



Connections



The Newsletter of the Virginia Association of Counties

July 1, 2007

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VACO, VML to Hold Summer Symposium Aug. 10 Steering Committees Will Meet

VACO, in partnership with the Virginia Municipal League (VML), will hold a half-day Summer Symposium featuring three educational sessions on Aug. 10 at the Richmond Marriott. VACO steering committees will meet in the afternoon.

The first session will feature a timely update on the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). State and local experts will review current issues and laws related to FOIA. Session two will feature a panel of experts that will discuss issues related to Virginia's new electric re-regulation law and the development of the The Virginia Energy Plan. Several Virginia localities will participate.

At noon, the director of The Virginia Retirement System will talk about the status of the system and various funds including local and teacher accounts. A boxed lunch will be available during this session. A registration form is available on page nine or on the Web at www.vaco.org.

Steering committee members do not have to register for the symposium if they are only

attending the afternoon committee meetings.

1:15 p.m. steering committees

- Administration of Government
- Environment and Agriculture
- Health and Human Services
- Telecommunications and Utilities

3 p.m. steering committees

- Community Development and Planning
- Education
- Finance
- Transportation

Standard guest rooms are available at the Richmond Marriott at a special rate of \$115 per night for Aug. 9. Call the Marriott at (800) 228-9290 or (804) 643-3400 and request the "Virginia Association of Counties Room Block." The deadline to reserve a room at this rate is July 17. For details about the conference, call VACO staff members Mike Edwards or Carol Huff at (804) 788-6652; or Kimberly Pollard at VML, (804) 649-8771. The symposium registration deadline is Aug. 1. ☞

CTB Approves New Six-Year Transportation Program

On June 21, The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) approved an \$11 billion six-year funding program for public transportation, rail and highway projects for the next six fiscal years. The new program begins July 1.

The 2008-2013 program is \$3.1 billion larger than the 2006 approved plan. According to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), approximately \$500 million a year in new revenue and bonds was made available through the adoption of the recent compromise transportation funding package, HB 3202. The approved program includes \$2 billion for public transportation over the next six years, a 41 percent increase; rail receives \$322

million, a 68 percent increase; and highway construction receives \$8.7 billion, a 28 percent increase. VACo's 2007 Legislative Summary recaps HB 3202.

Two hundred and six interstate and primary projects will be under construction during the next six years, compared to 48 planned a year ago. As reported by VDOT, 342 secondary and urban projects could be ready for, or under construction within six years, for a total of 548 projects.

"Most of the highway funding is focused on advancing projects and getting them under construction quicker," Secretary of Transportation Pierce Homer said. "The CTB also gave highest priority to projects that meet goals of improving safety, reconstructing and rehabilitating the

highway system, helping freight movements, clearing up bottlenecks, improving highway operations – such as incident management, signs, signals and pavement markings – and for aggressively managing access to Virginia's roadways. Managing access links directly to our efforts in traffic impact analysis and land use."

Approximately 50 significant efforts to help achieve those goals were included in a presentation made at the CTB workshop (ctb.virginia.gov/meetings.asp).

The CTB also approved VDOT's first six-year program for maintenance and operations. The new program, required by a new law, is included as part of the six-year program. ☘

Joint Subcommittee Discusses Land Conservation

On June 19, the Joint Subcommittee studying funding strategies to support local Purchase of Development Rights programs held its first meeting of the year in Richmond to discuss land conservation.

Chaired by Sen. Emmett Hanger, this nine-member subcommittee received a staff presentation that made the following important points:

- Between 1992 and 2000 Virginia lost 490,000 acres of forestland.
- Between 1982 and 1997 Virginia lost 480,000 acres of cropland.

- To meet Virginia's goal of preserving 20 percent of Virginia land lying within the Chesapeake Bay watershed by Jan. 1, 2010, 238,944 acres of land need to be preserved. Maryland and Pennsylvania have already met their respective goals.

- Most land preserved in Virginia is obtained through conservation easements.
- Over the past few years, Virginia's Land Preservation Tax Credit has accounted for approximately 80 percent of the annual acreage preserved (52,696 acres in 2005 and 71,686 in 2006).
- Estimated cumulative costs to Virginia for preserving lands in

accordance with the 2000 Chesapeake Bay Agreement goals range between \$167 million and \$278.9 million.

For the remainder of the year, the subcommittee is interested in exploring ways for the state and localities to share costs in pursuit of additional conservation easements. Three additional meetings will be held this year in various parts of the state. VACo staff contact: Larry Land ☘

General Assembly to Study Cash Proffers

Responding to a request from the Homebuilders Association of Virginia (HBAV), the Residential Land Use and Development Work Group of the Virginia Housing Commission agreed on June 19 to re-examine the acceptance of cash proffers by local governments.

This follows a General Assembly action in 2006 to expand cash proffer authority to localities with a five percent decennial growth rate (HB 1506, Athey), and the 2007 enactment that extended "Northern Virginia-style" cash proffers to most other counties, cities and towns in the Commonwealth (HB 2500, Orrock).

While presenting the issue to the work group, Del. Frank Hall noted that local governments

are confronted with the question of how to allow appropriate growth to occur without increasing the burden of financing the infrastructure needed for new residences and businesses.

A spokesman for the HBAV encouraged a complete examination of cash proffers and cited the increasing impact of proffer "requirements" on the home building industry as one reason for the slowdown in the state's revenue collections. It was also noted that cash proffers raise the cost of both new and existing housing, making affordable shelter out of reach for many public employees of localities that accept the fees. HBAV also called for the Virginia Housing Commission to adopt principals for localities to use in their cash proffer requirements to ensure fairness and accountability.

Several local government representatives on the panel, as well as some of its legislative members, noted that the reduction of local cash proffers would require the state to assume more of the cost of building new schools and roads. It was also pointed out that any perceived fairness and accountability concerns with cash proffers could be addressed by authorizing a broad impact fee authority for local governments.

Without taking a formal vote, the work group agreed to some form of cash proffer review. Del. Danny Marshall, chairman of the workgroup, requested that panel members send any data requests to the Housing Commission staff. VACo staff contact: Ted McCormack ☞

VACo Remembers E. Virgil Sampson Jr.

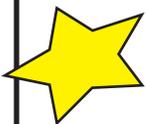
Former VACo President and Scott County Supervisor E. Virgil Sampson Jr., 66, passed away on June 13. Sampson served on the Scott County Board of Supervisors for 24 years beginning in 1971. He was chairman of the Scott County School Board.

"Virgil left a footprint for Southwest Virginia on VACo," VACo staff member Dean Lynch said. "He served as a local government mentor for me and many others from Southwest Virginia and will truly be missed."

VACo Executive Director James Campbell recalled that Sampson was always a voice of reason and very thoughtful to the finer details of county governments.

"He was very conscientious in his duties as VACo President [1985] and longtime VACo Treasurer," Campbell said. "His leadership in Virginia will be missed."

Sampson was a member of the New Peoples Bank Board of Directors. He was also an active member of the First Baptist Church of Gate City and a retired member of the Gate City Fire Department. Sampson owned and operated Scott Jewelers. ☞



Register today for the July 24 Transportation and Land Use Summit!

VML, VACo, The Coalition of High Growth Communities and the Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association invite you to attend a one-day summit to explore the land use aspects of HB 3202– the transportation bill passed by the 2007 General Assembly. Visit www.vaco.org for an agenda and registration form.

Confusing Changes Anticipated for Stormwater Management Programs



There's a lot of muddy water obscuring the view of major changes that the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) is making to the state's stormwater management program.

Part of what confuses the issue is the multiplicity of overlapping state and local regulatory programs. Currently, two technical advisory committees (TACs) have been created by DCR to assist with the development of two distinct sets of regulations. The first of these TAC's is charged with helping DCR develop regulations to implement Virginia's Stormwater Management Act (Section 10.1-603.2 et seq. of the Code). As amended by the 2004 General Assembly, the Act required the consolidation of most of the state's stormwater programs under DCR. This TAC (with many local government representatives) has met frequently over the past year to

undergo an iterative process of reviewing draft regulations that will be presented to Virginia's Soil and Water Conservation Board next September. It is by that time that the new stormwater regulations are expected to be approved for public comment in accordance with the Administrative Process Act.

A second TAC is assisting with revisions to the "general permit" that will continue Virginia's program for regulating and permitting Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4's). Under the Clean Water Act, the MS4 general permit will need to be approved by Virginia's Soil and Water Conservation Board by Dec. 9. The "MS4" TAC held its first meeting on June 19.

Through these parallel processes, what appears to be happening is the emergence of several separate, yet parallel stormwater management regulatory programs with similar requirements that will apply to

local governments. Concerns about these multiple programs and their potential for causing inefficiencies and confusing local officials are being communicated by VACo to DCR.

The confusing overlaps don't stop there. There are also questions relating to the way the state's stormwater management program will affect localities required to incorporate Urban Development Programs into their comprehensive plans. In addition to that, there are major questions pertaining to the relationship between federal stormwater requirements affecting construction sites and the state/local erosion and sediment control program that is currently enforced by local governments.

VACo will be working closely with the state's natural resource agencies to develop the most streamlined and least confusing approach possible.

VACo staff contact:

Larry Land ☞

DEQ Releases Annual Solid Waste Assessment

The Department of Environmental Quality has just released its annual Solid Waste Assessment for Calendar Year 2006. Issued on an annual basis by law, this report provides detailed information on the way municipal solid waste, as well as other categories of waste, were managed in Virginia.

According to the assessment, approximately 25.1 tons of waste was received by Virginia's solid waste facilities in 2006. Of this total, 17.8 tons originated in Virginia while the remainder (7.3 million tons) came from out-of-state. Top states exporting waste to landfills in Virginia were Maryland (42.7 percent), New York (24.5 percent), Washington D.C. (17.1 percent), North Carolina (6.9 percent) and New Jersey (5.2 percent). The report also states that the average statewide recycling rate for all Virginia's local governments was 32.2 percent in 2005. It is estimated that Virginia currently has, on a cumulative basis, 17.3 years of available capacity in all of its landfills.

Virginia's Solid Waste Assessment is available on the DEQ Web site at:

http://deq.virginia.gov/recycle/documents/AnnualReportRRR2005FINAL_000.pdf. ☞

Deadlines Approaching for State Farmland Preservation Matching Funds

The Office of Farmland Preservation of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) has announced the deadlines for localities interested in receiving state matching funds for local Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) programs. This is the first time that VDACS has been able to offer matching funds to help localities permanently preserve their working farm and forest land. The Office of Farmland Preservation has \$4.25 million in matching funds available for FY 2007-2008.

The first deadline is July 2. By this date, localities must certify the amount of matching

funds that they have available for the purchase of agricultural conservation easements. This form is currently available on the VDACS Web site, www.vdacs.virginia.gov/preservation/index.shtml. Click on the line that reads "FY 2008 Fiscal Certification Form - July 2 Deadline."

The second deadline is Aug. 31. By this date, localities must submit an application to have the components of their local PDR program certified. This form is also on the VDACS Web site. Click on the line that reads "FY 2008 Program Certification Form - August 31 Deadline."

Localities must describe how their program addresses or matches the elements established

in *A Model Purchase of Development Rights Program for Virginia*, which was released by VDACS in November 2005.

State matching funds will be divided up among those localities that become certified, to the extent that localities are able to provide a one-to-one match with these state funds. More information is available on the VDACS Web site at www.vdacs.virginia.gov/preservation/index.shtml or by contacting Kevin Schmidt at the Office of Farmland Preservation at (804) 786-1346, faxing (804) 371-2945, or email kevin.schmidt@vdacs.virginia.gov. ☞

Congratulations!

VACo staff member Mike Edwards helped to represent local governments before the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission on June 20 in Washington, D.C. The study commission is chaired by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation Mary Peters and includes appointees by the president and Congress. Edwards and six other representatives, including NACo President Colleen Landkamer of Blue Earth County Minnesota, appeared before the commission on behalf of several local government entities.

The Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors is pleased to announce the appointment of William Wade Bartlett as county administrator. Bartlett most recently served as finance director and assistant city manager for the city of Martinsville.

VACo staff member Phyllis Errico was elected vice chair of the Local Government Section Board of Governors of the Virginia State Bar at its annual conference in Virginia Beach. Michael Long of the **Fairfax County** Attorneys' Office was elected chair and Elizabeth Dillon of Guynn, Memmer & Dillon of Roanoke was elected

secretary. Karen Adams of the **Henrico County** Attorneys' office was elected as a new board member.

VACo Board Member Donald Hart has retired from the Accomack County School System where he served as guidance counselor to middle school students.

Tyler Emery has joined the Environmental Team as a staff technician for the Blacksburg office of **Draper Aden Associates**. Lori M. Kroll, a project administrator, has assumed the position of Funding Specialist. ☞



Mark Your Calendar...

NACo 2007 Annual Conference

July 13-17, Greater Richmond Convention Center
Visit www.naco2007.org to register for optional tours showcasing Virginia. The conference-wide event will be held at Jamestown Settlement on July 15.

Using the Transportation Act of 2007 to Make Growth Work

July 24, Henrico County, 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
VACo, along with VML, the Virginia Coalition of High Growth Communities and the Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association, are co-sponsoring a one-day training session on the land use provisions contained in the 2007 Transportation Act (HB 3203). Registration information is available on page 9.

Virginia Enterprise Zone Designation Workshops

The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) will be hosting two How-to-Apply Workshops in preparation for the next round of available Virginia Enterprise Zone designations. Four designations will be available. The application process is competitive and open to any city and/or county in Virginia. The workshops will be held in Roanoke on July 24 and Richmond on July 25. For important information and to register visit www.dhcd.virginia.gov/ezones.

VACo Summer Symposium

Aug. 10, Richmond Marriott
Educational sessions will take place in the morning followed by steering committee meetings in the afternoon. Registration information is on page 9.

VACo Board Meeting

Aug. 11, Lansdowne Resort in Loudoun County
9 a.m. - noon

Virginia's 2007 Rural Summit

Sept. 9-11
Widening the Road: Revitalizing Rural Virginia
Omni Charlottesville Hotel
www.cfrv.org
www.councilforruralvirginia.org

First Annual Urban Marketplace

Sept. 14, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Ronald Reagan Building & International Trade Center
Washington, DC
The Urban Land Institute's one-day conference and expo will highlight local investment opportunities and community development strategies in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia. More than 600 participants and exhibitors are projected to attend, making this the first and largest event of its kind in the Washington region. Registration fees are \$50 for public sector and nonprofit attendees (<http://www.uli.org/misc/washington0914regform.pdf>). ☞

Fire Incident Report Available

The Virginia Department of Fire Programs (VDFP) has issued a new report titled *Fighting Fires with Facts*.

The report provides locality specific 2006 incident response statistics for Virginia Fire Incident Reporting System (VFIRS) participating fire and emergency departments. The report, which will be published bi-annually, is part of a new initiative by VDFP to support and assist local fire departments in the Commonwealth toward addressing fire trends specific to their communities. The reports were mailed to local administrators and fire chiefs in more than 120 Virginia localities and is also available on the Web at https://www.fstrs.virginia.gov/VFIRS/VFIRS_SummaryReport.asp. ☞

Farmshoring Study Released

Virginia Tech's Office of Economic Development and the Urban Affairs and Planning Program in the College of Architecture and Urban Studies have released the findings of a year-long study: *Farmshoring in Virginia: Domestic Outsourcing Strategies for Linking Urban and Rural Economies in the Commonwealth of Virginia* (http://www.econdev.vt.edu/clients_projects/farmshoring.html). ☞

Employment Opportunities

Employment ads have been edited due to space considerations. To view the full versions, visit www.vaco.org.

Administrative Analyst/ Accomack County
Salary range is \$34,502 - \$50,028. For an application packet, contact the Accomack County Administration Office at (757) 787-5700. Deadline: 4:30 p.m. on July 6.

Assistant County Administrator /Orange County
Submit letter of application, detailed resume with salary history and work related references to: John A. Anzivino, Senior Vice President, Springsted Incorporated, 1564 East Parham Road, Richmond, VA 23228-2360; Fax 804-726-9752 or e-mail Richmond@springsted.com by July 27, 2007. For further information visit www.springsted.com.

Assistant Director of Budget and Finance/Isle of Wight County
Salary \$51,588-\$64,735 DOQ
Interested candidates should submit an application and resume to: HR, P.O. Box 80, Isle of Wight, VA. Visit www.iwus.net or call (757) 365-6304. Position open until filled.

Assistant Planner, GIS Coordinator/Mathews County
Salary: \$33,000(+) DOE. A completed County of Mathews

application, including salary history, along with a cover letter and resume may be submitted to the Department of Planning & Zoning. A complete job description and application may be obtained at www.co.mathews.va.us or at (804) 725-4034. Position open until filled. Previous applicants need not apply.

Building Inspector/Louisa County
Job descriptions and applications are available at www.louisacounty.com or (540) 967-0401. A Louisa County application must be submitted to be considered for this position. Open until filled.

Building Inspector/ Montgomery County
Salary DOQ. County application required. Deadline: July 9. (540) 394-2007 (TDD 540-382-5700); County Job Line (540-394-2010); www.montva.com

Business Auditor/Albemarle County
Hiring Salary: \$44,663 - \$58,062 /Annually. Open until filled. Complete job description and online application at www.albemarle.org/jobs.asp. (434) 296-5827

Coordinator of Emergency Management/Isle of Wight County
Salary \$51,788-\$64,735 DOQ
Interested candidates should submit an application and resume by 5 pm on July 6 to: Human Resources, P.O. Box 80, Isle of Wight, VA 23397. Visit www.iwus.net or call (757) 365-6304.

Deputy County Attorney or Assistant County Attorney/ Culpeper County
Deputy Position # A21-10104-003, Salary Range: \$ 66,632 - \$106,582
Assistant Position # A21-10104-004, Salary Range: \$ 53,682 - \$83,207
Culpeper County has two open positions, but will only hire for one. May apply for both positions. For more information call (540) 727-3407. Send completed county applications along with resume and three professional references by the close of business on July 31. Email: jobs@culpepercounty.gov, Web site: www.culpepercounty.gov

Director of Economic Development/ Accomack County
Salary DOQ. A completed county application and resume must be received by 4:30 p.m. on August 3. (757) 787-5700

Director of Parks and Recreation/Alleghany County
Applications are available at www.co.alleghany.va.us or at the Administration Office. Position open until filled. (540) 863-6600.

Erosion and Sediment Control Inspector/Isle of Wight County
Engineering Division, Salary \$32,912-\$41,141. For an application, visit www.iwus.net or call (757) 365-6304 . Position open until filled.

Continued on page 8

Employment

Continued from page 7

**Firefighter (EMT/
Intermediate/Paramedic)/
Prince George County**

Salary Ranges: Intermediate (\$31,857.61 - \$48,475.13, as of July 1, 2007), Paramedic (\$36,059.64 - \$54,869.01, as of July 1, 2007). For a complete job description and County Application, visit www.prince-georgeva.org. For information, call (804) 722-8669. Deadline: 4 p.m. on July 13.

**Lynch's Landing Executive
Director/ City of Lynchburg**

Salary range \$55,000 to \$60,000, dependent on qualifications. A full recruitment profile is available at www.lynchburgva.gov. Send a confidential resume with salary history and professional references via mail, email or fax by July 30 to: Margaret M. Schmitt, SPHR, Director of Human Resources, 900 Church Street, Lynchburg, Virginia 24504 . Telephone: (434) 455-4208 Fax: (434) 845-4304 Email: margaret.schmitt@lynchburgva.gov. For questions, please call (434) 455-4208

**Manager of Library
Services/York County**

Base salary \$58,890 (+). A York County application is required. Website: www.yorkcounty.gov or call (757) 890-3690. Hearing impaired TDD (757) 890-3300. Applications will be reviewed beginning July 15. However, the position is open until filled.

**Planner/Isle of Wight County
Department of Planning and
Zoning.**

Salary: \$36,000-\$45,000 DOQ. Applications can be downloaded from the website at www.iwus.net or call (757) 365-6304 for more information. Position open until filled.

Planner I/York County

Salary range: \$36,152 to \$55,769. A York County application is required and may be obtained from www.yorkcounty.gov or call (757) 890-3690. Hearing impaired TDD (757) 890-3300. Open until filled.

**Procurement Manager/King
George County**

Open until filled. Hiring range \$45,609 to \$60,000 DOQ. Applications may be obtained from the King George County Administrator's Office or online at www.king-george.va.us. (540) 775-9181

**Regional Economic and
Entrepreneurial Development
Director/Carroll County**

Reports to the Regional Industrial Facilities Authority Board. For a full description, please visit www.carrollcounty-va.org

**Regional Planner,
Environmental and
Transportation/Central
Shenandoah Planning District
Commission**

Salary range \$34,000 to \$53,200 plus fringe benefits. Negotiable DOQ. For more information or to apply, send cover letter and resume to A. Ray Griffin, Jr.,

Executive Director, Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission, 112 MacTanly Place, Staunton, Virginia 24401. E-mail submissions accepted: ray@cspdc.org . Position open until filled.

**Senior Planner/Urban
Design/Isle of Wight County**

Department of Planning and Zoning, Salary \$41,286-\$51,607. Applications can be downloaded at www.iwus.net or call (757) 365-6304 for more information. Position open until filled.

Senior Policy Analyst/DHCD

Salary: \$45,000 - \$65,000. Provides technical and logistical support to the Commission on Local Government. Experience working with local governments and/or local government issues. Open until filled. (804) 371-7000

**Zoning & Plans Inspector
I/Franklin County**

Salary Range: \$27,080 - \$41,974 (+) benefits. Applications and a complete job description available at 40 East Court Street, Rocky Mount, VA 24151 or visiting: <http://www.franklincountyva.org> Application review begins June 22.

**Zoning and Code Enforcement
Supervisor/York County**

Salary range: \$41,853 to \$64,564. A York County application is required and may be obtained from the H. R. Office, www.yorkcounty.gov or call (757) 890-3690. Hearing impaired TDD (757) 890-3300. Open until filled. ☞

Registration Form: VACo/VML Half-Day Summer Symposium Aug. 10

To register, mail this form and a check (made payable to VACo) for \$40 per person to: VACo, 1001 E. Broad Street, Suite LL 20, Richmond, VA 23219-1928 or fax to (804) 788-0083. Standard guest rooms are available at the Richmond Marriott (500 E. Broad St., Richmond) at a special rate of \$115 per night for Thursday, Aug. 9. Call the Marriott at (800) 228-9290 or (804) 643-3400 and request the "Virginia Association of Counties Room Block." The deadline to reserve a room at this rate is July 17. For details about the conference, call Mike Edwards or Carol Huff at VACo (804) 788-6652; or Kimberly Pollard at VML (804) 649-8771. **The Symposium registration deadline is Aug. 1.**

- 8:45 a.m. Registration
- 9:30 a.m. Education Session 1: Virginia's Freedom of Information Act: a timely update
- 10:30 a.m. Education Session 2: Energy costs and conservation: a primer for local officials
- Noon Box lunches and Education Session 3: The Virginia Retirement System: a timely update
- 1:15 p.m. VACo Steering Committee Meetings
- 3 p.m. VACo Steering Committee Meetings

NOTE: Steering Committee members who do not want to register for the symposium may come to the steering committee meetings only - at no cost. However, lunch will be served ONLY to those registering for the symposium (lunch is included in the cost of the symposium).

The following people will attend the VACo/VML Half-Day Symposium on Aug. 10. Accompanying this form is a check for \$40 per person or charge authorization.

NAME: _____ NAME: _____

TITLE: _____ TITLE: _____

NAME: _____ NAME: _____

TITLE: _____ TITLE: _____

County, City, Town or Organization: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Special Accommodations? _____

Credit Card Options:(Circle one:) AMX MC VISA

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Authorized Signature: _____

1001 E. Broad St., Suite LL 20
Richmond, VA 23219



Executive Committee

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President-Elect: William B. Kyger, Jr., Rockingham County

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2nd Vice President: Donald L. Hart Jr., Accomack County

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Administrative Assistant: Pamela A. Haskins

VACo Risk Management Programs: Wayne A. Faddis, ARM,
Administrator, (888) 822-6772

VACo exists to support county officials and to effectively represent, promote and protect the interests of counties to better serve the people of Virginia.

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