

Staff Briefing, Monday, June 23, 2025, 1:30 PM Government Center Main Board Room

ROLE CALL:

Gerald Garber
Butch Wells
Jeffrey Slaven
Pam Carter
Michael Shull
Carolyn Bragg
Scott Seaton
Timothy K. Fitzgerald County Administrator
Jennifer M. Whetzel, Deputy County Administrator
Doug Wolfe, Director of Community Development
Misty Cook, Director of Finance
Julia Hensley, Planner II
Nicole Price, County Attorney

VIRGINIA: At an adjourned meeting of the Augusta County Board of Supervisors held on Monday, June 23, 2025, at 1:30 PM at the Government Center Main Board Room, and in the 249th year of the Commonwealth...

1. **VDOT**

Don Komara, Residency Administrator, discussed the VDOT status report of June 23, 2025.

The Board accepted the report as information.

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2. **Tourism Grant Contribution Agreement**

Rebekah Castle, Director of Economic Development, discussed the Tourism Grant Contribution Agreement.

The Board authorized placing on the Wednesday, June 25, 2025 regular meeting agenda.

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3. **Crisis Receiving Center**

Dr. Kimberly McClanahan, Executive Director of Valley Community Services Board, introduced John Sandy, Director of Finance. Mr. Sandy gave an update on the Crisis Receiving Center and the Crisis Stabilization Unit and Detox Center.

The Board accepted the update as information.

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4. **Fire-Rescue**

1. Greg Schacht, Fire Chief, discussed the Fire and Rescue year-end report.

The Board accepted the monthly report as information.

2. Chief Schacht provided a Fire-Rescue Strategic Plan update with the matrix attached.

The Board accepted the update as information.

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5. **State Budget/Bonus Ordinance**

Jennifer Whetzel, Deputy County Administrator, discussed state budget allocations for bonuses.

The Board authorized moving forward with Social Services and Schools. It was the Board's decision to not move forward with the Constitutional Officers bonus allocation due to the cost required from the County cover all employees.

The Board authorized advertising for public hearing.

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6. **Planning Commission/Public Hearings**

Ms. Hensley discussed the following:

- a. A request to rezone from Single Family Residential-15 to General Business approximately .55 acres and from General Agriculture to Single Family Residential with proffers approximately 14.57 acres of a 44.9 acre parcel owned by Trustee of John W. Root in the North River District. The Planning Commission recommends approval.
- b. A request to rezone from General Agriculture to Single Family Residential and Attached Residential with proffers approximately 88.302 total acres owned by Sunrise Investors, Inc. in the South River District. The Planning Commission recommends denial.
- c. A request to amend and restate proffers on approximately 8.90 acres owned by EJ's LLC in the South River District. The Planning Commission recommends approval.
- d. An ordinance to amend Chapter 25. Zoning. Division A. In General. Article V. Accessory Buildings and Uses. Section 25-54.1. Uses accessory to single family residences. Construction material storage yards. The Planning Commission recommends approval.
- e. A Conservation Easement Compliance request from the Shenandoah Wetland Company, LC for a parcel owned in Augusta County.

The Board authorized placing both items on the Wednesday, June 25, 2025 regular meeting agenda.

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7. Matters to Be Presented by Staff

Mr. Fitzgerald discussed the following was discussed:

- a. Typically, the first regular Board of Supervisors meeting in July is cancelled, which would be July 9th. Board direction is needed to move forward with the cancellation.

The Board authorized cancelling the meeting.

- b. Reminder of the July 4th parade in Staunton.
- c. The Augusta County Fair is July 22-26.
- d. Ms. Hensley updated the Board on the Comprehensive Plan.
- e. Doug Wolfe, Director of Community Development, discussed the Verona Sidewalk Grant application and the Weyers Cave Round-a-bout Timmons Proposal.

The Board authorized placing both items on the Wednesday, June 25, 2025 regular meeting agenda.

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8. Matters to Be Presented by the Board

Dr. Seaton asked for an update on the following:

- a. Celebrity Lane garbage issue.

Mr. Wolfe stated that a Judge's order has been received. It is planned for the contractor to be on the property on June 30th to begin the clean up.

- b. A large tree in ally off of Locust Street.

Mr. Wolfe stated that it is not clearly Augusta County property. It would be up to the citizen to remove the tree.

- c. Bunny Lu Ordinance

Nicole Price, County Attorney, stated that the tentative plan is to bring the ordinance to the Board at the July worksession.

- d. Staunton Mall

Mr. Wolfe stated that there have been engineering challenges and are actively working on the project.

- e. Jericho Road debris

Mr. Wolfe stated that the Service Authority was using it as a disposal site. They intend to clean it up and discontinue use of the site.

- f. Ordinance regulating the number of diesel pumps were allowed at stations.

Mr. Wolfe stated that staff intends to have that addressed after adoption of the Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. Carter requests that she be made aware of the schedule for the Comprehensive Plan Community Meetings.

Mr. Shull recommends creating a Data Center Committee that consists of a citizen from Magisterial District.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that staff has been working on an ordinance for Data Center Overlay.

Mr. Shull would like to look at ways to provide incentive for volunteers running calls.

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9. **Closed Session**

On motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Shull, the Board went into closed session pursuant to:

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(1) the legal counsel exemption under Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A)(19)

[A discussion of plans to protect public safety as it relates to terrorist activity in accordance with §2.2-3711 (A)(19) of the Code of Virginia]:

a. Security -Augusta County Government Center

2. the personnel exemption under Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A)(1)

[discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body]:

a. County Attorney

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

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On motion of Mr. Shull, seconded by Mr. Slaven, the Board came out of Closed Session.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

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The Chairman advised that each member is required to certify that to the best of their knowledge during the closed session only the following was discussed:

1. Public business matters lawfully exempted from statutory open meeting requirements, and
2. Only such public business matters identified in the motion to convene the executive session.

The Chairman asked if there is any Board member who cannot so certify.

Hearing none, the Chairman called upon the County Administrator/ Clerk of the Board to call the roll noting members of the Board who approve the certification shall answer AYE and those who cannot shall answer NAY.

Roll Call Vote was as follows:

Yeas: Garber, Wells, Slaven, Shull, Bragg, Seaton
and Carter

Nays: None

Motion carried.

The Chairman authorized the County Administrator/Clerk of the Board to record this certification in the minutes.

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Minutes approved by the Board on Wednesday, August 13, 2025. The signed minutes can be reviewed in the County Administrator's Office.

Chairman

County Administrator