

Staff Briefing, Monday, August 25, 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
Nicole Price, County Attorney

VIRGINIA: At an adjourned meeting of the
Augusta County Board of
Supervisors held on Monday,
August 25, 2025, at 1:30 PM at
the Government Center Main
Board Room, and in the 250th
year of the Commonwealth...

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Mr. Garber absent from the meeting.

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1. **VDOT**

Don Komara, Residency Administrator, discussed the VDOT status report of July 21, 2025.

The Board accepted the report as information.

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2. **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 discussed the 2024 Revolving Loan Request committee recommendations.

The Board authorized placing on the Wednesday, August 27, 2025 regular meeting agenda.

3. Timothy Fitzgerald, County Administrator, discussed an infrastructure funding request for Verona Volunteer Fire Department.

The Board authorized placing on the Wednesday, August 27, 2025 regular meeting agenda.

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Mr. Garber joined the meeting.

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3. Cat's Cradle Update

No presentation was given.

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4. Real Estate Brokerage Services

Jennifer Whetzel, Deputy County Administrator, discussed awarding contract to Cottonwood Commercial.

The Board authorized placing on the Wednesday, August 27, 2025 regular meeting agenda.

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5. Planning Commission/Public Hearing

Julia Hensley, Planner II, discussed a request to rezone from General Agriculture with proffers to Single Family Residential and Attached Residential with proffers approximately 88.302 acres (TMP 084 122C) owned by Sunrise Investors, Inc. located off Locust Grove Lane in Stuarts Draft in the South River District. The applicant intends to rezone approximately 63.15 acres to Single Family Residential and approximately 25.152 acres to Attached Residential for a proposed subdivision with amenities. The Planning Commission recommends approval.

The Board authorized placing on the Wednesday, August 27, 2025 regular meeting agenda.

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6. Matters to Be Presented by Staff

Mr. Fitzgerald discussed the following:

1. The Business Ready Sites Grant for \$500,000.00 to be used for water and sewer in Mill Place Commerce Park. Augusta Water is working through a few projects and will discuss at the Augusta Water Board Meeting on September 18th meeting.
2. The VACo County Officials Summit was last week. There are not a lot of changes currently to the VACo Legislative platform.
3. Nicole Price, County Attorney, updated the Board on the Bunny Lu Ordinance. She requests direction from the Board to focus the efforts of staff. The options for the Board to consider include rezoning the property, make this combination use of a home based rescue plus foster home an accessory use to a Single Family Residential dwelling or by Special Use Permit in a residential district.
4. Doug Wolfe, Director of Community Development, updated the Board on the VDOT grants that will be brought to the Board for consideration on September 10, 2025.

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7. Matters to Be Presented by the Board

Mr. Shull requested a copy of the previous Comprehensive Plan that was passed.

Ms. Whetzel updated the Board on the broadband project.

Mr. Wells stated that there is a project that has been in the works since August 2024 for bench rest area stations on Life Core Drive. There is progress being made on the project.

Ms. Carter requested an update on the Citizen's Academy.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that as of Friday the first academy is full.

Dr. Seaton thanked Mr. Wolfe for cleaning the culvert in his area. He also requested a status update on the Celebrity Lane garbage issue.

Ms. Price stated that since being in court on the matter, there have been additional garbage dumped on the property. She has reached out to the Health Department for an updated letter.

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8. Closed Session

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

(1) the economic development exemption under Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A)(5)

[discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of its interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the county]:

- a. Proposed Office space, flex space, storage facilities, manufacturing facilities, utility and mixed use development.

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 Ms. Bragg, 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, September 10, 2025. The signed minutes can be reviewed in the County Administrator's Office.

Chairman

County Administrator