

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

ROLL 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,
March 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.

* * * * *

The following student from Stuarts Draft High School led the Board in the Pledge of
Allegiance:

Jackson Stajduhar is a senior and plans to attend the University of Pittsburgh and study
mechanical engineering.

* * * * *

Jeff Slaven, North River District, delivered the invocation.

* * * * *

1. Ordinance Amendment - Chapter 15, Section 15-21

This being the date and time advertised to consider an ordinance to amend Chapter 15.

Nuisances, Article II. Refuse and Condition of Premises. Section 15-21. Removal of trash, garbage, etc.

Julia Hensley, Planner II, stated that the proposed amendment to the Code of Augusta County would make the county code consistent with the Code of Virginia and adds the word “clutter” among the list of items that can be removed from the property due to potential endangerment of the health or safety of other residents of the County. The section utilizes the aforementioned definition of “clutter” from §15.2-901 from the Code of Virginia. The proposed amendment would not apply to land zoned for or in active farming operation.

Dr. Seaton asked for clarification on different scenarios of what would be considered clutter.

Nicole Price, County Attorney, discussed the process of how a violation would be handled.

The Chairman opened the public hearing.

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

Mr. Grepps moved, seconded by Mr. Kincheloe, that the Board approve the ordinance amendment as presented.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

* * * * *

2. Ordinance Amendment - Chapter 25, Section 25-4

This being the date and time advertised to consider an ordinance to amend Chapter 25. Zoning. Division A. Article I. General Provisions. Section 25-4. Definitions. The Planning Commission recommends approval.

Ms. Hensley stated that this amendment adds the definition of a public safety training facility to the Augusta County Zoning Ordinance to read: “A facility designed to replicate public safety training scenarios for the training and skill development of public safety professionals. Public safety training facilities may be conventional stick-built, engineered, or prefabricated structures.”

The Chairman opened the public hearing.

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

Mr. Garber moved, seconded by Mr. Kincheloe, that the Board approve the ordinance amendment as presented.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

* * * * *

3. Ordinance Amendment Chapter 25, Section 25-492

This being the date and time advertised to consider an ordinance to amend Chapter 25. Zoning. Division H. Article XLIX. Public Use Overlay districts. Section 25-492. The Planning Commission recommends approval.

Ms. Hensley stated that this amendment adds “public safety training facilities” to the list of additional permitted uses within a Public Use Overlay District.

The Chairman opened the public hearing.

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

Mr. Grepps moved, seconded by Ms. Bragg, that the Board approve the ordinance amendment as presented.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

* * * * *

4. Ordinance Amendment - Chapter 25, Section 25-70.4

This being the date and time advertised to consider an ordinance to amend Chapter 25. Zoning. Division A. In General. Article VI.D. Solar Energy Systems. Section 25-70.4.

Uses permitted by Special Use Permit by the Board of Zoning Appeals. The Planning Commission recommends approval.

Ms. Hensley stated that this amendment updates the date of the Planning Policy Area map, in relation to small solar energy facilities, to reflect the most recently adopted version of the Future Land Use Map of the Augusta County Comprehensive Plan.

The Chairman opened the public hearing.

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

Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Mr. Grepps, that the Board approve the ordinance amendment as presented.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

* * * * *

5. Ordinance Amendment -- Chapter 25, Section 25-70.6

This being the date and time advertised to consider an ordinance to amend Chapter 25. Zoning. Division A. In general. Article VI.D. Solar Energy Systems. Section 25-70.6. Uses permitted by Special Use Permit by the Board of Supervisors. The Planning Commission recommends approval.

Ms. Hensley stated that this amendment updates the date of the Planning Policy Area map, in relation to large solar energy facilities, to reflect the most recently adopted version of the Future Land Use Map of the Augusta County Comprehensive Plan. The Chairman opened the public hearing.

Teddy Jordan, Staunton, asked for an explanation of the difference between small solar and large solar facilities.

Ms. Hensley stated that a small facility is twenty-five acres or less and a large facility is anything above twenty-five acres.

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

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

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

* * * * *

6. **Dick Huff Lane Inspection Services**

The Board considered a task order proposal from Timmons Group and authorize the County Administrator to sign the task order with Timmons Group.

Doug Wolfe, Director of Community Development stated that the Dick Huff Lane project is out to bid. An incoming lane to the Government Center will be added and there will be a median to separate incoming and outgoing lanes. Construction is set to begin in June. The project budget includes line items for construction management and inspection services. The County's contract engineer, Timmons Group, has submitted a task order to provide those services under the general contract. Timmons Group will do the overall construction management. The subcontractor, MBP, will handle the actual inspection and testing. The proposed total fee is \$209,913.50, which is less than the approved budget. The recommended action is to authorize the County Administrator to sign the task order with Timmons Group.

Mr. Garber moved, seconded by Ms. Bragg, that the Board approve the task order from Timmons Group and authorize the County Administrator to sign the document.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

* * * * *

7. **Arts Grant**

The Board considered award for the FY27 Arts Grant.

Jennifer Whetzel, Deputy County Administrator, stated that this is a yearly decision made by the Board of Supervisors to state who they would like to partner with to file a grant for the Commission of the Arts. Since Monday's Staff Briefing discussion, the contact information for the Waynesboro Symphony has been received and an email has come in from a representative of Oak Grove Theater saying they had missed the deadline for the application, but were interested.

Ms. Bragg stated that part of the criteria to be eligible for the grant is the organization must be located in Augusta County. Oak Grove has received the funding for a couple of years and they are an Augusta County program that benefits everyone.

Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Mr. Kincheloe, that the Board approve award the grant funding to Oak Grove Theater.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

* * * * *

8. **Consent Agenda**

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

MINUTES:

- Regular Meeting, Wednesday, January 14, 2026
- Staff Briefing, Wednesday, January 28, 2026
- Regular Meeting, Wednesday, January 28, 2026

CLAIMS:

Claims paid since January 1, 2026.

EASEMENTS:

- Augusta County Courthouse Water/Sewer Easement.
- Easement agreement between Columbia Gas of Virginia and the County of Augusta.

LOCAL EMERGENCY TERMINATION

A resolution of the Declaration Terminating a Local Emergency Winter Storm Fern.

RESOLUTIONS:

- A resolution of the Augusta County Board of Supervisors ratifying certain easements.
- A resolution of the Augusta County Board of Supervisors to certify substantial completion of new courthouse.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

* * * * *

(END OF CONSENT AGENDA)

* * * * *

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

David Powell, 1016 Ladd Road, presented the Board of memorabilia from Rowes Restaurant and a letter of recognition from Congressman Ben Cline regarding the restaurant.

William Bashaw, 172 Bashaw Road, spoke against a Data Centers.

JoDee Massanari, 2556 Estaline Valley Road, spoke against data centers.

-

* * * * *

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

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that VACo has requested that the Board consider a resolution in regards to collective bargaining. At a previous meeting, the Board approved a letter in regards to the opposition of collective bargaining. The bill has passed the General Assembly and is currently in the Governor's office.

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

RESOLUTION OF THE AUGUSTA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OPPOSING MANDATORY COLLECTIVE BARGAINING LEGISLATION (HB 1263 / SB 378)

WHEREAS, current Virginia law provides a local option allowing governing bodies to determine whether and how to engage in collective bargaining based on local fiscal capacity, workforce needs, and service priorities; and

WHEREAS, HB 1263 and SB 378 would eliminate this local option and impose a state-mandated, one-size-fits-all collective bargaining framework administered by a Public Employee Relations Board (PERB); and

WHEREAS, this legislation shifts authority away from locally elected officials and imposes an unfunded mandate with significant fiscal and administrative consequences for local governments and taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's localities vary widely in population, resources, and service

delivery models, and are best positioned to make decisions that reflect their unique circumstances; and

WHEREAS, mandatory collective bargaining as proposed would:

- Divert limited local resources from core services to new administrative and bargaining structures without dedicated funding;
- Eliminate local flexibility to align workforce decisions with budgets and service needs;
- Create unpredictable fiscal obligations through arbitration and expanded dispute resolution processes;
- Increase administrative burden, litigation risk, and long-term costs for local taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, local governments must maintain balanced budgets while continuing to provide essential services, including public safety, education, and infrastructure;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Augusta County Board of Supervisors strongly opposes HB 1263 and SB 378 and any legislation that mandates collective bargaining for local governments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board urges the Governor and members of the Virginia General Assembly to preserve local authority over workforce and labor relations policies; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Board shall transmit this resolution to the Governor and members of the Virginia General Assembly.

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

Nays: Grepps

Motion carried.

* * * * *

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

Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Mr. Garber, that the Board approve a funding request for field dirt at the Schneider Park ball fields in the amount of \$5,214.24.

Funding Source:	South River Parks & Recreation Infrastructure	\$2,607.12
	Beverley Manor Parks & Recreation Infrastructure	\$2,607.12

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Mr. Grepps, that the Board re-appoint Stephen Campbell to serve a term on the Economic Development Authority. Effective March 29, 2026 and to expire on March 29, 2030.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Dr. Seaton is concerned with the way things are going in Richmond and pointed out how important it is to vote.

Mr. Shull moved, seconded by Dr. Seaton, that the Board re-appoint Teresa Hanger to serve on the Economic Development Authority. Effective immediately and to expire March 25, 2026.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Mr. Kincheloe moved, seconded by Ms. Bragg, that the Board re-appoint Steven Rea to serve a term on the Youth Commission. Effective immediately and to expire on June 30, 2029.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

* * * * *

12. **Closed Session**

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

(1) the real property exemption under Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A)(3)

[discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body]:

- a. Zapton Building in downtown Staunton – 111/113 S. Augusta Street

(2) 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]:

1. Zapton Building in downtown Staunton – 111/113 S. Augusta Street

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

* * * * *

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

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

* * * * *

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:

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

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

-

* * * * *

13. **Adjournment**

There being no other business to come before the Board, Dr. Seaton moved, seconded by Ms. Bragg 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 22, 2026. The signed minutes can be reviewed in the County Administrator's Office.

Chairman

County Administrator