

COUNTY CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of the
Virginia Association of Counties

December 1, 2009



VACo County Supervisors Forum...
Page 2



Visit Natural Bridge in Rockbridge County... Page 5



Mandates on local governments increase during tough economic times...
Page 4



Wendy Wingo appointed to Commission on Local Government ...Page 7



More cuts at VDOT

By Larry Land
lland@vaco.org

Between Spring 2008 and August 2009 there has been a reduction of \$4.6 billion in the forecast of transportation revenues for the 2010-2015 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan.

The November meeting of the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) represented the second time since last June that transportation revenue forecasts have been revised.

The most recent revision actually represented a slight improvement over the forecast of transportation revenues issued in August.

The total picture, however, remains bleak. VDOT's chief financial officer, Reta Busher, reported that sales tax revenues dedicated to transportation are likely to decrease over the next few months. There is also pessimism over anticipated reductions in federal transportation revenues.

During the CTB's Nov. 18 work session, plans were outlined by VDOT's staff to cut \$84 million in programs and services before the current fiscal year ends on June 30, 2010.

FY 2010 cuts will include:

- Reductions in VDOT's administrative costs.
- Reductions in equipment purchases.
- Reductions in capital outlays for facility improvements.
- Reduced payroll from staffing reductions.
- Reduced maintenance including cutting payments to localities that maintain their own roads.
- Reduced paving operations.

Local governments continue to take



a beating. Under a revised Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan (SYIP) proposed by VDOT, total allocations for secondary roads through the six-year period are being reduced from \$500 million (under the plan approved last June) to \$300 million.

VDOT appears to be transferring at least \$200 million from total county secondary allocations to its primary and interstate highway construction programs.

Because of decreased revenues from general sales taxes, home sales (recordation taxes), insurance premium

VDOT

Continued on page 9

VACo releases 2010 Legislative Program

By Mike Edwards
medwards@vaco.org

VACo's 2010 Legislative Program is posted on www.vaco.org. The new document contains timely and targeted policy positions.

VACo prints and mails the priority statements to the members, governor and legislators prior to commencement of the General Assembly in January.

The priority statements represent the membership's highlighted interests.

Highlights of 2010 priority statements:

- State and Local Fiscal Sustainability:

Local governments require sufficient and sustainable revenue streams to meet state mandates. VACo suggests that the Commonwealth grant counties and cities the option, by action of the local governing body without a referendum, the ability to increase the local sales and use tax by 0.5 percent to help offset state budget reductions affecting localities. [V]ACo continues to support equal taxing authority for cities and counties.



-Education Funding: [V]ACo opposes changes in methodologies and the division of financial responsibility intended to shift education costs from the state to localities.

Because state Standards of Quality funding to support the Standards of Learning and Standards of Accreditation is insufficient, local governments should have flexibility to make cuts across state

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

Continued on page 9

Retirement? Keep Saving

by Kate Jaeger
Communications Consultant, Nationwide
Retirement Solutions



In today's economy, many people feel uneasy and insecure about their budgets and their financial futures.

An unpredictable market can be intimidating, especially when working hard to pay current bills and save money for retirement at the same time. But before reacting emotionally by moving investments to cash or discontinuing contributions, it's smart for county employees to know why they may want to stick with their long-term strategy including their supplemental retirement savings such as a 457(b) deferred compensation plan, regardless of market conditions. Here are three reasons for employees to stick with it:

1. Retirement savings have tax benefits

Employer sponsored retirement plans like a 457(b) deferred compensation offer tax benefits that are not tied to the market. Contributions are pre-tax. That means that money goes into an account before the participant pays taxes. For example, if an employee pays 25% in income taxes, then a contribution of \$100 in a retirement account results in only a \$75 reduction from their take-home pay and taxes are not due on the \$100 or any gains until withdrawal, usually at retirement. So not only does \$75 out of pocket put \$100 in the account, the \$25 that would have been taxes now has the potential to grow and compound over the years. (Investing involves risk, including possible loss of principal.)

Compounding is when money can earn more money over time. That same employee saving \$75 out of their pocket every payday for 35 years, will have invested \$91,000 (remember at 25% income tax, that only felt like \$68,250). At an average annual return of 7%, the \$91,000 would grow many times over to be worth more than four times the original investment – \$372,338.*

Not all American workers today may be able to afford to invest the amount in this example right now. In real life, people often start smaller and increase regularly when they get a pay raise. Beginning to contribute is the most important step, but continuing to invest as much as possible throughout the working years is equally important, even when markets are volatile. The tax benefits are not affected by volatility.

2. Markets bounce back

There have been down markets before. Today, it's easy for emotions to reflect the market – they go up, they go down. And while past performance cannot guarantee future results – over the past 75 years, every down cycle has been followed by an up cycle. And while no one can definitively say when the market will upswing, most financial experts agree that the market will recover. And that's something that no one wants to miss out on. In mid-May, The Wall Street Journal reported that "Since bottoming out, the Dow has surged 26%. That means investors who sold at the bottom have missed out on one of the most powerful rallies in decades." (The Wall Street Journal, May 18, 2009) Rather than "cutting losses" by selling at a low point, investors can think of a market downturn as an opportunity to "buy low". When the market is down, investors who buy get more for their money when it rebounds. However, selling or waiting to invest until the market improves could mean an investor actually pays a higher price. A "down market" might actually be a good time to buy more while prices are potentially lower.

3. The right strategy is important

Even though planning for retirement is a long-term goal, many investors think short-term, especially in times like these. There are strategies, such as asset allocation, that may help deal with a volatile market and reduce market risk without having to miss out on potential returns. Experts suggest that investors use different types of investments because even though all investments go up and down over time, typically they do not move the same way at the same time. Investors can drive commitment to a long-term investment discipline by understanding their own comfort level with market risk, how long until they will actually retire, and when they will start spending their retirement assets. And in turn, this can help determine what asset allocation strategy to use. It's important to remember though that asset allocation does not guarantee returns or insulate against potential losses in a declining market.

VACo Notes

VACo County Supervisors Forum



January 8-10, 2010

About the Forum: The Virginia Association of Counties offers the Virginia County Supervisors Forum for supervisors to concentrate on critical issues facing counties today: financial responsibilities, schools, economic development, transportation, environmental protection, intergovernmental relations, legal issues and more. An overview of county government and the work of county supervisors is covered.

Who should attend: Newly elected and incumbent supervisors, chief county administrative officers and other government managers will come away with information they need to steer their locality forward.

Registration details: The conference registration fee is \$295, which covers conference materials, a Virginia County Supervisors' Manual, Friday dinner, Saturday lunch and Sunday lunch. Spouses and guests who attend may register for \$150, which covers those meals. The conference takes place at the Richmond Marriott. Room rates are \$123 for a single or double room. To reserve a hotel room, call 1-800-228-9290 by Dec. 17 with this code: ("VACo New Supervisors Meeting").

Click here to view the schedule of events.

James City breaks ground for new police headquarters



(Pictured left to right: Sandy Wanner, JCC County Administrator; Jim Icenhour, JCC Board of Supervisors; David Nice, David Nice Builders; Emmett Harmon, JCC Chief of Police; Jim Kennedy, JCC Board of Supervisors; Bruce Goodson, JCC Board of Supervisors; Dean Roberts, McLaren, Wilson & Lawrie; Nelson Rancorn, Rancorn Wildman Architects)

James City County recently broke ground on the new Police headquarters building located on Opportunity Way near Thomas Nelson Community College.

Projected to open in June 2011, the 47,000 square foot building will allow the Police department to oversee all divisions and functions from a central site in the County.

The facility will support the County's commitment to the environment with the use of a geo-thermal well system and energy efficient windows, doors and lighting.

The new headquarters will replace the current Law Enforcement Center that was built in 1980. Representatives from David Nice Builders, Rancorn Wildman Architects and the public safety architectural consultants of McLaren, Wilson & Lawrie joined County Board members and staff in the groundbreaking.

VRS Board Hears Actuarial Valuation



By Dean Lynch
dlynch@vaco.org

The 2009 actuarial valuation results were presented on Nov. 19 to the VRS Board of Trustees.

Following is quick overview on the pension fund and health insurance credit.

A detailed report is linked.

The actuary is working to complete the valuation reports for each locality. Generally, and in the past, they have been ready in mid-December.

Pension

-Aggregate funded status has decreased for political subdivision pension plans

-Average employer contribution rate increase of 0.0 percent of pay (no change) for local pension plans between June 30, 2008 and June 30, 2009

-Assumption changes result in a contribution change of minus-1.1 percent on average

-Plan experience results in a

contribution change of 1 percent on average

-Average employer contribution rate increase of 1 percent between June 30, 2007 and June 30, 2009

Health Insurance Credit

-Funded status has declined for the Registrars and for the Constitutional Officers

-Average employer contribution rate decrease for local health plans

Mandates on local governments increase during tough economic times

By Ted McCormack
tmccormack@vaco.org

The annual report by the Commission on Local Government cataloging mandates on localities clearly show once again that counties continue to labor under heavy burdens imposed by the state and federal government.

Between 2008 and 2009, the number of mandates imposed by state agencies increased from 447 mandates to 456 mandates, or slightly more than 2 percent.

The Commission's 2009 Catalog of State and Federal Mandates on Local Governments includes the results of a survey of 44 state agencies as well as

any new mandates resulting from the 2009 General Assembly session.

That research revealed 10 new or newly identified mandates, as well as five mandates whose requirements had been expanded. While only one mandate had been eliminated during the study period, two other mandates were suspended by legislative action but remain in the catalog. On a more positive note, the number of mandates classified as Compulsory Orders (i.e., requiring local government compliance regardless of state aid or other circumstances) increased from only 237 mandates in 2008 to 240 mandates in 2009.

During the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, local gov-



ernments remain hopeful that the trend of more unfunded mandates will cease. Indeed, Governor-elect Bob McDonnell pledged during his campaign that he will veto or amend bills that place unfunded mandates on localities.

Local cash proffer revenue declines as economy cools

By Ted McCormack
tmccormack@vaco.org



The Commission on Local Government's report containing the results of its annual survey of voluntary cash proffers shows a significant drop in proffer collection due to the absence of new residential and commercial construction in Virginia.

In the 2009 fiscal year, the 30 counties, eight cities and seven towns reporting proffer activity received \$42.4 million or a decline of almost 30 percent from the previous fiscal year.

Due to a backlog of capital projects to accommodate residential and commercial growth from prior years, however, FY 2009 proffer revenue expended for local facilities was \$49.2 million, a drop of only 1.7 percent as compared to the 2008 fiscal year.

The Commission's survey again found that close to half (45.5 percent) of locality proffer expenditures went for schools while slightly more than one quarter (26.1 percent) were for

transportation improvements.

This continues a trend that began in FY 2007 where schools, rather than transportation, were the top proffer project.

The recent report continues to demonstrate that cash proffers are not a reliable or sufficient source of revenue for counties confronting the need to provide services to new residents even when construction costs are significantly down.

For example, during FY 2009, counties collectively expended approximately \$22 million for schools, but the estimated cost of a new high school in a county could range between \$50 million and \$75 million.

Further, during that same period, counties reported expending \$12.7 million on transportation improvements, an amount that would cover the cost of widening slightly more than one mile of roadway from two lanes to four.

Copies of the Commission's report may be downloaded from its Web site.



History of the Natural Bridge

-A very long time ago:

Natural Bridge was formed when a cavern collapsed and left the span that stands today.

-A long time ago:

Monacan Indian legend has it that Natural Bridge appeared just as they needed to escape from an advancing enemy.

-In 1750:

Legend holds that young George Washington surveyed the Natural Bridge site for Lord Fairfax. Landmarks remain of the work and on the wall of the bridge where he carved his initials.

-In 1774:

Just before the American Revolution and writing of the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson purchased 157 acres of land including the Natural Bridge from King George III of England for 20 shillings. It has remained privately owned.

-Late 1700s:

Its development as a retreat began when Jefferson built a two room log cabin - one room was reserved for guests.

-Early 1800s:

In 1833, Jefferson's heirs sold the site and the new owner erected the Forest Inn to accommodate the increasing number of people.

-Late 1800s:

During the 1880s Natural Bridge attained resort status under the ownership of Colonel Henry Parsons.

-Early 1900s to now:

Natural Bridge continues to welcome visitors from all over the world.

-In 1998:

Designated a National Historic Landmark by the US Department of the Interior.

Mark Your Calendars

VACo Upcoming Events

New Supervisors' Forum
 Jan. 8-10, Richmond Marriott
 Registration Form
 Register online



VACo Executive Committee Meeting
 Jan. 13, Richmond

Rural Caucus Reception and Dinner
 Feb. 10, Richmond Marriott
 Registration Form
 Register online



VACo Board of Directors Meeting
 Feb. 11, Richmond Marriott

VACo/VML Legislative Day
 Feb. 11, Richmond Marriott
 Registration Form
 Register online

Chairpersons' Institute
 Feb. 11-13, Richmond Marriott
 Registration Form
 Register online

2010

January 2010						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 2010						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March 2010						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April 2010						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2010						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2010						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July 2010						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August 2010						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

September 2010						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October 2010						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November 2010						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December 2010						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

VACo Committee Interest Form



VACo seeks county supervisors and chief administrative officers interested in serving on steering and operational committees. The steering committees consider proposals from member counties for inclusion in VACo's annual legislative program.

They also provide direction to the VACo staff on policy issues arising from legislative and state agency studies. Steering committee members are selected from each of VACo's 13 regions.

Committees also include several members appointed at-large. The operational and ad hoc committees are responsible for helping direct the staff in the activities, programs and functions of VACo.

County officials who serve on committees need to submit this linked form by Dec. 15 to be reappointed to a committee in 2010.

Wingo appointed to Commission on Local Government

On Oct. 19, Gov. Timothy M. Kaine appointed Wanda C. (Wendy) Wingo of Troutville to the Virginia Commission on Local Government.

She will serve out the unexpired term of Elmer Hodge, the former Roanoke County Administrator, who resigned from the Commission when he was appointed to the Virginia Recreational Facilities Authority.

Wingo, a former chairman of the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors, served as VACo's President in 1999.



Prince George earns GFOA award



The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to County of Prince George by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.



The CAFR has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the CAFR.

"In difficult economic times, the Prince George Finance Department has done an outstanding job," Prince George County Administrator John G. Kines, Jr. said. "This award demonstrates the high quality of the County financial management and I personally congratulate each member of the Finance Department for a job well done."

New online tool showcases Virginia Arts and Cultural destinations

A new tool was unveiled today that makes Virginia's arts organizations more accessible for residents and visitors alike. Arts organizations receiving state public funding in Virginia, many which represent key cultural tourism destinations throughout the Commonwealth, are now easily located using Virginians for the Arts' new Google Map, "Virginia Arts Build Communities."



"As cultural tourists travel around Virginia, they are looking for outstanding performances, exhibitions, and other cultural experiences. The Arts Build Communities map will help them quickly find those experiences," according to Peggy Baggett, executive director of the Virginia Commission for the Arts.

Access the map by (1) going to Google, (2) hitting Maps in the toolbar, then (3) doing a search on Virginia Arts Build Communities. According to Virginians for the Arts Executive Director Trish Poupore, "The map illustrates the great geographic diversity of the arts in Virginia and showcases the cultural richness that can be found throughout the state." More than 260 of Virginia's arts organizations can be viewed on the two-page map, which contains descriptions, addresses, phone numbers, and links to Web sites.

According to a study commissioned by Virginians for the Arts, the arts are a billion dollar business in Virginia, employing some 20,000 people and generating hundreds of millions of dollars in economic activity, drawing tourists from across the nation and around the globe (www.vaforarts.org). Every \$1 million in arts revenue generates receipts for Virginia businesses of \$2 million.

Virginians for the Arts (www.VaForArts.org) works to build awareness of the importance of the efforts of Virginia's state arts agency, the Virginia Commission for the Arts. In 2009, the agency provided grants for operating support for more than 200 arts organizations throughout the state and more than 1,000 other types of grants that benefit teachers, students, local government, artists and the communities they serve.

NACo President Brown urges all counties to celebrate “Healthy Counties”



The National Association of Counties' (NACo) National Association of Counties (NACo) President Valerie Brown is calling on all counties to begin planning today for National County Government Month (NCGM).

The theme for NCGM, to be celebrated throughout the month of April 2010, is "Healthy Counties."

"County governments are integral to America's health system and provide many essential services for their residents," said Brown, supervisor, Sonoma County, Calif. "I know counties are most proud of their health-care services and healthy living programs. That's why the theme for National County Government Month is Healthy Counties."

Since 1991, NACo has encouraged counties to actively promote county government programs and services. Formerly National County Government Week, the designation was expanded to a full month to offer counties more opportunities to plan and participate. Counties aren't expected to hold public awareness activities throughout the month, but can schedule activities any time during the month.

Brown urged county leaders to hold open houses or public tours of county facilities, visit local schools and business groups to discuss available county services, and highlight exceptional services and programs.

"By starting to plan today counties can make the most of the opportunity

to promote effective local government efforts to serve and protect communities," Brown said. "I am excited about this year's Healthy Counties theme as I am making advocacy for national health reform that works for counties a hallmark of my year as NACo president."

Beginning in January, a booklet will be available from NACo which will provide helpful information about how to plan successful NCGM celebrations.

For more information, visit the National County Government Month Web page in the County Resource Center on the NACo Web site or contact Jim Philipps at 202-942-4220 or jphilipps@naco.org.

Partner with the 2010 Census to get an accurate count

The 2010 Census will have one of the shortest census questionnaires in the history of the United States and should take only a few minutes to complete. The aim of this historic endeavor is to ensure that every household fills out and mails back a completed census form on or around April 1, 2010.

Participation is critical, as the results determine how representation in Congress is apportioned and how federal, state and local legislative districts are drawn. Also, more than \$400 billion in federal funds will be distributed annually to states and communities through the next decade. Whether Virginia gets its fair share of the funds depends on the accuracy of its census data.

The results in Virginia will impact local families' quality of life in numerous ways, ranging from economic and educational investment decisions to social and health services, and from job training to disability assistance

programs.

Forecasting and planning for Virginia's future transportation needs, urban land use, public safety strategies, consumer needs, and school district boundaries depend on an accurate count. Also, businesses use census data to determine where to locate factory sites, distribution centers, retail stores and office facilities.

One of the key strategies of the 2010 Census is to partner with community-based organizations of all types, ranging from social service organizations to cultural and religious groups, businesses to educational institutions, and media to elected officials. Census partners all over the state are raising awareness and promoting participation in the upcoming census.

You can help by answering questions and helping your constituents overcome misconceptions about the 2010 Census.

Share the benefits of being counted

and reassure your community their questionnaire responses are confidential. All census answers are protected by Title 13 of the U.S. Code, which strictly forbids the Census Bureau from sharing of any personally identifiable information with any other government or private agency.

All Census employees have taken a lifetime oath to uphold this law.

For more information about partnering with the 2010 Census, contact the Charlotte Regional Census Office at (704) 936-5330, and ask to speak with a Partnership staff member. More information can be found at www.2010census.gov.

VDOT

Continued from page 1

taxes, and vehicle rentals, local transit programs continue to also take a hit. Altogether, the decline in these revenues amount to a 22 percent loss in funding for transit programs.

It gets worse.

By FY 12, it is anticipated that the local government revenue sharing program will be eliminated.

VDOT does have plans to issue Capital Projects Revenue (CPR) bonds that are authorized under HB 3202, the major transportation bill passed by the 2007 General Assembly.

The CPR bonds are to be used for the following purposes in priority order:

-A minimum of 20 percent of bond pro-

ceeds shall be used for transit capital.

-A minimum of 4.3 percent of the bond proceeds shall be used for rail capital.

-The remaining amount shall be used for the construction of transportation projects in the following order:

(a)To match federal highway funds.

(b)To provide any required funding to fulfill Virginia’s allocation of equivalent revenue sharing matching funds.

(c)To pay or fund the costs of statewide or regional projects throughout Virginia.

VDOT’s FY 10 – FY 15 budget assumes plans to issue \$500 million in CPR bonds for FY10 and \$300 million in CPR bonds during the out years.

According to Reta Busher, the

ability to meet commitments associated with this debt has these significant risks: a shortage of available state debt capacity and possible reductions in insurance premium revenues. Proceeds from the bonds are necessary to fully match federal funds.

The Commonwealth Transportation Board’s November work session included a major presentation by Kenneth White, Chair of a CTB subcommittee on VTRANS 2035, with a special focus on corridors of statewide significance.

A preliminary recommendation was made to provide incentives for the land use plans of localities having corridors of statewide significance to conform with state plans.

There were also discussions of penalties for failures to conform.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

Continued from page 1

education categories when general funding is reduced.

-Sovereign Immunity: VACo opposes any substantive change in local governments’ present defense of sovereign immunity for tort liability. VACo opposes bringing counties under the Virginia Tort Claims Act.

-Transportation Funding: VACo continues to maintain that an efficient transportation network is crucial to sustainable economic growth, a cleaner environment, and enhanced public safety and quality of life. VACo... urges the Governor of Virginia and the Virginia General Assembly to enact a transportation funding package to include dedicated, new, significant and recurring annual revenues to address the Commonwealth’s documented transportation infrastructure needs.

The membership adopted the program during the recently concluded annual meeting in Bath County. The program was initiated in the spring when the Resolutions Committee convened to review the 2009 legislative session and plan for 2010.

The Resolutions Committee contains the members of VACo’s executive committee and the chairs and vice chairs of VACo’s eight policy steering committees. The eight policy sections of the program correspond to the eight committees. The Resolutions Committee met three times and the steering committees met twice. Prior to the first meeting of the Resolutions Committee in even numbered years, VACo board directors host regional spring meetings to gather legislative and policy recommendations. The board intends to host these meetings next spring (March through May of 2010).

VACo’s Legislative Team by Program Sections:

- Phyllis Errico, Administration of Government
- Larry Land, Environment and Agriculture, and Transportation
- Dean Lynch, Education, and Health and Human Resources
- Ted McCormack, Community, Development and Planning
- Mike Edwards, Finance, and Telecommunications and Utilities
- Jim Campbell, Executive Director
- Gage Harter, Director of Communications

For complete coverage of the VACo 2009 Annual Conference, visit www.vaco.org and click on the annual conference logo.



Embracing Change: New Partnerships for Sustainable Communities

Employment Opportunities

Employment ads are edited due to space considerations.

To view the full versions, visit www.vaco.org and click on the employment link on the top left corner.

Director of Finance/Brunswick County

This full-time position works under the general supervision of the County Administrator. The duties of this position include planning, organizing and directing operations of human resources, budget and financial management. Plans and directs the County's budget development process. Serves as liaison for various fiscal agencies, working with state and local authorities to ensure fiscal responsibility. Master's degree in accounting, budget and finance field, CPA Certification preferred. A complete job description is available at the Office of the County Administrator or at www.brunswickco.com. Submit resume' to the Office of the County Administrator, 102 Tobacco Street, Lawrenceville, VA 23868. Position open until filled. Telephone 434-848-3107 or toll-free 1-800-848-3199.

Senior Transportation Planner #1639/Stafford County

SALARY: \$55,224-\$65,478/yr. **DOQ CLOSING DATE:** Dec. 11, 2009
Apply online @ www.co.stafford.va.us
A resume will not be considered in lieu of a County Application.
Performs difficult professional work in the handling of a variety of transportation assignments in the Public Works Department; does related work as required. Work is performed under the supervision of the Transportation Administrator. Supervision may be exercised over subordinate technical and clerical personnel.
EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE: Any combination of education and experience equivalent to graduation from an accredited college or university with a Master's Degree in transportation planning, civil engineering or a

related field, and considerable experience in professional transportation planning work. Possession of a valid appropriate driver's license valid in the Commonwealth of Virginia, (copy of current DMV record, dated within 30 days, must be provided before the employment start date). Apply online @ www.co.stafford.va.us
A resume will not be considered in lieu of a County Application.

Network Support Technician/Orange County

Orange County is accepting applications for a full-time Network Support Technician in the Information Technology Department. Illustrative duties: Perform server administration for Exchange Server, Web servers, File/Print Server, Symantec Backup Exec 11D, AS400, and Blackberry Enterprise Server. 24/7 operation support, with rotating weekends
Hiring range is \$36,693-\$47,700. Excellent benefits.
The successful candidate must have a Bachelor's degree in Computer Information Systems or closely related field, supplemented by three to five years previous experience and/or training that includes computer, network and wireless operations. Interested applicants should visit orangecountyva.gov or pick up an application package from 8 a.m.– 5 p.m. at the Orange County Administrator's Office, 112 W. Main St., Orange, VA 22960; (540)672-3313
Open until filled.

Airport Manager/Orange County

Orange County is looking for a full-time Airport Manager to oversee day to day operations at the county's general aviation airport. Duties include, but are not limited to: Manages day-to-day airport operations; ensures that the airfield remains in compliance with federal aviation and Virginia aviation regulations.
Special Requirements:
Aircraft/Airport/Fuel Safety training.
Radio Communication training.
Emergency Procedures training. Fuel testing training. Possession of an appro-

appropriate driver's license valid in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Pilots License preferred, but not required. Applications will be received in the County Administrators Office until position is filled. Satisfactory results on a criminal history background check are required. Interested applicants should visit our website orangecountyva.gov; or pick up an application package from 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. at the County Administrator's Office, 112 W. Main St., P.O. Box 111, Orange, VA 22960; (540)672-3313. Hiring range: \$38,527-\$50,085

Director of Economic Development/Bedford County

Bedford County (population 66,274; 754 square miles) seeks an experienced professional to serve as the Director of Economic Development. Candidate should have a comprehensive knowledge of modern principles and practices of economic development; comprehensive knowledge of the principles and practices of public and business administration; ability to attract industry and business for the municipality; ability to plan, assign and coordinate the work programs of office and technical staff. Application, recruitment package, and job description are available at www.co.bedford.va.us and are also available from the Bedford County Human Resources Office, Bedford County Administration Building, 122 East Main Street, 2nd Floor, Bedford, VA 24523, (540) 586-7601, ext. 1221. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. Annual salary is competitive DOQ.

Economic Development Program Director/Clarke County

Clarke County seeks a qualified, experienced individual to direct and coordinate economic development and tax-base expansion activities. The position entails professional economic development, marketing, and managerial skill

EMPLOYMENT

Continued from page 10

and responsibility and will be tasked with developing and implementing a plan to enhance the retail, commercial, industrial and service economies in Clarke County and to expand the local tax base. This position is not currently occupied or classified. The hours or work and compensation and benefits package are negotiable within budgetary and personnel policy limitations. The County is willing to work with the desired applicant to craft a compensation package acceptable to both. Interested persons should submit a cover letter and resume to: David Ash, County Administrator; 101 Chalmers Court, Suite B; Berryville, VA 22611. This position will be open until filled. Inquiries to the County Administrator's office at (540) 955-5175.

County Engineer/Washington County

The County of Washington seeks applications for the position of County Engineer. Under the direction of the County Administrator, provides professional civil engineering services to County departments, agencies and functions. Acts as County Building Official responsible for administration of the building and related codes. Serves as head of County Department of Building & Development Services. Salary range \$65,000 - \$80,000+, DOQ, DOE with benefits. A complete Position Description along with Application for Employment may be obtained through the County Department of Accounting, County of Washington, 205 Academy Drive, Abingdon, VA 24210 or through www.washcova.com. Applications will be accepted until position filled.

Superintendent/Middle Peninsula Regional Security Center

The Middle Peninsula Regional Security Center is soliciting applications/resumes for candidates for the position of Superintendent. The jail, located in Saluda, serves five (5) largely rural, waterfront counties with an estimated 2008 population of 53,127. Salary is DOQ. Benefits include

Virginia Retirement System, group health insurance program and paid holidays. This position is open until filled. Send applications/resumes to: Frank A. Pleva, Chairman, Middle Regional Jail Board, c/o King William County Administrator's Office, P. O. Box 215, King William, Virginia 23086. Applications/resumes also may be submitted by facsimile to (804) 769-4964 or by pdf at fpleva@kingwilliamcounty.us. Copies of the application form can be obtained by contacting the jail board chairman at (804) 769-4927 or at the aforementioned e-mail address.

Network Engineer/Campbell County

The Campbell County Information Technology Department seeks an organized and skilled Network Engineer. This position requires knowledge of network communication hardware, network security, and wireless technology. This position requires a Bachelor's degree and five (5) years of related experience. Starting Salary Range: \$43,588 – \$48,565 depending upon qualifications and experience plus an excellent benefits package. Candidates are to submit a completed Campbell County application. For a County application call (434) 332-9818 or visit our Web site at www.campbellcountyva.gov.

Public Safety Director/Campbell County

Campbell County seeks a forward-thinking, organized and motivated Public Safety Director with excellent management skills to oversee a comprehensive Public Safety program for the County. The ideal candidate will have: a comprehensive knowledge of all aspects of Public Safety operations; considerable management and public relations skills, including grant writing, budget preparation, and report writing; and extensive experience in fire, EMS/rescue operations and incident command. This position requires a Bachelor's degree, no less than five (5) years experience, and no less than three (3) years supervisory experience; Firefighter II, HAZMAT Operations, NIMS, and EMT-B certification. Salary Range: Dependent upon qualifications and experience. An excellent

benefit package is provided. Application procedure: Please submit a Campbell County application along with a resume stating your salary requirements. Applications are available online at www.co.campbell.va.us.

Economic Development Director/Louisa County

The Economic Development Director performs difficult professional and administrative work developing and directing the industrial and economic development activity of Louisa County. This position is a Department Head position under the direct supervision of the County Administrator. The Economic Development Director is responsible for planning, directing and supervising economic development and tourism activities; supporting existing business and industry; recruiting new business and industry; conducting market research; serving as liaison between business, industry, local, regional, state and federal regulatory agencies; and preparing and maintaining files and records. Applicant must also consent to a background check, including criminal record, driving record, substance abuse testing and must possess a valid driver's license. For complete details, please visit our Web site at www.louisa.com.

Director of Operations/Fauquier County

Fauquier County Water and Sanitation Authority
Salary: \$81,274 - \$118,401 (+) benefits.
Essential Functions/Typical Duties: Administers and implements the planning, organizing, and operation of the Authority's treatment facilities, water distribution and sewage collection systems. Supervises operations employees, identifies the department's present and future need and prepares short- and long-term plans to address these needs; preparing and administering operating and capital budgets. Application Procedures: Applications are only available from and accepted at the Virginia Employment Commission in Culpeper, Virginia. For information, call (540) 829-7432. Applications and resumes will be received by the VEC until the position is filled.



Executive Committee

President: Phillip A. Bradshaw, Isle of Wight County
President-Elect: Robert R. Adkins, Wise County
1st Vice President: Barbara A. Favola, Arlington County
2nd Vice President: Catherine M. Hudgins, Fairfax County
Secretary Treasurer: John D. Miller, Middlesex County
Immediate Past President: Donald L. Hart, Jr., Accomack County

Staff

Executive Director: James D. Campbell, AICP, CAE
General Counsel: Phyllis A. Errico, Esq., CAE
Deputy Director for Legislative Affairs: Michael L. Edwards
Director of Policy Development: Larry J. Land, CAE
Director of Intergovernmental Affairs: Dean A. Lynch, CAE
Director of Governmental Affairs: Ted McCormack, AICP
Director of Administration: Vicky D. Steinruck, CPA
Director of Technical Services: John N. Kandris, A+, ACT, CCA
Director of Member Services: Carol I. Cameron
Director of Communications: Gage Harter
Administrative Assistant: Pricilla Wallace
VACo Risk Management Programs: Chris Carey, 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.

1207 East Main Street
Suite 300
Richmond, VA 23219-3627
(804) 788-6652
Fax: (804) 788-0083
www.vaco.org

County Connections is a semimonthly publication.

Editor: Gage Harter
(804) 343-2502