

David McGehee of Verizon came forward at this time to address the setback requirement for Punkin Creek Verizon Cell Tower.

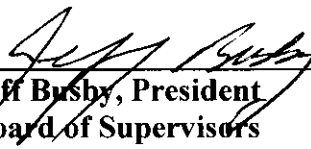
**ORDER: APPROVE VARIANCE FOR SETBACK REQUIREMENT ON PUNKIN
CREEK VERIZON CELL TOWER.**

Motion was made by Mike Roberts, duly seconded by Chad McLarty, to approve variance for setback requirement on Punkin Creek Verizon Cell Tower.

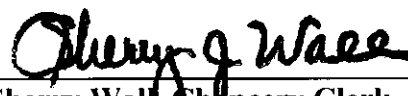
The vote on the motion was as follows:

Supervisor Kevin Frye, voted nay
Supervisor Jeff Busby, voted yes
Supervisor David Rikard, voted yes
Supervisor Chad McLarty, voted yes
Supervisor Mike Roberts, voted yes

After the vote, President Busby, declared the motion carried, this the 4th day of December, 2017.



Jeff Busby, President
Board of Supervisors



Sherry Wall, Chancery Clerk

Letter of Variance Request

Verizon Wireless Tennessee Partnership, d/b/a/ Verizon Wireless, is the Nation's number one wireless communications provider, and is known for its extraordinary and reliable service. At the present time, Verizon would like to improve the coverage and reliability of its network in South-Central Lafayette County, and offload traffic off of the surrounding sites in the area, allowing them to operate more efficiently without data delays or dropped calls. This site has been designed by Engineers in direct response to usage demand in the area, which is not limited by zoning district, and will improve network efficiency and reliability, benefitting the many residents, businesses, and commuters in the area. As 76% of E-911 calls are from wireless devices, per 2016 FCC data³, network reliability has become a vital asset to community infrastructure. (Please see attached Statement of Need from Verizon Wireless RF Engineer Gil Tomlinson for details of the need for the site).

Verizon comes before the Lafayette County Board of Supervisors to request a Setback Variance to the North (109') and East (126') property lines to allow construction of a new 300' tall telecommunications tower facility. This height has been determined by Verizon's Engineering team as the minimum needed to reach its coverage objectives in this area with varied elevations and wooded residential acreages. Verizon Wireless has carefully selected a location in the middle of a sizable (9) acre tract, on a location behind a power line easement surrounded on two sides by wooded gullies. The site location makes use of unique geography that is the best available within the search area to both provide the coverage needed, and be on a location mostly shielded from public view by a tree buffer on all sides. Verizon's design engineers have notated on the Professional Engineer stamped site plans (please refer to plans page C-4) that in the *unlikely* event that a catastrophic failure should occur, the tower will collapse within the property lines. In addition, the tower will also be structurally designed to allow up to (3) future wireless tenants on the tower (please refer to PE stamped site plan page C-4). Please note that this tower will be custom designed for this specific location, and will have undergone extensive soil boring tests for the foundation and tower design.

This site will be strictly designed, constructed and inspected to meet all County, State, and Federal safety standards, and to meet the latest ANSI/TIA standards. Please note also Engineer Gil Tomlinson's letter, which details Verizon's rigorous regulatory process.

Wireless usage has grown exponentially over the past few years, with reliable service becoming nearly as vital a service as electricity. As of 2016, over half of all households are mobile only (no land line)¹, with over 90% of U.S. households using wireless service². In addition, reliable wireless coverage improves public safety, with over 70% of 911 calls originating from wireless phones³. The proposed site will *enhance* the area rather than adversely affecting it, by improving network coverage and reliability, even during peak times. The site will also offload some wireless traffic off of the surrounding sites in the area, allowing them to operate with greater efficiency. This site will be unmanned, and will not emit any noise or fumes of any kind.

¹ 2017 CTIA Wireless Snapshot, May 2017 ²CTIA, June 2015 ³<https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/911-wireless-services>