

Staff Briefing Meeting, Monday, July 20, 2026, 1:30 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 Schacht, Deputy County Administrator
Nicole Price, County Attorney
Angie Michael, Executive Assistant

VIRGINIA: At an adjourned meeting of the Augusta County Board of Supervisors held on Monday, July 20, 2026, at 1:30 PM at the Government Center Main Board Room, and in the 251st year of the Commonwealth...

1. **VDOT**

- a. Don Komara, Residency Administrator, discussed the VDOT status report of July 20, 2026.

The Board accepted the report as information.

- b. Doug Wolfe, Director of Community Development, discussed a SMART Scale resolution of support for the WWRC and Triangle Drive applications.

The Board authorized moving forward with the applications.

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2. **Fire-Rescue**

Greg Schacht, Fire Chief, discussed the following:

- a. Fire-Rescue monthly report. He welcomed Jessica Shaver as the new Administrative Specialist/Volunteer Liaison.

The Board accepted the report as information.

- b. The annual contribution for Walkers Creek Fire Department.

The Board authorized holding until the August 24, 2026 worksession.

- c. Authorization for funding of an ambulance in the amount of \$460,983.00.

The Board authorized placing on the Wednesday, July 22, 2026 regular meeting agenda.

The Board directed Staff to create a plan for the 24/72 shift for Fire-Rescue and bring information back to the August 24, 2026 worksession.

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3. **Cell Phone Pouches for the Augusta County Courthouse**

Sean Workowski, Circuit Court Judge, discussed the use of Yondr cell phone pouches in the Augusta County Courthouse in the amount of \$21,140.63.

The Board authorized holding until the August 24, 2026 worksession.

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4. **Public Defender Office Space**

Duane Barron, Chief Public Defender, discussed providing office space for public defenders.

The Board authorized holding until the August 24, 2026 worksession.

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5. **Innovative Refrigeration Systems Commonwealth's Development Opportunity Fund Performance Agreement and Local Agreement**

Rebekah Castle, Director of Economic Development, discussed the performance agreements.

The Board authorized placing on the Wednesday, July 22, 2026 regular meeting agenda.

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6. **Infrastructure Funding Request**

Mr. Fitzgerald discussed an infrastructure request from Augusta Regional Dental Clinic in the amount of \$23,000.00.

The Board authorized placing on the Wednesday, July 22, 2026 regular meeting agenda.

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7. Memorial Plaque

Mr. Fitzgerald discussed the addition of a memorial plaque on the old courthouse for LTC Brandon Shah in the amount of \$345.00.

The Board authorized placing on the Wednesday, July 22, 2026 regular meeting agenda.

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8. Planning Commission/Public Hearing

Julia Hensley, Planner II, discussed the following:

- a. Rezoning Request-Layne Investments, Inc.
- b. Rezoning Request-Curcio, Milio W, III & Curcio, Ann M.
- c. Ordinance Amendment-Chapter 25, Section 25-4
- d. Ordinance Amendment-Chapter 25, Section 25-384

The Board authorized placing on the Wednesday, July 22, 2026 regular meeting agenda.

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9. Matters to Be Presented by Staff

Mr. Fitzgerald discussed the following:

1. Infrastructure funding request for Craigsville Volunteer Fire Department for ten additional pagers in the amount of \$5,400.00 from the Pastures Infrastructure.
2. Infrastructure funding request for North River Elementary School for playground funding assistance in the amount of \$12,000.00 from the North River Infrastructure.

The Board authorized placing on the Wednesday, July 22, 2026 regular meeting agenda.

3. The Augusta County Fair starts on Tuesday, July 21, 2026.

Jennifer Schacht discussed the following:

4. The Sheriff's Office received a School Resource Officer (SRO) grant several years ago. An application was submitted for the renewal and it was denied. The ten SROs are included in the SY27 budget at a cost of \$879,000.00. The grant renewal would have been \$543,000.00. Going forward the expenditure will not be offset by revenue from the grant funds.
5. The playground has been ordered for the Fishersville Library. The Friends of the Augusta County Library Foundation submitted a grant application and Hershey Company has awarded \$25,000.00 to Augusta County for playground equipment. A requirement of the grant is to use the funds for adult exercise equipment. Staff will work with the library to determine if anything is needed to meet the grant requirements.
6. At a previous Board meeting considered a declaration of drought. There were changes made to it and will be before the Board at the Wednesday, July 22, 2026 meeting to ratify the current resolution.
7. Ms. Hensley stated that staff received a request to withdraw approximately 90.113 acres of land from the Middle River Agricultural and Forestal District. The district was last renewed in 2018 and will not be up for another renewal until 2028. The property owner has been working with Verizon to lease part of the property for the construction of a ninety-foot monopole communications tower. Current district regulations prohibit the construction of any new structures unless they are for agricultural purposes only. The Code of Virginia requires the County to take any Agricultural and Forestal District withdrawal request to the Agricultural and Forestal District Advisory Committee for a recommendation to the Planning Commission. Staff requests that the Board refer this withdrawal request to the Agricultural and Forestal District Advisory Committee to get their recommendation and then hold a public hearing in front of the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors in August.

The authorized referring the request to the Agricultural and Forestal District for review.

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

Mr. Grepps requests an update on the Churchville Fire station.

Mr. Slaven suggested that he communicate with Mr. Kincheloe to get further direction.

Dr. Seaton asked for an update on the old animal shelter facility.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that there is an offer on the facility and the owner's group will be meeting to consider the offer.

Mr. Shull requested an update on the radio project and broadband.

Ms. Schacht stated that she has requested that All Points Broadband come and give an update to the Board.

Mr. Shull suggests that the Board approve a resolution honoring John Ward from the Augusta County School Board.

Mr. Kincheloe stated that he has had conversations regarding the Churchville Fire station with various individuals. He is actively working on the issue.

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11. **Closed Session**

The Board took a five-minute break.

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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. Parking Lot in downtown Staunton – 115/117 S. Augusta Street
- b. District Courts Building and Old Jail – 6/14 E. Johnson St.

2. the legal counsel exemption under Virginia Code § 2.23711(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. Parking Lot in downtown Staunton – 115/117 S. Augusta Street
- b. District Courts Building and Old Jail – 6/14 E. Johnson St.

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

and Seaton

Nays: None

Motion carried.

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

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

and Seaton

Nays: None

Motion carried.

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

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