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ON MAY 19, 2026 THE FOLLOWING DIRECTOR'S ACTIONS WERE APPROVED:

Schedule of Actions for Emergency Assistance, General Relief, Auxiliary Grants, Aid to Dependent Children in Foster Care, Special Needs Adoption, Independent Living, and Purchase of Services:

Actions:	126	Pages	18
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Disbursements of Special Welfare Funds:	\$ 1,435.00
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Welfare receipts (Administration, Fraud, TANF, Fuel Assistance, Medicaid, Food Stamps, General Relief, APS, CPS, Foster Care, Grants):

Receipt No's: 1163605 - 1163641	\$ 65,594.10
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Payment for Payroll and Administrative Payments as follows:

Payroll:

APRIL 15, 2026	\$126,104.52
APRIL 30, 2026	<u>\$195,676.91</u>
TOTAL	\$321,781.43

Administrative Payments:

Warrant No.

213871	\$ 2,309.24
213914 - 213931	\$ 17,372.04
213932 - 213944	\$ 6,501.61
214206 - 214219	\$118,416.31
214220	<u>\$ 39,415.37</u>
TOTAL	\$184,014.57

RATINGS COMPLETED:

Position#: 102, Vencill, Elizabeth, Family Services Specialist IV
Position#: 506, McGraw, Bridgett, Family Services Supervisor

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Cont'd. of Ratings:

Position#: 520, Justus, Leslie, Benefit Programs Specialist II
Position#: 607, Justus, Courtney, Benefit Programs Specialist II
Position#: 616, Ward, Karen, Office Associate III

INTO CUSTODY:

2126845

OUT OF CUSTODY:

21216058 21251723

DISCUSSION HELD:

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON APRIL 21, 2026:

PRESENT:

Amanda Blankenship, Chairman
Tina Compton, Vice-Chairman
Lynn Smith
Whitney Breeding
Cecil Stiltner
Tom Mackey
Hassell Bailey
Vern Presley, Attorney
Marcella Watson, Director
Holly McClanahan, Admin. Clerk
Kayla Wolford

ABSENT:

Amanda Blankenship, Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Lynn Smith made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Cecil Stiltner, and by unanimous voice vote, the motion passed. Tom Mackey abstained.

Hassell Bailey made a motion to approve the March 17, 2026, minutes, seconded by Lynn Smith and by unanimous voice vote, the motion passed. Tom Mackey abstained.

Tom Mackey made a motion to approve agency expenditures, seconded by Cecil Stiltner, and by unanimous voice vote, motion passed.

Director Discussion

Director Marcella Watson provided information on agency events.

Tina Compton made a motion to approve the Compensation Plan, seconded by Hassell Bailey, and by unanimous voice vote the motion passed.

Director Marcella Watson stated the agency would like to purchase office supplies and miscellaneous supplies for the office and staff. Director Marcella Watson stated items to be purchased would include new chairs for the conference room, plastic chairs for employees office for client seating, the agency would like to replace the security system to have more cameras for outside viewing, the observation room needs a new system for court purposes, purchase items for back to school bash, VACORP invoice, and the agency has rented a billboard to advertise monthly events. PIPP program purchased new chairs for supervisors and PIPP employees out of the PIPP funding.

Director Marcella Watson stated the agency would like to purchase two vehicles, a 2026 Ford Explorer and 2026 Toyota 4 Runner.

Lynn Smith made a motion to approve the purchase of the projected or proposed items and miscellaneous items for \$200,000 or less, seconded by Hassell Bailey, and by unanimous voice vote, motion passed.

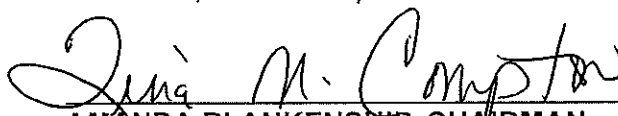
Hassell Bailey made a motion to auction two agency vehicles when the agency purchases the 2026 Ford Explorer and 2026 Toyota 4 Runner, seconded by Cecil Stiltner, and by unanimous voice vote, motion passed.


AMANDA BLANKENSHIP, CHAIRMAN

5/19/2024
DATE

The next Board meeting will be on May 19, 2026, in the conference room at Social Services.

Cecil Stiltner made a motion to adjourn, Hassell Bailey seconded this motion, and by unanimous voice vote, the motion passed.


AMANDA BLANKENSHIP, CHAIRMAN

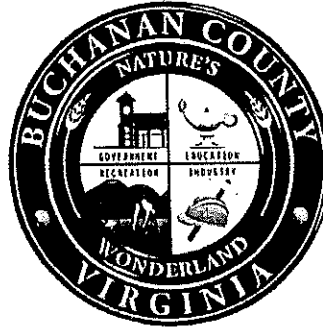
5/19/2024
DATE


MARCELLA WATSON, DIRECTOR

5/19/2024
DATE

BUCHANAN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Tim Hess, Chairman
Hurricane District
Jeff Cooper, Vice-Chairman
Garden District
Lee Dotson
North Grundy District
David Rose
Prater District
Craig Stiltner
Rocklick District
G. Roger Rife
South Grundy District
Trey Adkins
Knox District



Robert Craig Horn
County Administrator

Lawrence L. Moise, III Esq.
County Attorney

MEMORANDUM

TO: Trish Rowe, Finance Director
Marcella Watson, Director of Buchanan County Social Services

FROM: Robert Craig Horn, County Administrator *CRH*

DATE: June 9, 2026

RE: Indigent Burial Assistance

A regular meeting of the Buchanan County Board of Supervisors was held on Monday the 8th day of June 2026. Upon motion by Jeff Cooper seconded by Trey Adkins with a roll call vote of seven (7) yeas and zero (0) nays, this board did hereby approve from the request from Buchanan County Department of Social Services to increase the indigent burial assistance funding for fiscal year 2026/2027 to \$1,500 per burial or cremation services.

If you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you.

TELEPHONE
(276) 935-8106

FAX NO.
(276) 935-5412



MARCELLA WATSON
Director

BUCHANAN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

3174 SLATE CREEK ROAD
GRUNDY, VIRGINIA 24614-7046

Buchanan County Board of Supervisors
P.O. Box 950
Grundy, VA 24614

Dear Members of the Buchanan County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing in reference to the General Relief Program administered by the Buchanan County Department of Social Services on behalf of the county, specifically regarding indigent burial assistance.

As you are aware, the Department works to ensure that individuals who qualify for indigent burial assistance are provided with dignified and appropriate services during difficult circumstances. Currently, the county assistance amount is capped at \$1,000 per indigent client. The current reimbursement amount was authorized in 2002 and has not been increased since that time.

Over the years, it has become increasingly difficult to secure vendors willing to provide these services at the current reimbursement rate. At this time, the Department is aware of only one funeral service provider that continues to assist with indigent burials. However, the provider has expressed concerns that the current reimbursement amount does not sufficiently cover expenses and has indicated uncertainty regarding how long services can continue to be offered at the existing rate.

For reference, the Department provided assistance for 17 indigent clients during the previous fiscal year and has assisted 12 clients thus far in the current fiscal year.

Given the increasing costs associated with funeral and burial services, it would make a positive impact if the Board of Supervisors would authorize the Department of Social Services to provide up to \$1,500 per burial or cremation service through the General Relief Program. Such consideration could assist in maintaining vendor participation and ensuring continued access to these essential services for Buchanan County residents in need.

If additional information is needed, please feel free to reach out to me.

Sincerely,

Marcella Watson

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marcella Watson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M" and "W".

Director

Buchanan County Department of Social Service