

Regular Meeting, Wednesday, May 28, 2025, 7:00 PM Government Center Main Board Room

1. **ROLE CALL:**

Gerald Garber
Butch Wells
Jeffrey Slaven
Pam Carter
Michael Shull
Carolyn Bragg
Scott Seaton
Timothy K. Fitzgerald County Administrator
Nicole Price, Interim County Attorney
Angie Michael, Executive Assistant

ABSENT:

Jennifer M. Whetzel

VIRGINIA: At an adjourned meeting of the Augusta County Board of Supervisors held on Wednesday, May 28, 2025, at 7:00 PM at the Government Center Main Board Room, and in the 249th year of the Commonwealth...

Chairman Garber welcomed those present at the meeting.

Dave Zimmerman led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pam Carter, Pastures District, delivered the invocation.

2. **VDOT 6-Year Plan**

This being the date and time advertised to consider and receive input in regard to the proposed Secondary System and receive input on the Secondary Road Construction Improvement budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

Don Komara, Resident Engineer for VDOT, introduced his staff that were present: Cody Huffman and Josh Robson. He presented the secondary six-year plan for the County. A secondary road is a route six hundred or above. Route 11, Route 340 or Route 256 are

all considered primary roads. The Secondary System primarily looks at improving gravel roadways. To qualify as a secondary gravel roadway, it has to have a green road sign with numbers over six hundred and the roads have to have fifty or more vehicles per day. Mr. Komara reviewed the routes included in the plan.

The Chairman opened the public hearing.

There being no speakers, the Chairman closed the public hearing.

Dr. Seaton moved, seconded by Ms. Carter, that the Board approve the VDOT 6-Year Plan and budget for FY2025-2026.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Slaven, Bragg, Shull, Seaton and Carter

Nays: None

Motion carried.

3. **Ordinance Amendment-Chapter 9-Environment**

This being the date and time advertised to consider an ordinance to amend Chapter 9. Environment. Amendment brings Chapter 9 of the Augusta County code into compliance with recent Code of Virginia changes, including combining Erosion and Sediment Control and Stormwater Management regulations per the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Act.

Doug Wolfe, Director of Community Development, stated that the State Code has changed significantly and the County ordinance needs to be updated to maintain compliance with State Code. Mr. Wolfe reviewed the changes proposed to the County ordinance.

The Chairman opened the public hearing.

There being no speakers, the Chairman closed the public hearing.

Dr. Seaton moved, seconded by Ms. Carter, that the Board approve the ordinance amendment to Chapter 9-Environment as presented.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Slaven, Bragg, Shull, Seaton and Carter

Nays: None

Motion carried.

* * * * *

4. **Rezoning Request - Luke Hart**

This being the date and time advertised to consider a request to rezone from Single Family Residential-10 to General Agriculture with proffers approximately 4.03 acres owned by Luke Hart located off Bald Rock Road in Verona in the North River Magisterial District. The property is located in an Urban Service Area of the Comprehensive Plan and is planned for Medium Density Residential. The applicant intends to store equipment and has provided proffers to limit certain agricultural uses usually allowed in General Agriculture zoned districts. The Planning Commission recommends approval with proffers.

Julia Hensley, Planner II, stated that the voluntary proffers prohibit more intensive agriculture issues such as swine and poultry operations, they place limits on the total number of animal units allowed on the property and they regulate the number and types of chickens allowed to be raised. There will also be no dog kennels, vehicle repair businesses, junkyards, or slaughterhouses permitted on the property.

Luke Hart, applicant, clarified that there is no intention to do a venue on the property his intention is to rehabilitate the existing barn.

Ms. Bragg asked why does it need to be rezoned to agriculture if the present zoning provides a way to rehabilitate the barn.

Mr. Hart stated that the cost would differ greatly and he was not informed that there were other options. He has equipment that he would like to store in the barn and with current zoning, a Special Use Permit would be required to allow that. He originally inquired about venues, but due to liability and not wanting it in his backyard, he decided to go this route. There is more flexibility if the property being zone agriculture.

The Chairman opened the public hearing.

There being no speakers, the Chairman closed the public hearing.

Mr. Slaven stated that this centers around a magnificent one hundred plus year old structure that needs renovated. This rezoning enables the County to keep a piece of its history in this community.

Mr. Slaven moved, seconded by Mr. Shull, that the Board approve rezoning request as presented.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Slaven, Shull, Seaton and Carter
 Nays: Bragg

Motion carried.

* * * * *

5. **FY26 Resolution for Virginia Juvenile Community Crime Control Act (VJCCCA)**

The Board considered an updated FY26 resolution.

Timothy Fitzgerald, County Administrator, stated that this resolution would allow High County to join the County's region in regards to the Virginia Juvenile Community Crime Control Act. This was set up in 1995 to allow for grant funding to provide alternative programs for juvenile and alternative paths for Judges for sentencing options to allow the opportunity to correct behavior outside of the prison system. Augusta County, City of Staunton and City of Waynesboro combine funding received by grants to make a bigger impact. Highland County, due to size, typically sends the money back to the state. The funding is then offered to the County's region. The State requested passing a resolution to bring Highland County into the County's region. There is no cost to the County to do so and will provide better opportunity in the future.

Mr. Shull moved, seconded by Ms. Carter, that the Board approve the updated resolution to include Highland County in the region.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Slaven, Bragg, Shull, Seaton and Carter

Nays: None

Motion carried.

* * * * *

6. **Veterans Memorial Update**

The Board received an update on the Veterans Memorial.

Dave Zimmerman reviewed the plans for the Veterans Memorial that will be located on the Government Center property.

Dr. Seaton thanked Mr. Zimmerman his work and dedication on the project.

The Board accepted as information.

* * * * *

7. **Government Center Storm Sewer Improvements**

The Board considered authorization for the spending of previously allocated ARPA funds to improve the stormwater at the Augusta County Government Center.

Mr. Wolfe stated that there have been issues with drainage for a number of years and

the storm sewer is decayed and needs to be upgraded. A set of plans was developed using preauthorized ARPA funds. The plans went out for bid and staff recommends awarding the contract to Moomaw Contracting with a 15% contingency for a total of \$358,800.00. It is also requested that the Board authorize the County Administrator to sign the contract.

Mr. Shull moved, seconded by Mr. Slaven, that the Board approve awarding the contract and authorize the County Administrator to sign the documents.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Slaven, Bragg, Shull, Seaton and Carter

Nays: None

Motion carried.

* * * * *

8. **Staunton,-Augusta-Waynesboro Animal Shelter Water Line Easement**

The Board considered approval of the water line easement for the new animal shelter.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that this is a water line easement in need of placing for the new animal shelter at Verona Elementary School. The easement is needed to place a water line to vault at Route 11. Augusta Water has reviewed the easement.

Ms. Carter moved, seconded by Ms. Bragg, that the Board approve water line easement as presented.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Slaven, Bragg, Shull, Seaton and Carter

Nays: None

Motion carried.

* * * * *

9. **Spottswood Polling Place Roof Replacement**

The Board considered Riverheads Infrastructure funding in the amount of \$39,886.00 for roof replacement for the Spottswood Ruritan Club, which also serves as a polling place.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that this is a request received from the Spottswood Ruritan Club for roof replacement and this also serves as a polling place for Augusta County.

Mr. Shull stated that this also serves as the Kingsway Ministry for food distribution and

there is a gym that can be utilized by the community.

Mr. Shull moved, seconded by Dr. Seaton, that the Board approve the funding request of \$39,886.00 from the Riverheads Infrastructure account.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Slaven, Bragg, Shull, Seaton and Carter

Nays: None

Motion carried.

* * * * *

10. **Sherando Polling Place Roof Replacement**

The Board considered South River Infrastructure funding in the amount of up to \$25,000.00 for roof replacement for the Sherando Ruritan Club, which also serves as a polling place.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that this is a request received from the Sherando Ruritan Club for roof replacement need and this also serves as a polling place for Augusta County.

Ms. Bragg stated that this facility is essentially used as a community center for the area and there are meeting spaces available in the building. The roof has been leaking for some time. It is uncertain how much additional work will be needed after starting the roof replacement process.

Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Mr. Shull, that the Board approve the funding request of up to \$25,000.00 from the South River Infrastructure account.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Slaven, Bragg, Shull, Seaton and Carter

Nays: None

Motion carried.

* * * * *

11. **Consent Agenda**

Mr. Wells moved, seconded by Mr. Shull, that the Board approve the consent agenda as follows:

MINUTES:

Consider minutes from the following meetings:

- Regular Meeting, Wednesday, April 23, 2025

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Garber, Wells, Slaven, Bragg, Shull and Seaton
 Nays: None
 Abstain: Carter

Motion carried.

Ms. Carter abstained due to her absence at the April 23, 2025 meeting.

* * * * *

(END OF CONSENT AGENDA)

* * * * *

12. **Matters to Be Presented by the Public**

NONE

13. **Matters to Be Presented by Staff**

Mr. Fitzgerald reminded the Board of Draft Days on Saturday from 11:00a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

14. **Matters to Be Presented by the Board**

Dr. Seaton requested an update on the garbage removal from Celebrity Lane and across the street at Jefferson Highway.

Mr. Wolfe stated that Staff performed a clean up at the site with two contractors.

Majority of the garbage has been removed. The court case is currently underway. He will email the Board with an update on the Jefferson Highway properties.

Dr. Seaton requested an update on the Bunny Lu ordinance.

Nicole Price, Interim County Attorney, stated that there is an ordinance working group meeting on Tuesday, June 3rd at 3:00 p.m.

Ms. Carter pointed out that CAP-SAW distributes a considerable amount of money to local agencies and with the Federal inquiries that are taking place, it will affect the money being distributed. Localities may need to request more funding.

Ms. Bragg stated that CAP-SAW has put out a survey on childcare asking for the

Mr. Shull would like an update on how many houses have been connected with broadband. He also read a thank you letter from the Middlebrook Ruritan Club regarding the annual clean-up week in April.

* * * * *

Minutes approved by the Board on Wednesday, July 23, 2025. The signed minutes can be reviewed in the County Administrator's Office.

County Administrator