Washington wastewater treatment plant, and the others will need upgrades down the road as well.



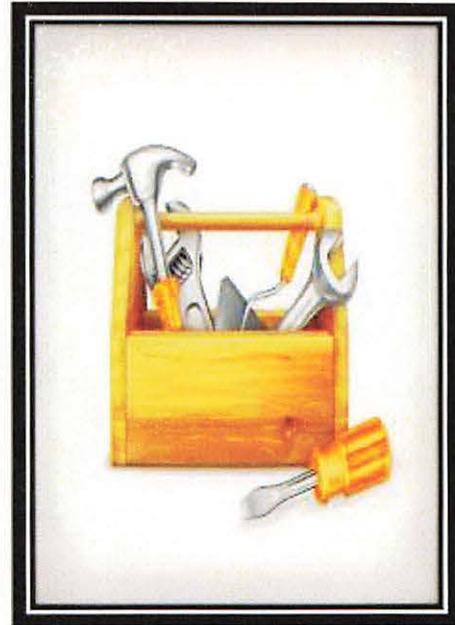
Board of Supervisors

Maintenance
& Public Utilities
March 24, 2025

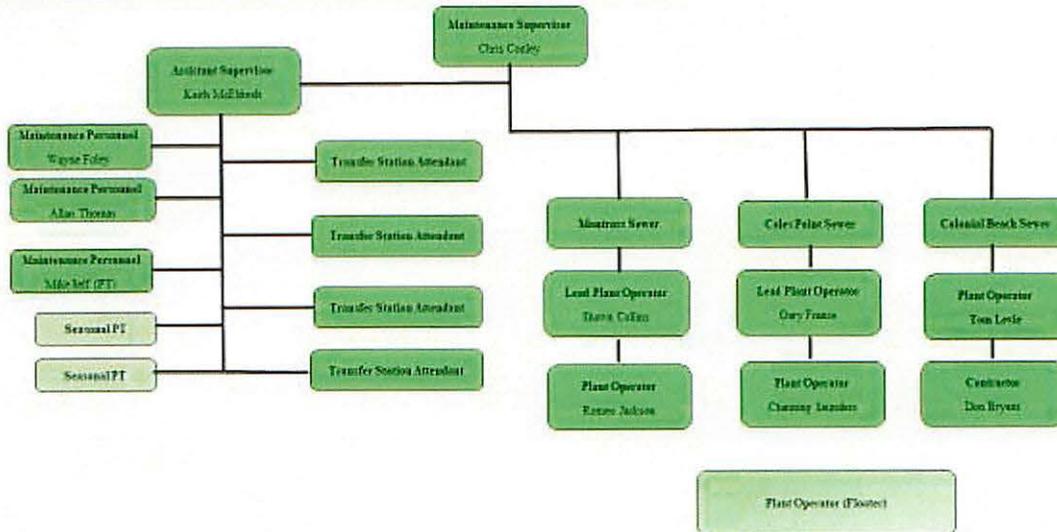


WHAT THEY DO

- Wastewater Treatment Plants
- Property Maintenance
- General Maintenance
- Transfer Station

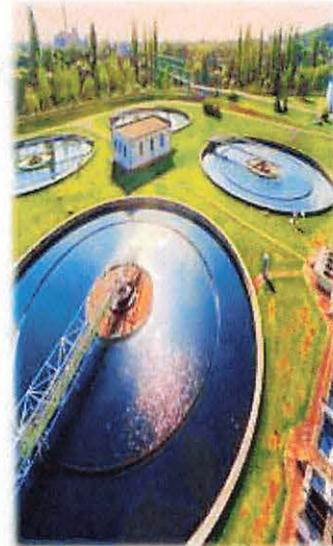


Organizational Chart



Wastewater Treatment Plants

- ❖ 3 locations
 - Coles Point
 - Montross
 - Washington District
- ❖ Regular testing through VA Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is required
- ❖ 24/7 monitoring of system is required



Public Utility Fees

No increase for the Utility fees (42.00 per month)

Connection Fees:

FY2024-2025

Glebe Harbor/Tidwells/Drum Bay/Cabin Point Sewer

- Residential/Commercial \$11,688

Washington District Sewer

- Grinder Stations \$10,022
- Air Vacuum Stations \$10,022

Montross-Westmoreland Sewer **(No Increase)**

- Residential \$4,995
- Commercial \$5,679

FY2025-2026

Glebe Harbor/Tidwells/Drum Bay/Cabin Point Sewer

- Residential/Commercial \$13,094 **+12%**

Washington District Sewer

- Grinder Stations \$12,801 **+28%**
- Air Vacuum Stations \$10,331 **+3%**

Montross-Westmoreland Sewer **(No Increase)**

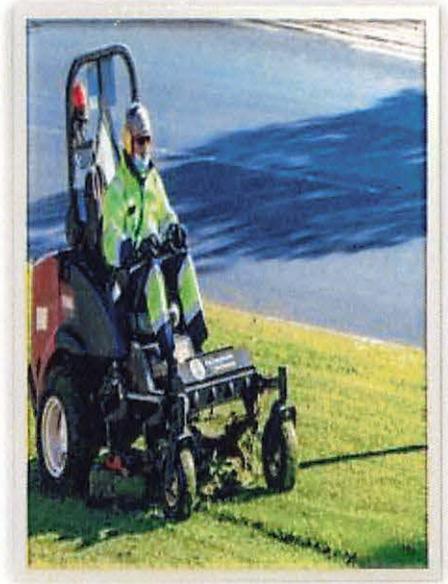
- Residential \$4,995
- Commercial \$5,679

* Changes are due to an increase in contractor charges and increase in cost of materials



Property Maintenance

- ❖ Employees mow and maintain 45 county owned properties Spring to Fall
- ❖ Maintain County Park Spring to Fall
 - Dedicated employee to park
 - Mow, edge and trim property and ball fields
 - Clear and cut the walking trails at park

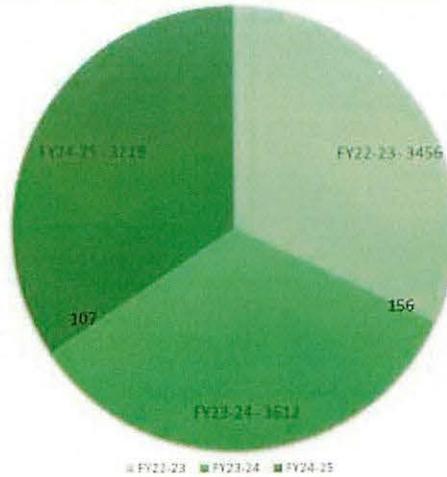


General Maintenance

- ❖ Transfer Station oversight
- ❖ Replacement of street signs
- ❖ General maintenance and repairs to over 20 county buildings
- ❖ New sewer requests
- ❖ Existing sewer system problems
- ❖ Wastewater Treatment Plant problems



Customers - Sewer



Maintenance & Public Utilities - Operating Budget

- Total Public Utilities Operating Cost Increase, **+12%**
- Total Maintenance Cost Increase, **+8%**

Public Utilities Operating Budget	FY2024-2025	FY2025-2026	\$ Change	% Change
Personnel Costs	\$487,566	\$563,343	\$75,777	16%
Operations	\$660,228	\$865,753	\$205,525	31%
Purchased Services	\$372,980	\$394,656	\$21,676	6%
Debt Service	\$930,993	\$983,578	(\$52,585)	-6%
Total	\$2,511,727	\$2,807,330	\$295,603	+12%

Maintenance	FY2024-2025	FY2025-2026	\$ Change	% Change
Personnel Costs	\$363,695	\$388,178	\$24,483	7%
Operations	\$416,673	\$540,200	\$123,527	30%
Purchased Services	\$714,827	\$685,500	(\$29,327)	-4%
Total	\$1,495,195	\$1,614,878	\$119,683	+8%



FUTURE

- ❖ Additional Employees
 - ✓ Part-time Seasonal groundskeeper
 - ✓ Full-time Plant Operator "Floater"
- ❖ Maintenance facility
- ❖ Storage for materials
- ❖ Vehicles
- ❖ Updates to Electronics at sewer plants



QUESTIONS/COMMENTS



After Ms. Cogswell's presentation, she asked if the Board had any questions. Chairman Fisher stated that they do a lot around the county and he doesn't know if people realize how many properties the county oversees until you ride

by one and notice that it isn't maintained. He thanked Ms. Cogswell for the great proposal. He noted that mowing is never-ending.

The Chairman thanked the Assistant County Administrator and staff for their hard work, and it was good to see the process run smoothly. He commended the other Board members for their actions that they took to position them financially, they have efficiencies and savings that could have been done better. It put them in a position to adopt the budget with no proposed tax increase and the citizens will be happy. He noted that all of the Board members have had an opportunity to review the process with administration and they may be able to do something with the fund balance to get them ready for the unexpected. He also thanked the Finance Department for their hard work on the budget and he stated that quite often they get overlooked.

Chairman Fisher then asked for a motion to advertise the proposed budget on March 25, 2025, to have a public hearing on April 14, 2025, and if there are no changes to the budget, they will have the adoption of the budget on April 28, 2025.

With no further discussion, upon motion by Mr. Trivett, second by Mr. McCormack with Mr. Trivett, Mr. Ingram, Mr. McCormack, Mr. Hynson and the Chairman voted "aye". The Board approved advertising the proposed budget on March 25, 2025, to have a public hearing on April 14, 2025, and if there are no changes to the budget, they will adopt the budget on April 28, 2025.

5. ACTION ITEMS

A. Public Hearing - Sale of County owned property in Coles Point to Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources.

Mr. Taylor stated that it is a public hearing for the county to enter the agreement with the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources. The property is owned by the county in Coles Point. It is his understanding that DWR wants to acquire the property and turn it into a public boat landing.

Mr. Stuart stated that it would be best to have the tax map number on the record for the public benefit. He noted that they have been working on this for 3-4 years and this was part of a settlement for the county getting sued and they turned it into a benefit for the citizens of the county and he is told by DWR that this could be the premier sight of eastern Virginia if not the entire state. He noted that once they purchase it, they will develop a boat landing and loading area, and they will let people fish from the dock as well. He stated that anytime the county sells property, they have to have a public hearing and hear from the citizens.

Ms. Cogswell read the tax map to the property, which is 2.6 acres at 5665 Coles Point Road, tax map 26-81, 26- 81A, 26- 81C, and 26-82.

The Chairman asked if there were any questions from the Board members before he opened the floor for the public hearing.

There were no questions, and Chairman Fisher opened the public hearing portion of the meeting for the Sale of county-owned property in Coles Point to the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources.

Richard Wilkins

He stated that the county bought the property 2 years ago and paid 1 million and the county is selling it for \$980,000, which is a bit of a loss. He is in favor of the sale due to them not having to maintain the property anymore. He noted that the county would not be liable for anything that happens and he would assume that the state would be liable.

Mr. Stuart stated that yes, the property would be sold to DWR and they would spend a lot of money developing it so that the citizens can use it, and if anyone gets hurt, they would sue the state.

Mr. Wilkins stated that the county should look into their properties and see if any of them can be sold. So they all don't have to be maintained.

Let the record show that no one else came to the podium to speak, and Chairman Fisher closed the public hearing portion of the meeting for the Sale of County owned property in Coles Point to the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources.

Mr. McCormack asked Mr. Stuart what needed to be in the motion.

Mr. Stuart stated that a resolution was drafted and it would be appropriate to just have a motion stating to approve and adopt the resolution as presented.

With no further discussion, upon motion by Mr. McCormack, seconded by Mr. Hynson with Mr. McCormack, Mr. Hynson, Mr. Trivett, Mr. Ingram and the Chairman vote "aye". The Board approved and adopted the resolution as presented.

The Chairman stated that there is a saying of making lemonade out of lemons and at the beginning of the process, being sued and all of the back and forth. When everything is completed, the county will benefit tremendously.

Mr. Hynson thanked Mr. Stuart for negotiating with the state and said that he did a great job.

**** RESOLUTION ON NEXT PAGE****

**RESOLUTION
SALE OF COUNTY OWNED PROPERTY ON
COLES POINT ROAD**

WHEREAS, the Westmoreland County Board of Supervisors owns 2.6+ acres at 5665 Cole Point Road; Parcels 26-81, 26-81A, 26-81C and 26-82; and

WHEREAS, Westmoreland County Board of Supervisors has agreed to sell property at 5665 Coles Point Road to Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources at the agreed upon price of \$980,000.00; and

WHEREAS, at the Westmoreland County Board of Supervisors meeting on March 24, 2025, there was a public hearing which was advertised pursuant to Section 24.2-129; and

WHEREAS, at the Westmoreland County Board of Supervisors meeting on March 24, 2025, the Board authorized the County Administrator to enter into a purchase agreement with the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources; and

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Westmoreland County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the County Administrator to execute a purchase agreement and all necessary documents to finalize the transaction with Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources on the property at 5665 Coles Point Road, in the amount of \$980,000.00.

Date of Adoption: March 24, 2025

**Darryl E. Fisher, Chairman
Westmoreland County Board of Supervisors**

Mr. Trivett stated that Mr. Taylor mentioned adopting the salary increase in May. He asked if they are putting it on the agenda for the April meeting or if they can make a motion tonight.

Mr. Stuart stated that the salary increases are in the proposed budget and it would come up for public hearing, and assuming there are no changes, it will be adopted April 28, 2025.

Mr. Trivett stated that the funding was in this year's budget and those funds won't be until the next budget cycle. He asked if they are taking the amount for the two months out of the current budget.

Mr. Stuart stated that it is his understanding that Mr. Taylor is doing it all at one time.

Mr. Taylor stated that they envision it to be part of the adoption of the budget but They can have it as a separate item for an appropriation in the current year's budget so that it is clearer and then it all can be done on April 28th, 2025, if it is agreeable to the Board.

Chairman Fisher stated that it might be best to do it and if they have to give the money retroactively due to the money being there. The worst case scenario the proposed budget doesn't get adopted, and they give a raise, he asked how the raises would get funded out of the next budget. He noted that they should let it move forward if it's approved, even though the money would be there, it wouldn't cost them anything for the two months. He doesn't want to give the employees a raise and then have to take it back.

6. CLOSED SESSION: under VA code 2.2-3711.A3 – Discussion with Legal Counsel regarding the disposition of County owned property where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

With no further discussion, upon motion by Mr. McCormack, seconded by Mr. Hynson, carried unanimously, the Board moved into closed session.

RECORDING WAS STOPPED, AND THE MEETING MOVED TO CLOSED SESSION

Chairman Fisher asked for a motion to return to Regular Session from Closed Session. Upon motion by Mr. McCormack, second by Mr. Hynson and carried unanimously, the Board returned to regular session from closed session.

Chairman Fisher then asked for a Certification Motion stating that nothing other than what was listed on the call under Sec 2.2-3711(A)(1) was discussed during the Closed Session, and no action was taken. Upon motion by Mr. McCormack, second by Mr. Trivett and carried unanimously, with Mr. Ingram, Mr. Trivett, Mr. McCormack, Mr. Hynson, and the Chairman voted “aye.” The Certification Motion was approved.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Fisher asked if there was any further business to bring before the board, and then he asked for a motion to adjourn.

The Chairman thanked the other Board members for moving their schedules around for them to start earlier for this meeting. He also thanked them for communicating with Mr. Taylor and Ms. Cogswell regularly. He stated that they have done a fantastic job, no one has been left out of the loop and they use the information they received to develop the proposed budget presentations like they have. When everyone can come together and agree, a lot can be accomplished.

With no further business, upon motion by Mr. Hynson, second by Mr. McCormack, carried unanimously. The Board adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting is Monday, April 14, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the George D. English, Sr. Memorial Building.

Chairman, *Darryl E. Fisher*