Regular Meeting, Wednesday, January 28, 2026, 7:00 PM Government Center Main Board Room

ROLL CALL:

Jeffrey Slaven
Chris Kincheloe
Michael Shull
Gerald Garber
Scott Seaton
Carolyn Bragg
Timothy K. Fitzgerald County Administrator
Jennifer M. Whetzel, Deputy County Administrator
Doug Wolfe, Director of Community Development
Julia Hensley, Planner II
Nicole Price, County Attorney
Angie Michael, Executive Assistant

ABSENT: Steve Grepps

VIRGINIA: At an adjourned meeting of the Augusta County Board of Supervisors held on Wednesday, January 28, 2026, at 7:00 PM at the Government Center Main Board Room, and in the 250th year of the Commonwealth...

Chairman Slaven welcomed those present at the meeting.

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Barry Lotts led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance:

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Gerald Garber, Middle River District, delivered the invocation.

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Dr. Seaton stated that he would like to join the meeting electronically. He is out of town visiting his new grandson.

Mr. Shull moved, seconded by Mr. Kincheloe, to allow Dr. Seaton to join the meeting via Teams.

Vote was as follows:	Yeas:	Slaven, Kincheloe, Garber, Grepps, Shull, and Bragg
	Nays:	None
	Absent:	Grepps and Seaton

Motion carried.

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PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. **Rezoning - Shields Self Storage, LLC**

This being the date and time advertised to consider a request to amend and restate proffers on approximately 7.92 acres (TMP 076E(18)10) owned by Shields Self Storage, LLC located on the north side of Parkview Drive and just west of Interstate 64 at exit 94, adjacent to the City of Waynesboro in the Wayne District. The Planning Commission recommends approval.

Julia Hensley, Planner II, stated that the property is located in an Urban Services Area of the Comprehensive Plan and is planned for business. The proffer amendment would remove an existing proffer that prohibits the outdoor storage of RVs, boats, trucks or cars. It also amends existing proffers related to landscape buffers. Ms. Hensley reviewed the current and proposed proffers.

The Chairman opened the public hearing.

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

Dr. Seaton moved, seconded by Mr. Kincheloe, that the Board approve the rezoning request as presented.

Vote was as follows:	Yeas:	Slaven, Kincheloe, Garber, Shull, Bragg and Seaton
	Nays:	None
	Absent:	Grepps

Motion carried.

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2. **Rezoning - Leslie Ellison Properties, LLC**

This being the date and time advertised to consider a request to rezone from General Agriculture to General Business approximately 1.489 acres of an approximately 3.119-acre parcel owned by Leslie Ellison Properties, LLC, located on the corner of US11 and Fadley Road near Burketown in the North River District. The Planning Commission recommends approval.

Ms. Hensley stated that approximately 1.63 acres is currently zoned General Business. The property is located in an Urban Service Area of the Comprehensive Plan and is planned for Business.

The Chairman opened the public hearing.

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

Dr. Seaton moved, seconded by Ms. Bragg, that the Board approve the rezoning request as presented.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Kincheloe, Garber, Shull, Bragg and Seaton
Nays: None
Absent: Grepps

Motion carried.
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3. **<u>Rezoning - Waynesboro Nurseries, Inc./Juniors Welding, Inc.</u>**

This being the date and time advertised to consider a request to rezone from General Agriculture to General Business with proffers approximately 10.346 acres of an approximately 59.81-acre parcel owned by Waynesboro Nurseries, Inc. located off Lyndhurst Road in Stuarts Draft in the South River District. The Planning Commission recommends denial.

Ms. Hensley stated that the property is located in a Community Development Area of the Comprehensive Plan, and is planned for Low Density Residential. The property has previously been utilized for plant nursery operations. Ms. Hensley reviewed the proffered prohibited uses of the property.

The Chairman opened the public hearing.

Michael Harner, 2629 Lyndhurst Road, Waynesboro, lives at the adjoining property and supports the rezoning request.

Kenneth Harner, 2775 Lyndhurst Road, Waynesboro, spoke in support of the rezoning request.

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

Ms. Bragg stated that she typically makes every effort to follow the Comprehensive Plan and uses it as a guide for how the County is developed. The Planning Commission voted against this request and they were correct in their determination by saying that it was not in compliance with the Comprehensive Plan. However, on a rare occasion there may be circumstances where deviating from the plan will make sense. This parcel has been a well established business headquarters for many years. There are several substantial buildings on the lot that will support any future business operations. The purchases have the option seek a Special Use Permit, which will keep the property in its current zoning and will allow for the operation of the business, but it is not foreseen that the buildings will be used something other than a business. There is adequate space around the buildings that would allow for buffering.

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

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Kincheloe, Garber, Shull, Bragg and Seaton
Nays: None
Absent: Grepps

Motion carried.

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4. **Revenue Recovery Rate Update**

The Board considered the Revenue Recovery Rate changes.

Timothy Fitzgerald, County Administrator, stated that it is suggested by Misty Cook, Director of Finance to increase the County's billing recovery rates to stay in line with the Medicare allowable payments. This is typically done each January as the Medicare allowable number changes and it requires Board approval of the new rates that would be effective January 1, 2026.
Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Dr. Seaton, that the Board approve the rate changes as presented.

Mr. Shull stated that he is not in favor of the increase due to healthcare costs.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Kincheloe, Garber, Bragg and Seaton
Nays: Shull
Absent: Grepps

Motion carried.

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5. **Entrance Sign to Government Center Complex**

Previously Postponed:
The Board considered a proposal from Moseley to complete design and develop construction bid documents for the new entrance sign to the Government Center in the amount of $12,155.00

Funding Source: Courthouse Project Budget

Candy Hensley, Assistant County Administrator, stated that this is an amendment to Moseley's contract to complete design and bid documents for a new sign at Route 11. The amount of the amendment is $12,155.00. Construction will be bid as a separate project and will occur after completion of Dick Huff Lane improvements.

Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Mr. Kincheloe, that the Board approve the amendment to the Moseley contract in order to complete design and bid documents for the sign at the Government Center entrance.

Mr. Shull stated that he would like to leave the decision up to the citizens. He is not in favor of moving forward until further citizen comments are heard.

Dr. Seaton is not certain that a ground level sign to the Government Center is needed. The one at the intersection, on top of the signal light bar, is adequate. This would save tax payers money.

Vote was as follows:	Yeas:	Slaven, Kincheloe, Garber, and Bragg
	Nays:	Shull and Seaton
	Absent:	Grepps

Motion carried.

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6. **<u>Circuit Court Statue</u>**

The Board considered a proposal from Moseley to develop construction bid documents in order to move Lady Justice to the new courthouse in Verona.

Mr. Slaven stated that after discussion during the worksession, he would like to rescind the motion to move forward with moving the statue to Verona. This will allow for staff to get more public input and gather more information.

Mr. Shull moved, seconded by Ms. Bragg, that the Board rescind the motion on the Lady Justice move project.

Vote was as follows:	Yeas:	Slaven, Kincheloe, Garber, Shull, Bragg and Seaton
	Nays:	None
	Absent:	Grepps

Motion carried.

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7. **<u>General Engineering/Architectural Services</u>**

Previously Postponed:
The Board considered awarding the contracts for General Engineering/Architectural Services.

Doug Wolfe, Director of Community Development, stated that the current contracts for General

Engineering Services expire on January 31, 2026. Staff has proceeded in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Public Procurement Act to evaluate and recommend consulting firms to provide Architectural and Engineering services for the county. The RFP is broken down into four categories; Small Projects, Transportation, Planning and Related Studies and Services, Economic Development Services and Architectural Services. With projects that require surveying, the consulting firm hired to complete work in categories two and three will be encouraged to use local services to the extent possible. Mr. Wolfe reviewed the current contracts for 2021-2025. The review team consisted of staff from Administration, Economic Development, Engineering, Facilities, Finance, Parks & Recreation and Community Development. The proposed contracts are as follows:

- Category 1 (Small Projects) - EGS & Associates, Timmons Group and Hurt and Proffitt
- Category 2 (Transportation, Planning & Related Studies & Services) – Timmons Group, Rinker Design & Associates and EPR PC
- Category 3 (Economic Development) – Timmons Group, Hurt and Proffitt and Balzer & Associates (Westwood)
- Category 4 (Architectural) – Lineage Architects, Glave and Holmes and Moseley Architects

Requested action from the Board is to award contracts to the recommended firms and to Authorize the County Administrator to execute the contracts as approved by the County Attorney.

Mr. Garber pointed out that he has a conflict of interest and will not be voting on this matter.

Mr. Shull would like to see each project bid out in order to get a better price.

Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Mr. Kincheloe, that the Board approve awarding the contracts for General Engineering/Architectural Services as presented and authorize the County Administrator to execute the contracts as approved by the County Attorney.

Vote was as follows:	Yeas:	Slaven, Kincheloe, and Bragg
	Nays:	Shull and Seaton
	Absent:	Grepps
	Abstain:	Garber

Motion carried.

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8. Infrastructure Funding Request

The Board considered a funding request from Craigsville Little League for additional infield dirt for the upcoming season.

Funding Source: Pastures Parks & Recreation Infrastructure $2,500.00

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that this is a request for the Parks & Recreation Infrastructure from the

Pastures District. The request is from Craigsville Little League for additional infield dirt for their upcoming Little League season. They have a partner that will do all of the hauling for them as a donated item. This cost is for dirt only.

Mr. Kincheloe moved, seconded by Mr. Shull, that the Board approve the funding request.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Kincheloe, Garber, Shull, Bragg and Seaton
Nays: None
Absent: Grepps

Motion carried.

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9. **Declaration of Local Emergency**

The Board considered the following resolution:

DECLARATION OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, in response to the imminent threat posed by a severe winter storm affecting the County of Augusta, characterized by substantial snowfall, sleet, ice, freezing rain, and prolonged sub-freezing temperatures, we are confronting conditions that significantly endanger the lives, safety, and property of our residents. This storm is expected to cause hazardous travel conditions and potential widespread power outages; and

WHEREAS, the conditions of extreme threat to life and property necessitate the declaration of a local emergency pursuant to the Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Services and Disaster Law of 2000, codified at Code §§ 44-146.13 through 44-146.28.1. The Code authorizes the Director of Emergency Management to declare the existence of a local emergency, subject to confirmation by the governing body at its next regularly scheduled meeting or a special meeting within 45 days of the declaration; and
WHEREAS, the potential of such an emergency necessitated the Declaration of a Local Emergency by the Director of Emergency Management, effective January 24, 2026; and it is

FURTHER DECLARED, that the Augusta County Emergency Operations Plan is now in effect and that the powers, functions, and duties of the Emergency Management Coordinator and Emergency Services organization of Augusta County shall be those set forth in the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the ordinances, resolutions, and approved plans of Augusta County to mitigate the effects of this emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of Augusta County

1. Confirms the declaration of a Local Emergency on January 24, 2026 and
2. Approves and consents to all actions taken by the Emergency Management Coordinator and County staff pursuant to the Declaration of Local Emergency and the Augusta County

Emergency Operations Plan; and

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that the Chairman declared a State of Emergency for Augusta County on January 24, 2026 for the most recent snow storm. It is required to be brought back to the Board to ratify the local emergency with a vote. This resolution confirms that it was a local emergency on January 24, 2026 and it approves all actions taken by the Emergency Management Coordinator and County Staff pursuant to the Declaration of Local Emergency and the Augusta County Emergency Operations Plan. The local emergency will remain open for a predicted potential storm coming up. The resolution will be brought back to the Board at the next meeting to terminate the local emergency.

Mr. Shull moved, seconded by Ms. Bragg, that the Board adopt the resolution.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Kincheloe, Garber, Shull, Bragg and Seaton
Nays: None
Absent: Grepps

Motion carried.

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10. **Consent Agenda**

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

MINUTES:
Consider minutes from the following meetings:

- Regular Meeting, Monday, November 24, 2025

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN
Consider the 2026 EOP.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Kincheloe, Garber, Shull, Bragg and Seaton
Nays: None
Absent: Grepps

Motion carried.

**** (END OF CONSENT AGENDA) ****

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

Nancy Sorrells, 3419 Cold Springs Road, Greenville, stated that the Board and Officers of the

Augusta County Historical Society would like to offer themselves as a resource to bring together as a community group that would work under the County's direction with all of the Stakeholders and explore together viable opportunities and options that preserve the 1901 Circuit Court building.

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

NONE

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

Mr. Shull would like for the County to explore a museum and display the rich history of railroads.

Mr. Kincheloe moved, seconded by Ms. Bragg, that the Board appoint Taylor Smith to serve on the Planning Commission for the Pastures District.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Kincheloe, Garber, Shull, Bragg and Seaton
Nays: None
Absent: Grepps

Motion carried.

Mr. Kincheloe moved, seconded by Mr. Garber, that the Board appoint Ms. Bragg to serve on the Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Kincheloe, Garber, Shull, Bragg and Seaton
Nays: None
Absent: Grepps

Motion carried.

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14. **Adjournment**

There being no other business to come before the Board, Mr. Shull moved, seconded by Ms. Bragg that the Board adjourn subject to call of the Chairman.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Kincheloe, Garber, Shull, Bragg and Seaton
Nays: None
Absent: Grepps

Motion carried.

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Minutes approved by the Board on Wednesday, March 11, 2026. The signed minutes can be reviewed in the County Administrator's Office.

Chairman	County Administrator