

Regular Meeting, Wednesday, June 10, 2026, 7:00 PM Government Center Main Board Room

ROLE CALL:

Jeffrey Slaven
Michael Shull
Steve Grepps
Gerald Garber
Carolyn Bragg
Timothy K. Fitzgerald County Administrator
Jennifer Schacht, Deputy County Administrator
Nicole Price, County Attorney
Angie Michael, Executive Assistant

ABSENT: Chris Kincheloe, Vice Chair
Scott Seaton
Timothy K. Fitzgerald, County Administrator

VIRGINIA: At an adjourned meeting of the Augusta County Board of Supervisors held on Wednesday, June 10, 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 Board of Supervisors led the Pledge of Allegiance.

David Zimmerman delivered the invocation.

1. Men's Health Month Proclamation

The Board considered the following proclamation:

WHEREAS, Men's Health Month is part of an ongoing international effort to educate men, boys, and their families about the importance of preventative health screenings, early detection, and healthy lifestyles; and

WHEREAS, nationwide, men have a life expectancy that is approximately six years shorter than that of women and experience higher rates of chronic disease, including diabetes, obesity, cancer, heart disease, and premature mortality; and

WHEREAS, Men's Health Month provides an opportunity to recognize the mental and physical health needs of men and boys, while encouraging fathers and caregivers to

serve as positive role models through preventive care, healthy living, and help seeking behaviors; and

WHEREAS, the growing epidemic of “Deaths of Despair,” including deaths related to suicide, substance use disorders, alcohol misuse, and homelessness underscores the urgent need to raise awareness of unrecognized and undiagnosed depression, mental stress, and emotional distress among boys and men; and

WHEREAS, the centerpiece of Men’s Health Month is National Men’s Health Week, a special awareness period passed by Congress and signed into law on May 31, 1994, and observed annually through the efforts of Men’s Health Network to build health empathy, recognition, and understanding of the unique health needs facing men and boys.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Augusta County Board of Supervisors do hereby proclaim June 15-21, 2026 as Men’s Health Week in Augusta County.

Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Mr. Grepps, that the Board approve the Men’s Health Month Proclamation as presented.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Kincheloe and Seaton

Motion carried.

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2. **Veterans Memorial Resolution**

The Board considered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, since the formation of Augusta County in 1743, when colonial militia units were organized along Virginia’s frontier to defend settlers of the Shenandoah Valley and surrounding regions;

WHEREAS, those early citizen-soldiers, drawn from Augusta County and neighboring communities, including what became the Cities of Staunton and Waynesboro (the County and Cities collectively referred to herein as the “Grateful Communities”), stood in defense of their homes during several colonial conflicts of the eighteenth century, thereby establishing a tradition of military service that has endured and continued for more than Two Hundred Eighty years;

WHEREAS, throughout the American Revolution and subsequent conflicts of the early Republic, soldiers from this region served in the cause of independence and national preservation, instilling in our communities throughout Augusta County a legacy of patriotism, sacrifice, and devotion to liberty;

WHEREAS, in the War of 1812, the War for Texas Independence, and again during the Mexican War, the sons of our communities fought for our enduring principles of freedom and independence;

WHEREAS, during the American Civil War the men and women of our communities demonstrated courage under fire and steadfast loyalty to comrades and homeland;

WHEREAS, during World War I, the men of the Grateful Communities mustered into 116th Regiment as part of the 29th Infantry Division while others mustered into service with the Marines and Navy, mobilized for federal service and deployed to France, engaging in major offensives including the Meuse-Argonne, sustaining heavy casualties while helping secure Allied victory in Europe, Africa, the Middle East and the Pacific;

WHEREAS, on June 6, 1944, the 116th Infantry Regiment secured its place in history, landing on Omaha Beach during Operation Overlord, enduring devastating losses yet pressing forward with extraordinary valor to establish a foothold that proved decisive in the liberation of Western Europe;

WHEREAS, as names of sons and daughters of the Grateful Communities are among those who served and those who fell in numerous campaigns across Europe, Africa, and the Pacific culminating in Allied success and the conclusion of World War II;

WHEREAS, subsequent conflicts including Korea, Vietnam, the Cold War, and the Global War on Terror, members of these communities have served with honor and distinction across all branches of the Armed Forces of the United States – including the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Space Force – on land, at sea, and in the air;

WHEREAS, the spirit of our sons and daughters uniquely embodies the citizen-soldiers tradition of the National Guard, balancing civilian life with military readiness, prepared at all times to serve both the Commonwealth of Virginia and our Nation;

WHEREAS, the Governing Bodies of the Grateful Communities recognize that the freedoms enjoyed by their citizens have been preserved at great cost through the courage, endurance, and sacrifice of all who have worn the uniform of the United States and their families;

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that the Grateful Communities formally express their gratitude and permanently commemorate both the distinguished legacy of all veterans and those who have fallen in service to our communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of Augusta County and the City Councils of Staunton and Waynesboro do hereby honor and commend all past and present members of the United States Armed Services for their extraordinary record of continuous service from 1743 to the present day; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Grateful Communities solemnly remember those who gave their lives in defense of liberty in every generation and in every branch of service, and express profound gratitude to their families for the burdens they have

borne; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Grateful Communities hereby dedicate a memorial, to be situated in a place of prominence at the Government Center for Augusta County, which shall recognize the historic service and sacrifice and also honor all men and women of these communities who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this memorial should stand in perpetuity as a tangible reminder to future generations of the region's enduring heritage of military service, the cost of freedom, and the solemn responsibilities of citizenships; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be entered into the permanent records of the Governing Bodies of Augusta County and the Cities of Staunton and Waynesboro, and transmitted to representatives of the appropriate branches of the Armed Services of the United States, so that the appreciation of these communities may be formally conveyed.

Jennifer Schacht, Deputy County Administrator, stated that this is a resolution that was provided by the group that is working with the Veterans Memorial at the Government Center. There are two versions included in the packet. One version is the original joint resolution with the two cities and the county that was provided by the group earlier this year. The second version is one that included changes requested by a member of the Board and it is redlined in the agenda package. An email was received from the veterans group stating that they would prefer to move forward with the original version that was provided. There was a misspelling in the original version that has been corrected.

Ms. Bragg stated that this has been discussed multiple times. Another resolution was passed this evening and there were no changes made to it. What was presented to the Board is what was adopted. In this case, the original document is what the Board needs to consider.

Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Mr. Garber, that the Board adopt the original resolution that was presented.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Kincheloe and Seaton

Motion carried.

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3. **Employee Bonus Ordinance**

The Board discussed advertising for a public hearing for the Employee Bonus

Ordinance.

Ms. Schacht stated that the ordinance requested public hearing is related to the Commonwealth or the General Assembly providing the opportunity for bonuses based on Compensation Board monies to Compensation Board funded positions in their FY26 budget. Those positions would be the Sheriff, Commonwealth's Attorney, Treasurer, Commissioner of the Revenue and Circuit Court Clerk's office. Based on information that has been provided, those Constitutional Offices would receive a two percent bonus. The total for all employees in those offices, not just the state funded employees, would be \$253,000.00. The amount paid by the Comp Board is estimated to be \$120,000.00. If a similar bonus were to be provided to all county employees, the net cost to the county would be \$542,000.00. This is being brought to the Board because when we go to public hearing, we have to know who to include in the advertisement. The Board would make a decision after the public hearing on whether to move forward with the bonus. Shenandoah Valley Social Services and the Augusta County Schools have also received funding through the general assembly so they will definitely be included in the ad.

Mr. Garber moved, seconded by Ms. Bragg, that the Board approve advertising and include all employees.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Kincheloe and Seaton

Motion carried.

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4. **Consent Agenda**

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

MINUTES:

- Regular Meeting, Wednesday, April 22, 2026

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

Nays: None

Absent: Kincheloe and Seaton

Motion carried.

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(END OF CONSENT AGENDA)

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

Tiffany Law, 101 Ridgeview Drive, Stuarts Draft, voiced concerns with a county drainage easement running through their neighborhood that has become a serious and an ongoing public safety concern.

David Zimmerman, 120 Lee Highway, Verona, thanked the Board for passing the Veteran's Memorial resolution.

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

1. Doug Wolfe, Director of Community Development, stated that the Commonwealth updated the fee schedule for Erosion, Sediment Control and Stormwater Management, Chapter 9 Environmental Ordinance. This requires the County's ordinance to be updated. Mr. Wolfe reviewed some of the changes to the fees and stated that Staff recommends the Board advertise the amendments for public hearing. Another item included in the ordinance is Illicit Discharge Detection Elimination. Currently, the County ordinance cannot enforce illicit dumping of material unless it is directly located within MS4 areas. If the IDDE (Illicit Discharge Detection Elimination) is applied to the entire County then all waterways across the county will be protected. Agricultural discharges are still exempt under State Code Section: 9VAC25-875-860. Exclusions.

Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Mr. Garber, that the Board approve advertising both changes for public hearing.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Kincheloe and Seaton

Motion carried.

2. Mr. Wolfe stated that this is a drainage easement project on Wayne Avenue. The property owner has requested the County vacate a piece of a drainage easement. The County is working with VDOT on this project. Staff asks the Board for authorization to draft and advertise an ordinance to vacate a portion of the drainage easement.

Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Mr. Grepps, that the Board authorize drafting the

ordinance and advertising for public hearing.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Kincheloe and Seaton

Motion carried.

Ms. Whetzel discussed the following:

3. Typically, the first meeting in July is cancelled. That meeting date would be July 8, 2026.

The Board agreed to cancel the July 8, 2026 Board of Supervisors meeting.

4. Work is still being done on the Fishersville Library playground. A grant was applied for through T-Mobile and the County did not receive the grant funding.
5. Applications for the next Citizens Academy are due by July 17th. The program will take place from August through October 2026 and will have seven sections.

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7. Matters to Be Presented by the Board

Mr. Shull asked questions regarding the issue on Ridgeview Drive to get clarification on where the County stands.

Ms. Bragg pointed out that the state designated it as a stream and there is no maintenance agreement.

Mr. Garber moved, seconded by Mr. Shull, that the Board re-appoint the following Boards and Commissions. Effective July 1, 2026 and to expire June 30, 2030:

- Kevin Phillips Ag Industry Board
- Anne Gordon Parks & Recreation Commission
- Randall Harris Planning Commission
- Riley Murry Recycling
- Garry Gordon Augusta County Service Authority (Augusta Water)

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

Nays: None

Absent: Kincheloe and Seaton

Motion carried.

Mr. Garber moved, seconded by Mr. Shull, that the Board appoint Mary Godinez to serve a term on the Library Board. Effective July 1, 2026 and to expire June 30, 2030.

Ms. Bragg stated that she would be abstaining from the vote due to having a relationship with the individual.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Kincheloe and Seaton

Abstain: Bragg

Motion carried.

Mr. Garber recognized the Buffalo Gap High School softball team.

Mr. Grepps moved, seconded by Mr. Garber, that the Board appoint Andrew Parr to serve a term on the Planning Commission. Effective July 1, 2026 and to expire June 30, 2030.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Kincheloe and Seaton

Motion carried.

Mr. Shull requested an update on the radio project.

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8. **Closed Session**

NONE

9. **Adjournment**

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

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

Nays: None

Absent: Kincheloe and Seaton

Motion carried.

Minutes approved by the Board on Wednesday, August 12, 2026. The signed minutes can be reviewed in the County Administrator's Office.

Chairman

County Administrator