

Regular Meeting, Wednesday, February 25, 2026, 7:00 PM Government Center Main
Board Room

ROLE CALL:

Jeffrey Slaven
Chris Kincheloe
Michael Shull
Steve Grepps
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

VIRGINIA: At an adjourned meeting of the
Augusta County Board of
Supervisors held on Wednesday,
February 25, 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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The following students from Fort Defiance High School led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance:

Senya Johnson is a senior and plans to attend college to be specialized in pediatric oncology.

Kayla Nunez is a senior and plans to attend James Madison University to study business.

Brooklyn Jefferson is a freshman and plans to attend James Madison University to study Speech Pathology or Audiology.

Brianna Stratton is a junior and plans to attend a four-year university and major in nursing.

Lyla Coyner is a junior and plans to attend a four-year college and become a Family Consumer Science teacher.

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VFW member delivered the invocation.

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1. Rezoning Request -- Jordan Enterprises LLC

This being the date and time advertised to consider a request to rezone from General Agriculture with proffers to Single Family Residential with proffers approximately 1.00 acres owned by Jordan Enterprises, LLC, located off Misty Dawn Lane in Staunton in the Pastures District. The Planning Commission recommends approval.

Julia Hensley, Planner II, stated that the property is located within an Urban Service Area of the Comprehensive Plan and is planned for Medium Density Residential. The applicant has proffered minimum dwelling size of 1,000 square feet to be consistent with adjacent Single Family Residential-10 zoning.

Brad Long, applicant, currently has two houses on that road that are under construction and he is bonded to put in a state-maintained road on Misty Dawn Lane. He is not allowed to build another home on the acre of land without the rezoning.

The Chairman opened the public hearing.

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

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

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

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2. Public Use Overlay -- Hebron Presbyterian Church

This being the date and time advertised to consider a request to add a Public Use Overlay on approximately 31.218 acres owned by Hebron Presbyterian Church, located north of the Hebron Road and Eidson Creek Road intersection in Swoope in the Pastures District. The Planning Commission recommends approval.

Ms. Hensley stated that the property is zoned General Agriculture and is located in an Agricultural Conservation Area of the Comprehensive Plan. Because it is located in an Ag Conservation Area, the property has no associated future land use designation and the purpose of the Public Use Overlay is to accommodate private school students within

an existing structure.

Libby Hewitt is one of the founders of the private school. The school recently moved to Hebron Presbyterian Church which is the reason for the Public Use Overlay.

The Chairman opened the public hearing.

Mike Fetula is a parent of a student that attends this school. He spoke in favor of the request.

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

Mr. Kincheloe moved, seconded by Mr. Shull, that the Board approve the Public Use Overlay request as presented.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

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3. **Public Use Overlay -- Augusta County Service Authority**

This being the date and time advertised to consider a request to add a Public Use Overlay on approximately .25 acres of a 2.93-acre parcel owned by Augusta County Service Authority, located off Dry Branch Road between Buffalo Gap Highway and Crawford Drive in Churchville in the Pastures District. The Planning Commission recommends approval.

Ms. Hensley stated that the property is zoned Single Family Residential-10 and is located within a Community Development Area of the Comprehensive Plan. The property is planned for Low Density Residential. The purpose of the Public Use Overlay is to allow for the installation of a bulk water station for retail sales.

William Monroe, Director of Engineering for Augusta County Service Authority (Augusta Water), stated that the purpose of the project is due to a program that is offered that allows people to get hydrant meters to haul water for people that are on cisterns.

The Chairman opened the public hearing.

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

Mr. Kincheloe moved, seconded by Mr. Garber, that the Board approve the Public Use

Overlay request as presented.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

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4. **H2H Resolution**

The Board considered the following resolution:

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF AUGUSTA COUNTY, VIRGINIA, HELD AT THE AUGUSTA COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE HOSPITAL TO HOME, LLC dba H2H EMERGENCY SERVICES ("H2H"), TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES IN A NON-DESIGNED EMERGENCY RESPONSE AGENCY CAPACITY.

WHEREAS, H2H is a private transport company seeking licensure by the Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services (VAOEMS); and,

WHEREAS, VAOEMS regulations require that the governing body, where a VOEMS licensed EMS agency is sited, authorize the agency to operate and designate the authorized area of operation; and,

WHEREAS, H2H will be providing only scheduled non-emergent patient transports and standby emergency medical services at locations in the County, such as Augusta Health, and,

WHEREAS, H2H is not considered as part of the County's official Emergency Services Department, as set forth in § 2-13 of the Augusta County Code; and,

WHEREAS, H2H has acknowledged its requirement to comply with all applicable State and Local codes and regulations.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, pursuant to 12VAC5-31-420 of the Virginia Administrative Code, H2H is hereby authorized to operate as (i) a private transport agency not designated as an emergency response agency and not routinely dispatched for primary emergency medical services response and (ii) on-site standby emergency medical services in Augusta County, within the geographic boundaries of the County as the agency's primary service area, subject to adherence to all applicable State and Local codes and regulations. As used herein, "on-site standby emergency

medical services" refers to trained emergency medical personnel (such as EMTs or Paramedics) who are physically present and stationed at a specific location, venue, or event to provide immediate medical care if needed.

This Resolution shall be effective upon the date of its adoption.

Jennifer Whetzel, Deputy County Administrator, stated that Hospital to Home has requested a resolution to be considered by the Board of Supervisors. The Virginia Office of EMS regulations require that a governing body, where an EMS licensed EMS agency is cited, authorize the agency to operate in that area. They have the right to run calls in the area without approval of this resolution. They simply would not have any assets located in Augusta County.

Mr. Grepps stated that he has concerns with this and is unable to support.

Dr. Seaton stated that there remains to be questions on pricing. He recommends that citizens do their due diligence when contracting with the ambulance services to obtain the best service for their money.

Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Mr. Kincheloe, that the Board approve the resolution as presented.

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

Motion carried.

Dr. Seaton abstained due to the unanswered questions.

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5. North River Infrastructure Funding Request

The Board considered a funding request from Mt. Solon Volunteer Fire Department for a LUCAS device in the amount of \$18,860.37.

Funding Source: North River Infrastructure \$18,860.37

Timothy Fitzgerald, County Administrator, stated that this is a request from Mt. Solon Volunteer Fire Department for replacement of one of their LUCAS devices. This is a device that performs CPR. The total cost of the machine is \$18,860.37 and this is requested to come from the North River Infrastructure account.

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

as presented from the North River Infrastructure account.

Mr. Grepps offered to split the cost for the device from the Beverley Manor Infrastructure account.

Mr. Slaven appreciates the offer, but declines.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

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6. **South River Infrastructure Funding Request**

The Board considered the following:

- a. A funding request from Stuarts Draft Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$5,410.35 for a Ready Rack Extractor.

Funding Source:	South River Infrastructure	\$1,803.45
	Riverheads Infrastructure	\$1,803.45
	Beverley Manor Infrastructure	\$1,803.45

- b. A funding request from Stuarts Draft Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$4,776.00 to purchase six G3+ Dual Band P25 voice pagers.

Funding Source:	South River Infrastructure	\$1,592.00
	Riverheads Infrastructure	\$1,592.00
	Beverley Manor Infrastructure	\$1,592.00

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that the first request is in the amount of \$5,410.35 to purchase a ready rack extractor. This is a machine that is used to wash the gear and extract the chemicals off of them. The second request is for \$4,776.00 to purchase six new pagers

Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Mr. Shull, that the Board approve each funding requests as presented.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

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7. Consent Agenda

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

CLAIMS:

Consider claims paid since January 1, 2026

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

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(END OF CONSENT AGENDA)

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8. Matters to Be Presented by the Public

David King, 149 Mill Stone Drive, is a member of the American Legion Post 13. The building is in need of a new roof and asked if they would be able to get funding assistance from the County.

Dave Zimmerman, 120 Lee Highway, Verona, presented a certificate from the Augusta County Military Memorial to thank Mt. Solon Volunteer Fire Department for their service to the Veteran community during the recent snow storm.

Mona Huffer, 527 Hotchkiss Road, Churchville, Is concerned about the redistricting that is currently being voted on.

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9. Matters to Be Presented by Staff

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that over the last several months, there have been a lot of questions about data centers. Staff has been working on a model ordinance that will be

up for Board consideration. Shenandoah Valley Partnership (SVP) is going to apply for a Go Virginia Planning Grant that would help identify the most suitable locations within the Shenandoah Valley Partnership's region, which is multiple localities, for where data centers may work. This is a study that could be helpful to the County as the ordinance is developed and start looking at the opportunities within the County. SVP is going to apply for the grant and they are asking Augusta County, Rockingham County, Shenandoah County and Rockbridge County for \$5,000.00 to take care of the match for the grant. The total amount of the grant would be \$90,000.00. SVP will contribute \$10,000.00 for the grant match. The money is available in Economic Development that is used for grant matches.

Mr. Shull is not in favor of having an outside company determining what is best for the County.

Dr. Seaton asked for clarification where the money would be coming from.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that the funding would come from Go Virginia and then there is a match requirement. If the grant is approved, the County would provide \$5,000.00 for the match.

Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Mr. Grepps, that the Board approve the study.

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

Motion carried.

Nicole Price, County Attorney, stated that the order that the County requested regarding the deadline to fully occupy the new courthouse, was entered by the designated Judge and is of record in the Circuit Court. This moves the deadline for fully furnished and full occupation by the courts to be no later than June 15, 2026. The court found that the County has acted in good faith and has used commercially reasonable efforts to meet its original deadline and granted the extension.

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

Mr. Shull requested the engineer's report on the deficiencies on the Churchville firehouse. He also requests a list of what is needed to repair the ladder truck.

Mr. Kincheloe moved, seconded by Mr. Shull, that the Board appoint Bill McKenna to serve a term on the CAP-SAW Board. Effective immediately and to expire on June 30, 2027.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Mr. Slaven requested that Staff put out a request for applications of organizations within Augusta County that would be interested in receiving the funding from the Arts Grant.

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11. **Closed Session**

On motion of Mr. Kincheloe, 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)(8)

[consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter.]

- A. Resolution regarding Constitutional amendment referendum and congressional redistricting.
- B. Relocation from the Augusta County Courthouse of war veteran monuments/memorials.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

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

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

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: Slaven, Kincheloe, Garber, Grepps, Shull, Bragg
and Seaton	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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PUBLIC HEARING ADVERTISEMENT

Dr. Seaton moved, seconded by Mr. Grepps, that the Board authorize advertising for a public hearing regarding removal of plaques for the War Memorial pursuant to code of Virginia section 15.2-1812B.

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

Motion carried.

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REDISTRICTING RESOLUTION

Dr. Seaton moved, seconded by Mr. Shull, that the Board adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Article XII § 1 of the Constitution of Virginia states, regarding amendment or amendments to the Constitution of Virginia, "If at such regular session or any subsequent special session of that General Assembly the proposed amendment or amendments shall be agreed to by a majority of all the members elected to each house, then it shall be the duty of the General Assembly to submit such proposed amendment or amendments to the voters qualified to vote in elections by the people, in such manner as it shall prescribe and not sooner than ninety days after final passage by the General Assembly"; and

WHEREAS, the final passage of House Joint Resolution 4 occurred on January 16, 2026; and

WHEREAS, early voting for the referendum is scheduled to begin March 6, 2026 in the Commonwealth which date is sooner than the Constitutionally-prescribed 90 days after final passage; and

WHEREAS, the ballot language for the referendum states, "Question: Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to allow the General Assembly to temporarily adopt new congressional districts to restore fairness in the upcoming elections, while ensuring Virginia's standard redistricting process resumes for all future redistricting after the 2030 census?"; and

WHEREAS, Virginia House Bill 29, signed by the Governor on February 20, 2026, prescribes the congressional redistricting of Augusta County into three separate congressional districts where there is currently only one; and

WHEREAS, Virginia House Bill 29 states, in pertinent part, "That, if amendments to the Constitution of Virginia authorizing the General Assembly to modify congressional districts by amending Section 6 of Article II and amending the Schedule by adding a section numbered 6 are approved by a majority of those voting on the amendments at the special election on April 21, 2026, the provisions of the first, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh enactments and the provisions of § 24.2-304.05 of the Code of Virginia, as amended by the third enactment of this act, shall become effective immediately upon the certification of the results of such special election by the State Board of Elections"; and

WHEREAS the Board of Supervisors believes that fair representation requires congressional districts that respect regional integrity, preserve rural voices, and avoid

politically motivated manipulation of district boundaries; and

REDISTRICTING RESOLUTION (CONT'D)

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors believes that the rules of congressional districting, codified in Code of Virginia § 24.2-304.04 are violated by the redistricting set out in Virginia House Bill 29, to-wit: that districts shall be drawn to preserve communities of interest; that districts shall be composed of compact territory and shall be drawn employing one or more standard numerical measures of individual and average district compactness, both statewide and district by district; and that a map of districts shall not, when considered on a statewide basis, unduly favor or disfavor any political party.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Augusta County Board of Supervisors stands opposed to: i) the timing of early voting on the constitutional amendment referendum in violation of Article XII § 1 of the Constitution of Virginia, and ii) the wording "restore fairness" in the ballot question for the constitutional amendment referendum which presupposes that current congressional districting is unfair, thereby misleading voters; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Augusta County Board of Supervisors stands opposed to the congressional redistricting of Augusta County by Virginia House Bill 29, into three separate congressional districts where there is currently only one; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors encourages all Augusta County voters to vote in the upcoming special election/referendum; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be transmitted immediately to the Virginia Department of Elections, to the Office of the Attorney General, to the Office of the Governor of Virginia, to the members of the General Assembly of Virginia, to the Members of the United States Congress representing Virginia, to the Supreme Court of Virginia, and to the United States Supreme Court.

Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Dr. Seaton, that the Board add the Virginia Supreme Court.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

The Board voted on the motion to pass the resolution.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

12. **Adjournment**

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

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Minutes approved by the Board on Wednesday, April 8, 2026. The signed minutes can be reviewed in the County Administrator's Office.

Chairman

County Administrator