

COUNTY CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of the
Virginia Association of Counties

August 1, 2010



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2010 Annual Conference update



VACo will soon release registration information on the 2010 Annual Conference. Registration forms will be mailed to all counties on Aug. 16. At the same time, the registration form will be available online.

By the end of August the schedule of breakout sessions and other features of the conference should be finalized. For the most up-to-date information about VACo's 76th Annual Conference please check VACo's web site on a regular basis.

We would also like to take this opportunity to recognize and express our appreciation to all who have agreed to sponsor various conference events. These include SunTrust for sponsoring the Monday box lunches; Dominion for sponsoring the Sunday evening reception; Nationwide Retirement Services for sponsoring the Monday morning break; Robinson, Farmer, Cox for once again sponsoring the Monday night President's Reception; and Moseley Architects for sponsoring the conference tote bags.

Similar to the annual conference of

CONFERENCE
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Governor's ABC privatization plan to preserve local land use authority

By Ted McCormack
tmccormack@vaco.org

At the first meeting of the Commission on Government Reform and Restructuring on June 4, Gov. Bob McDonnell announced that he hoped to call a special session this fall if various stakeholders were able to reach an agreement on the privatization of the state's ABC system.

Leading up to that announcement and continuing into the summer, the press reported that the governor's staff had met with several groups to discuss the issue of ABC divestment, but noticeably absent from the list of stakeholders at those meetings was local government.

Local governments have certain authority under the current system of ABC laws and regulation. For example, voters have to approve by referendum if an ABC store will be located within their community.

Activities like the sale of beer and wine on Sunday or when such outlets can be open is subject to local regulation. Localities have a number of grounds on which to object before the ABC Board issues a license for an establishment to sell beer and wine. In addition, zoning and other land use regulations control where any business is located in a community.

Based upon the early newspaper reports, there was a question whether the privatization of the ABC system would contain provisions that supersede local authority, especially land use regulations.

Reacting to these concerns, VACo and VML sent a letter to Gov. McDonnell on June 18 to urge the state



to ensure that any plan to privatize the ABC system makes it clear that local governments have full authority to regulate the location of stores selling liquor under local land use authority. The letter went on to state that:

- "VML and VACo strongly believe that businesses selling alcohol should remain subject to local land use regulation. Liquor stores, grocery stores and any other business selling alcohol should be subject to the normal processes for coordinating the location of businesses in a community in a manner that is appropriate for the community. The local zoning ordinance and the review and approval processes are the best way to ensure that community interests are protected."

At the July 20 meeting of the Reform Commission, the governor's policy director previewed the four options for ABC privatization. The preferred plan calls for the onetime sale of wholesale and retail liquor licenses to increase the number of retail outlets from the current 332 ABC stores to approximately 800+ locations. The licenses will be divided into three categories: a) "big box" retailers and grocery store chains; b) smaller retail

ABC
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Financial Regulatory Reform: What Does It Mean for Virginia Counties?

By Frank Shafroth
Municipal Securities
Rulemaking Board

Congress on July 15 passed and sent to the President the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, which includes sweeping changes on the local and state municipal market, although many will require considerable time for regulators to implement.

A key part of the new legislation is to protect local governments. Key issues: The agreement provides for registration and oversight of advisers by the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (MSRB) and imposes a fiduciary duty on municipal advisers.

It modifies the makeup of the MSRB Board to require that it be majority public.

It provides for MSRB regulation of non-broker-dealer financial advisers, swap advisers, guaranteed investment contract brokers, solicitors, finders, third party marketers, and other market intermediaries that are not currently subject to oversight—thus offering significant new protections for counties both in the issuance of debt and with regard to pension advice and investments.

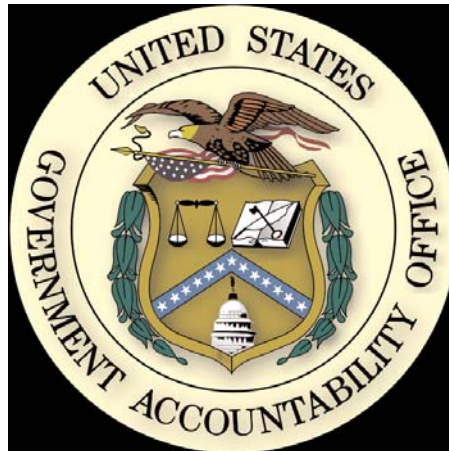
The new law directs the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to complete two studies on the municipal industry.

The first is a GAO review of municipal issuer disclosure requirements and of the Tower Amendment. (The Tower Amendment restricts the federal government from directly or indirectly requiring counties or other issuers of municipal bonds to file documents with it before their securities are sold.)

The second is a GAO study of the transparency of trading in the municipal securities market.

The key areas of change that will affect counties under the legislation:

SEC. The agreement directs the Securities and Exchange Commission to create an Office of Municipal



Securities to 1) administer the rules of the SEC with respect to the practices of municipal securities brokers and dealers, municipal securities advisors, municipal securities investors, and municipal securities issuers; and 2) coordinate with the MSRB for rulemaking and enforcement actions as required by law.

Credit rating agencies. Rating agencies will be subject to greater liability, and could be sued if they recklessly fail to review underlying information used in rating a securities. They will be required to use universal rating symbols consistently across all credit products. That means there would no longer be one standard for local and state governments—and a different standard for private corporations. The SEC would be given two years to find a way to mitigate conflicts of interests at the biggest rating agencies, Moody's, S&P and Fitch, which are paid by the issuers whose debt they rate.

Derivatives & Swaps. Under the legislation, all derivative contracts, including those that are entered into by state and local governments, will be regulated, with new rules in place by Oct. 1, 2011, so that the changes would not apply to current contracts, although contracts will need to be reported. In addition, capital and margin requirements may be set by the regulators, and may be so high that in effect all contracts would need to be moved to clearing. All swap advisors of state and local governments must be

registered with the SEC and will be subject to MSRB rules (such as those on professional qualifications, pay-to-play—i.e., limiting campaign contributions—fiduciary duty, and fair dealing).

Pension Plans & SWAPS. State and local governments and governmental pension plans effectively must obtain the services of a swap advisor for their transactions, and the broker/dealer in the transaction would have to verify on a reasonable basis that the government/pension plan has an independent advisor. The legislation states that the Special Entity (such as a county) must have an "independent representative." How this will be interpreted depends on the regulators. (A county might use a swap to address a variable rate risk on an outstanding bond or vice versa.) The swap advisor must provide written presentation of fair pricing and appropriateness of the transaction to the county or other issuer; broker/dealers must report all outstanding derivative contracts to a new repository. The legislation in effect excludes pension plans that hedge operation risk from the definition of Major Swap Participant (which have additional regulatory, capital, reporting etc. requirements). Pension plans are not expected to be "end-users," and thus their trades will be subject to the clearing requirements, and state and local governments are expected to be excluded from new swap clearing provisions, although that will not be certain until the CFTC adopts regulations defining the "end user" exception.

Swaps. The Commodities Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) is directed to write business conduct standards for swap dealers that enter into swaps with state and local governments. Under Dodd-Frank, swap dealers do not have a fiduciary duty to state and local governments unless they serve as advisors to them. The new law assumes that any swap dealer that acts as an advisor to a state or local government

The President's Message



Dear Members,

The Governor's Commission on Government Reform is well under way. The Commission is working to put forth bold and innovative ideas to ensure that duplicative, outdated, unnecessary and ineffective services and service delivery methods are eliminated and that state revenues are dedicated to the core functions of government. There have been several meetings and numerous subcommittee meetings. VACo has had a presence at each and counties have participated in providing testimony.

As you are aware there is no county representation on this commission. The governor, his staff and members of the Commission are fully aware of this oversight and have attempted to solicit input from Virginia's counties. VACo has been kept informed of all of the Committee and subcommittee meetings with direct input into the initiatives of the Commission. I want to thank the various members who have spoken at some of these meetings. I encourage you to stay informed and involved with the activities of this Commission as it will have a direct impact on every county in the Commonwealth.

Also, the Jobs Commission is proceeding at a feverish pace. The Commission's progress is detailed in the interim subgroup reports, which can be accessed via the Commission's Web site. The Commission staff report several common themes that have emerged among the Commission's subgroups.

- Virginia's effective existing economic development programs and incentives have been disproportionately affected by budget reductions during previous Administrations.
- Several key industries such as tourism, small business and emerging technologies have historically lacked the attention, resources and tools commensurate with their return on investment, value to Virginia's economy and capacity to create jobs.
- Virginia's tax structure affects some businesses unevenly and unfairly, stifles economic growth and job creation and perpetuates competitive disadvantages in key industries.
- While Virginia boasts the best higher education system in America, the economic development and workforce development potential of our four-year colleges and universities' and community colleges is severely underutilized.
- Entrepreneurs continue to face significant permitting, resource and capital challenges to starting, running and expanding a business in Virginia.

The most important way you can stay involved with these Commissions and with VACo is to become an active member of one of the legislative committees. If you are not a member I recommend you join one today.

Also as a Board member we need to stay informed and abreast of all of duties and responsibilities we have obligated ourselves as elected officials. As such, I encourage you to sign up for the Supervisor's Certification program. This program not only provides training in all aspects of government but is an excellent opportunity to develop outstanding contacts for networking.

My prayers are with each of you as we continue to handle the financial burdens of our county. Times are difficult but working together we can and we will survive.

Sign Up for Go Green!

Thirteen counties have now registered to participate in the Green Government Challenge! They are the counties of Albemarle, Augusta, Botetourt, Charlotte, Fairfax, Hanover, Henrico, Isle of Wight, James City, King William, Nelson, New Kent and Roanoke.

Last year was VACo's first in participating with the Virginia Municipal League as partner in the Go Green Program. In 2009, 10 counties compiled the number of points necessary on the Go Green Scorecard to achieve certification, and were recognized last year at VACo's Annual Conference.

To participate in the Go Green Government Challenge and obtain a copy of the scorecard, counties need to register online at www.GoGreenVA.org. The Web site is structured to make the process as easy for applicants as possible. This year, we want counties of all sizes and from all regions to achieve certification.

The Go Green Initiative was first created by VML three years ago for the purpose of promoting sustainability and improving energy efficiency for all local governments. A new feature of this year's Go Green Challenge is the Green Buddy Program that will serve as a platform for networking and the exchange of information among all participating local governments. More information about the Green Buddy Program is available by contacting Joe Lerch, at 804-523-8530, or by e-mail at jlerch@vml.org.



Washington County appoints new deputy administrator

The Washington County Board of Supervisors is pleased to announce that Nadine Culberson has been appointed deputy county administrator for operations and personnel effective July 1.

This is a newly created position which will be responsible for human resource management, personnel policy development, and providing strong organizational, operational and procedural development skills for the department heads and staff across the nine existing departments within the Administrative Division of County Government.

Culberson has served 19 years with Washington County in her capacity as information systems manager. In this role, she has provided technology solutions to a wide variety of County departments, agencies and constitutional offices. She has been instrumental in assisting the county with successful applications for multiple, significant grants for IS/IT projects and applications within County government. She has continuously demonstrated her exceptional organizational and management skills within her department.

One of her most notable accomplishments was her leadership role in the late 90's to educate herself, the county administrator and the Washington County Board of Supervisors on the benefits and uses of Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Over a three year period, initially with the assistance of Anderson & Associates of Blacksburg and later through the formation of a GIS department within the county with full-time staff, Culberson rolled out a \$500,000 system of equipment and software that supports critical E-911, real estate assessment, NetGIS and other economic development applications. Simultaneously, Culberson spearheaded the extension of fiber lines to all main County facilities, county administration, Treasurers Building and Sheriff's Department.

In 2008, Culberson worked with the County Treasurer and local banking partners to employ Optical Character Recognition (OCR) software and remote deposit transfer and remittance to read the tax ticket and checks, balance the transaction and deposit the check to the bank with accuracy and speed.

In 2009, Culberson and a team of County elected officials, Sheriff's Department and other emergency response agencies implemented a reverse E-911 system called the Citizens Emergency Alert System (CEAS), which allows the county to call home and cell phones of County residents to alert them to potential disasters, emergencies and attacks.

For this project, Culberson was recognized in 2010 by the Southwest Virginia Technology Council with the "High Tech in Government Award." She also worked with the Sheriff's Department to place laptops, cameras and AVL real time maps in the deputy vehicles.

Her leadership style is marked by a strong commitment to team building and collaboration as she draws on resources and cooperation not only among County Departments, Constitutional Offices, State agencies, but also beyond County borders to other regional jurisdictions. Currently, Ms. Culberson is part of a regional coalition to create and implement a unique regional GIS project which will allow jurisdictions in three Planning District Commissions and two states to share GIS mapping.



Counties: Speak out on state mandates!

By **Ted McCormack**
tmccormack@vaco.org

The Commission on Local Government has posted on its Mandate Assessment Web site three state mandates on local government that are available for counties to provide fiscal data and comment.

Each year, the Commission, in consultation with state agencies, VACo, and VML, selects certain state programs to be assessed by localities. To be selected for assessment, however, the mandate must have been in effect for two years or be previously unidentified. The information that is provided by local governments through the Web site is used by state agencies to determine whether a particular mandate should be



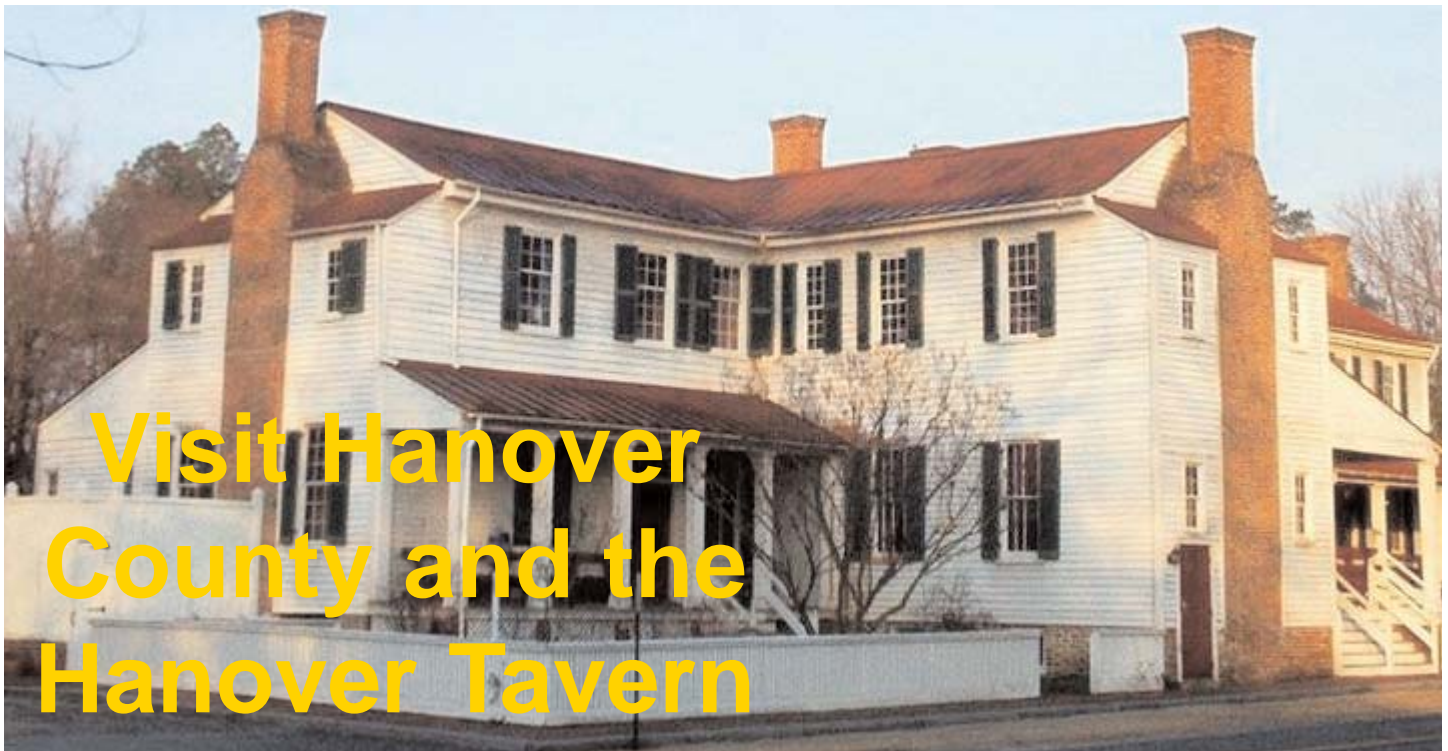
retained, altered or eliminated. The selection process is described on the Commission's Web site.

Each month, a different set of mandates will be available for comment, so counties need to check the assessment site frequently. The complete schedule and how to post a comment are found at the Commission's Mandate Assessment site.

Counties must take full advantage of this opportunity to comment both positively and negatively on the fiscal and other impacts of the state mandates being assessed. State agencies are required to report all comments as well as to note that no information was received from localities.

The success or failure of this process depends entirely on participation by local governments. In addition, the Governor's Commission on Government Reform and Restructuring is interested in the impact of unfunded mandates on localities.

If you have any questions concerning the mandate assessment program, contact Zack Robbins at the Commission on Local Government - (804) 371-8010.



Hanover Tavern
13181 Hanover Courthouse Road
Hanover, VA 23069

Information from www.virginia.org

Part of the Hanover Courthouse Historic District, begun in 1733, Hanover Tavern is listed on the Virginia & National Registers of Historic Places as a rare surviving example of county government building sets once common in Virginia.

The Tavern's illustrious life included many roles – inn, stagecoach stop, post office and dinner theater. After 15 years of restoration by the Hanover Tavern Foundation, the Tavern once again welcomes the community!

Take a self-guided tour and view exhibits of the Tavern's storied past. Attend educational programs including workshops, performances, and lectures that enlighten and entertain. Dine at Hanover Tavern & Pub, the Tavern's full-service restaurant, where the innovative menu evokes the Tavern's rich traditions. See a Barksdale Theatre performance in the original home of the company.



Opens: 11 p.m.; **Closes:** 4 p.m.

Admission Fee: \$2

Hanover Tavern Foundation Offices: (804) 537-5050

Hanover Tavern & Pub: (804) 537-5250

Barksdale Theatre Box Office: (804) 282-2620

Fax: (804) 537-5823

E-mail: lcurzi@hanovertavern.org

Web site: www.hanovertavern.org

Mark Your Calendars



Rural Planning Caucus of Virginia 2010 Annual Conference

**“Planning Pathways: Trails, Trials, Tributaries”
Oct. 20-22**

Mountain Lake Resort in Giles County
www.rpcva.org



Reforming and Revitalizing Transportation in Virginia

Virginia faces monumental transportation challenges. They range from heavy congestion in Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads to the need to make transportation investments to support economic development in Southside and southwest Virginia.

Join Governor Robert F. McDonnell, Secretary of Transportation Sean T. Connaughton and the Governor's transportation team, legislative leaders and key modal stakeholders at this conference to explore the steps needed to reform and revitalize transportation in the Commonwealth. Don't miss this unique opportunity to influence the future direction of transportation in Virginia.

CONFERENCE CONTACTS

Conference information, please call Margaret Redford at 804-225-3542 (Blackberry 804-836-2337). Persons with disabilities or requiring any auxiliary aids, services, or other accommodations, please call Holly Williams at 540-231-2188 by Nov. 29.

HOSTS

Virginia Department of Transportation, Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, Virginia Port Authority, Virginia Department of Aviation, Motor Vehicle Motor Board, and the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute.

Visit Web site.



2010 Virginia Rural Summit Sept. 13-14

The 2010 Virginia rural Summit will focus in three areas:

- Economic Development/Job Creation - Economic Growth through current job retention and new job creation
- Education - How does rural upgrade past workforce skills to meet 21st Century job needs?
- Regional Policies and Services - Advancing rural regions through innovative programs and policies

Registration for the 2010 Virginia Rural Summit is in partnership with the Virginia Association of Counties.

Please fax this completed registration form to: (804) 788-0083. Or mail to: VACo, 1207 E. Main Street, Suite 300, Richmond, VA 23219.

Make checks payable to: Virginia Association of Counties.

[Click here for registration form.](#)

[Click here for preliminary agenda.](#)

Governor launches August listening tour; county officials urged to participate

By Ted McCormack
tmccormack@vaco.org

Gov. Bob McDonnell announced that he will hold eight town halls around the state beginning on Aug. 4. The meetings will be in Roanoke, Norfolk, Chester, Fredericksburg, Fairfax, Harrisonburg, Danville and Bristol.

The main purpose of the town halls is to discuss the privatization of the ABC system, but input from the public is also solicited for governor's two commissions: Economic Development and Jobs Creation and Government Reform and Restructuring. Governor McDonnell indicated that at each stop he would be available to meet with local officials to discuss the ABC plan and other concerns.

In addition to the governor, members of his cabinet and the Jobs and Reform Commissions are to be present at each meeting.

The schedule of the meetings:

- **Roanoke:** Wednesday, Aug. 4, 7 p.m., Roanoke County Administration Center, Board of Supervisors Board Room, 5204 Bernard Dr.
- **Norfolk:** Monday, Aug. 9, 7 p.m., Old Dominion University, Webb University Center - Hampton/Newport News Room, 4201 Hampton Blvd.
- **Chesterfield County:** Thursday, Aug. 19, 7 p.m., Cultural Center of India, 6641 Ironbridge Parkway, Chester
- **Fredericksburg:** Tuesday, Aug. 24, 7 p.m., University of Mary Washington, Lee Hall - Room 412, 1301 College Avenue
- **Northern Virginia:** Wednesday, Aug. 25, 7 p.m., Northern Virginia Technology Council Auditorium, 2214 Rock Hill Road, Suite 300, Herndon



- **Harrisonburg:** Thursday, Aug. 26, 7 p.m., James Madison University, East Campus Dining Hall - Montpelier Room, 800 S. Main Street
- **Danville:** Monday, Aug. 30, 7 p.m., Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, Great Hall, 150 Slayton Avenue
- **Bristol:** Tuesday, Aug. 31, 7 p.m., Bristol Public Library, J. Henry Kegley Meeting Room, 701 Goode Street

DHCD's 2010 Designation How-to-Apply Workshop

The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) will accept applications for 2010 Enterprise Zone designation on Oct. 1, 2010.

Recently, two designated zones have been terminated pursuant to Code of Virginia § 59.1-546B. The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development will be receiving applications for zone designation to fill these two zones. These zones will be reassigned retroactive to Jan. 1, 2010. Cities and counties are the only eligible applicants. Towns seeking designation must be included within the boundaries of applying counties.

The Enterprise Zone Program is a partnership between state and local government in which both parties actively work to improve economic conditions within designated localities. The Program is a complement to other

local, state, and federal economic development activities and creates an improved climate for private sector investment. Through use of the Job Creation and Real Property Investment Grants, a greater proportion of often limited resources can be distributed in areas targeted for redevelopment and growth.

Under the Enterprise Zone Grant Act effective July 1, 2005, Zone designation has focused more directly on localities with the greatest levels of need for an economic impetus.

Communities demonstrating the greatest need and having high potential for effectively putting a zone to productive use are of high priority to the program. All localities that participate in the Enterprise Zone Program have responsibilities. These include the determination of local economic development objectives, provision of local incentives,



management and marketing of the Zone. DHCD has scheduled one 2010 Designation How-to-Apply Workshop:

- Wednesday, Aug. 4; 10 a.m.-Noon; Roanoke Higher Education Center, 108 North Jefferson Street, Roanoke, VA 24016

Online registration is now available at: www.dhcd.virginia.gov.

For additional questions or info regarding DHCD Enterprise Zones, dial (804). 371.7066 or e-mail Reese.Peck@dhcd.virginia.gov.

U. S. Senate rejects latest collective bargaining mandate for public safety employees

On July 22, the Senate rejected the supplemental war appropriation (H.R. 4899) adopted by the House of Representatives that included the collective bargaining mandate for public safety personnel (The Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act).

This action effectively eliminated the current attempt to mandate collective bargaining for state and local police, firefighters and emergency medical technicians personnel. The main purpose of the bill was the appropriation of \$80 billion in war funding for the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

Senators Webb and Warner voted against the House version, or against cloture. The House bill contained a host of "riders," in addition to the collective bargaining mandate, unrelated to the war funding. On July 27, the House sent President Barack Obama the Senate's war funding bill.

The Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act mandates state and local governments to enter into collective bargaining agreements with their public safety employees. More specifically, the act mandates states to provide the following bargaining rights to state and local public safety

employees:

- Grant public safety officers the right to form and join a labor organization that is, or seeks to be, recognized as the exclusive bargaining representative of the employees;
- Require public safety employers to recognize the employees' labor organization and agree to bargain with the union;
- Provide for bargaining over hours, wages, and terms and conditions of employment; and
- Require enforcement through state courts of all rights, responsibilities and protections provided by state law.

The Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) would review each state's collective bargaining agreement to determine if it complies with the minimum bargaining standards. Those states that fail to meet the FLRA criteria would have to change their laws to come into compliance, or they would be subject to regulation of collective bargaining agreements by the FLRA. The FLRA would have considerable authority to, among other things, determine the appropriateness of the bargaining units, conduct hearings to resolve disputes involving unfair labor practices, and



supervise and conduct elections.

NACo joined with the National League of Cities, the National Sheriffs' Association, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, International Public Management Association-Human Resources and other organizations to oppose the mandate. VACo has repeatedly urged Virginia's Senators to oppose the mandate: VACo staff has been in regular communication with their offices, and Presidents Hart (2009) and Bradshaw communicated VACo's opposition through separate correspondences.

Leadership for Effective Governance in the 21st Century

Friday, Sept. 10
Albemarle County
9:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 6
The Homestead, Bath County
9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Cost: \$350 per person,
includes books,
materials, lunch

Leadership for Effective Governance in the 21st Century will be the next course in the VACo and Virginia Tech sponsored Certified County Supervisor Program. Between the two classroom sessions, each class member will complete a series of lessons based on assigned readings.

The focus of the Leadership for Effective Governance in the 21st Century course will be to help elected county officials become more effective leaders in such areas as leadership, community planning, finance and other areas of responsibility. To meet this educational objective the course, participants will examine and discuss public sector models as well as private sector approaches.

Persons interested in taking the course must complete a registration form, which is also posted at www.vaco.org/Calendar.html. Please note that individuals may enroll in the Certified County Supervisor Program at anytime. There is a rolling admission rather than a set admission time.

Questions regarding the certification program can be directed to Larry Land at VACo or Mike Chandler at 804.794.6236. Be a part of the action by registering for the class.

Click here for the registration form.

Virginia
Cooperative Extension

A partnership of Virginia Tech and Virginia State University www.ext.vt.edu

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Invent the Future



VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

ABC

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outlets like package stores; and c) convenience and drug stores. That plan anticipates that stores currently sell wine and beer will also seek liquor licenses, but the ABC Board will continue to exercise its authority to prevent the overconcentration of liquor stores in one geographic location.

While the licenses will not be site specific, there will be provisions to ensure that market areas with existing ABC stores will continue to be served.

In response to this announcement, VACo and VML staff met with members of the governor's policy office on July 27 to discuss the privatization plan. At that meeting, the governor's representative stated that it was their intent to regard the retail sale of alcohol in the same manner as wine and beer licenses are treated currently in the statutes and regulation.

Thus, if a locality currently regulates the hours of operation of stores selling beer and wine, retail liquor outlets will be subject to the same restrictions. Also, VACo and VML representatives were assured that it was

the governor's intent that local land use authority would be unchanged with respect to the location of liquor stores.

While the details of the final ABC privatization plan are still being developed, meetings with additional affected parties, such as local law enforcement officials, are continuing. In addition, Governor McDonnell plans to hold a series of town halls around the state to discuss the plan, and his staff indicated that the governor would be glad to meet with local officials on those occasions to receive their input.

The administration is developing state revenue estimates which will include funding for transportation. Details of the final plan may be released closer to Labor Day. The ABC privatization proposal will then be reviewed by the Reform Commission's Government Simplification and Operations Committee, chaired by Del. Glen Oder of Newport News, before consideration by the full commission.

If the plan is sanctioned by the commission, it is anticipated that the governor will call a special session in the late fall. Implementation of any ABC privatization legislation will take approximately one year.

SHAFROTH

Continued from page 2

must reasonably determine that any swap it recommends is in the best interests of the state or local government, taking into account its financial status, tax status, and investment or financing objectives. If the swap dealer is only a counterparty to a state and local government, not an advisor, the swap dealer should have a reasonable basis to believe that the state or local government has a knowledgeable, independent representative that will have a fiduciary duty to the state or local government and will evaluate the swap transaction and its risks, as well as the pricing and the appropriateness of the swap transaction for the state and local government.

GASB. The legislation authorizes the SEC to direct the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority to collect assessments from dealers to fund the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. The compromise bill would require the congressional watchdog, the Government Accountability Office, to evaluate the role and importance of GASB within 180 days of the bill's enactment.

CONFERENCE

Continued from page 1

recent years, VACo plans to make sure counties will be recognized for their accomplishments over the past year. For example, at last year's conference 12 counties were honored for having won specific Achievement Awards.

VACo also recognized ten counties for achieving certification under the Go Green Initiative. The same kinds of awards ceremonies are planned for this year.

VACo also plans to make sure graduates of the Supervisor Certification program receive special recognition. The Certified County Supervisors Program's chief purpose is to help elected county officials become more effective leaders by offering a series of courses in such areas as leadership, development, community planning, local government finance and other areas of responsibility.

NACo appoints policy committee chairs

National Association of Counties (NACo) President Glen Whitley recently appointed NACo Steering Committee chairs and vice chairs for 2010-11.

Whitley made his policy committee leadership appointments shortly after being installed as NACo president during the association's Annual Conference and Exposition July 16-20 in Reno/Washoe County, Nev.

Fairfax County Supervisor Penny Gross was appointed vice chair of the Environmental, Energy and Land Use committee.

"On behalf of the nation's counties, I am pleased and grateful that these honorable officials will be shaping national policy as a part of NACo's Steering Committees," said Whitley, county judge, Tarrant County, Texas. "They will continue to be a great asset to the nation's counties on these important issues."

NACo's steering committees annually review and make recommendations to the NACo Board of Directors on public policy issues and federal legislation.

The policy development process initiated by the steering committees leads to the publication of the American County Platform, which NACo uses as a guide to deliver the county government message to the administration, Congress and the American public.

[Click here to see NACo Steering Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs for 2010-11.](#)

[Click here to see NACo Committee members \(Six Virginians\).](#)

**news from our
associate members**



C E L E B R A T I N G 2 5 Y E A R S

bury commemorates milestone...

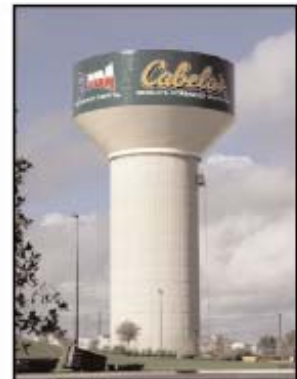
Bury is excited to celebrate 25 years of serving clients throughout Texas to Virginia and all points in between. Expanding from a sublet porch in Austin, we now have office locations in Dallas, Houston, San Antonio and Temple, Texas, and Fairfax and Williamsburg, Virginia.



Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas - First healthcare facility in the world to receive LEED Platinum Certification.

A SPECIAL THANKS...

We are thankful to our clients for whom we have continued to provide services over the past 25 years. Expanding our service lines to meet client needs, we have developed a thriving water and wastewater practice and added mechanical, electrical, plumbing and traffic engineering services. We have also built an expertise in market sectors including higher education, retail, multi-family, office, industrial, public facilities and major redevelopment.



Cabala's - Continued excellence in water and wastewater design.

LOOKING BACK...

Bury is honored to have been involved in projects ranging from small pad sites to some of the more notable projects in the region. Working with world renowned teams, we have aided clients in setting new standards with sustainable design, resulting in project LEED certification achievement.



Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Redevelopment - One of the largest redevelopments in Texas.

FOCUS ON THE FUTURE...

We are dedicated to continuing our growth and expanding service lines and locations to better serve our valued clients. We look forward to bringing innovative, world-changing design for the next 25 years.

Thank you to our clients for a great 25 years!

Bury+Partners
221 West Sixth Street, Suite 600
Austin, Texas 78701
512.328.0011 office
512.328.0325 fax
www.burypartners.com

Virginia counties earn Digital Counties Survey awards

Franklin County Officials recently announced that they have been awarded a third place national finish in the Annual Digital Counties Survey for communities with a population less than 150,000. Franklin County, population of roughly 53,000, competes with counties three times its size and with fewer resources. As stated in this year's survey: "Being a digital county is about bringing value quickly and consistently; it is also about adaptive Chief Information Officer leadership, collaboration across the technology community and creating trust among public officials - the county that does these things well is the 'Digital County' indeed."

The 2010 survey evaluated the use of technology across several functional areas of local government with the participants choosing three or four of those areas to focus responses. Franklin County responded in regards to: Public Safety and Emergency Management, Workforce Development, Finance and Administration, and Citizen Engagement and Online/Mobile Services. Technology use in these areas is assessed in terms of operational and/or administrative efficiencies and strategic intentions over the past year and plans for this next year.

Franklin County began participating in the annual survey in 2005 and finally achieved a place in the top 10 in 2009, tying Columbia County, Georgia for ninth place.

The top 10 winners in the less than 150,000 population were:

1st: Charles County, Md.

2nd: Nevada County, Calif.

3rd: Franklin County, Va.

4th: Skagit County, Wash.

5th: Albemarle County, Va.

6th: Martin County, Fla.

7th: Columbia County, Ga.

8th: Olmsted County, Minn.

9th: Napa County, Calif.

10th: Bay County, Mich.

"Franklin County's Director of Information Technology, Sandie Terry has done a tremendous job for the County in moving our local government forward in the use of technology to serve our citizens," said Board Chairman, Charles Wagner. "To place 3rd nationally in a population bracket that includes much larger counties with greater resources to draw upon speaks volumes about the efforts of Franklin County's employees to serve our citizens."

This year's honor is not a first for Franklin County as its innovative approach to the use of technology in improving government services and efficiency was also recognized in 2008 as the County received the prestigious Governor's Technology Award for Excellence.

For additional background regarding the Digital Counties Survey rankings, see www.govtech.com/gt/articles/766229 and for more information regarding Franklin County, please visit www.franklincountyva.org.

Roanoke County is once again ranked among the top digital counties in the nation for its use of information and communication technology to support and provide public service, placing fifth in its population category in the annual Digital Counties Survey.

The survey, administered by e.Republic's Center for Digital Government and the National Association of Counties (NACo), identifies best practices and recognizes those counties that provide exemplary electronic service to their public. "Roanoke County places an emphasis on Information Technology, and we are pleased to be recognized for our efforts," said County Administrator Clay Goodman.

This is the seventh year that Roanoke County has been named among the top ten digital counties in the nation. In 2004, 2005, and 2006, Roanoke County placed first in the Digital Counties Survey. In 2007 and 2008, the County earned second place in its population category.

In 2009, the County regained its top spot for a community its size. Competition within Digital Counties is based upon population categories derived from metropolitan statistical area (MSA) data and is based on a number of criteria. Roanoke County's award is particularly significant because the locality competed against counties with populations between 150,000 and 249,000. The population of Roanoke County is roughly 90,000.

The Center for Digital Government is a national research and advisory institute on information technology policies and best practices in state and local government. The Center is a division of e.Republic, Inc., a national publishing, event, and research company focused on information technology in the public sector. For more information, visit www.erepublic.com.

The National Association of Counties (NACo) is a full-service organization that provides legislative, research, technical, and public affairs assistance to county governments. Created in 1935, NACo continues to ensure that the nation's 3,068 counties are heard and understood in the White House and Congress. For more information, visit www.naco.org. To view a full list of 2010 Digital Counties winners: www.govtech.com/dc/surveys/counties/90/2010.



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.

County Administrator/Bland County

The Board of Supervisors of Bland County seeks a dynamic person with strong leadership skills for the position of County Administrator. Salary- DOQ. Please submit current resume, state application (VA), and professional references to the Bland County Board of Supervisors, P.O. Box 510; Bland, VA, 24315. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. EOE/ADA. For more information, please visit our Web site at www.bland.org.

Director of Community Development/Bedford County

The Director of Community Development provides leadership and directs the operations and activities of the Department. This includes short and long range planning and community development activities. The Director is expected to function under broad policy guidance as well as exercise independent judgment and initiative. Supervision is exercised over the work of all community development personnel. Application, the recruitment package, and job description are available on our Web site: ww.bedfordcountyva.gov. Applications will be reviewed until position is filled. Annual salary is competitive DOQ.

Executive Director/Winchester-Frederick County Convention and Visitors Bureau

Full-time position leading and directing the work of the Winchester-Frederick County Convention and Visitors Bureau (WFCCVB). Any combination of education and experience equivalent to a Bachelor's Degree with major work in tourism, hospitality, business management, public relations, marketing or related field is required. A Master's

Degree is preferred. Valid driver's license is required. Starting salary: \$55,000/yr. plus benefits. Apply: Administration Department, 15 N. Cameron St., Winchester, VA 22601. www.winchesterva.gov/employment.

Emergency Services Director/Carroll County

Qualified applicants must have knowledge of developing, implementing and coordinating the County Emergency Operations. Applicants must be able to work under pressure and be flexible. Open until filled. Application review will begin on Aug. 12. All candidates must provide a completed Va. State Application and resume to the Carroll County Administrator's Office at 605-1 Pine Street, Hillsville, Va 24343. An online position description is available at www.carrollcountyva.org/employment.

Human Resources Director/Carroll County

Qualified applicants must have a thorough knowledge of personnel administration including experience in benefits administration, and State and Federal employment laws. Applicants must be able to work under pressure and have excellent interpersonal skills. Previous experience in human resources is required. Open until filled. Application review will begin on Aug. 13. All candidates must provide a completed Va. State Application and resume to the Carroll County Administrator's Office at 605-1 Pine Street, Hillsville, Va 24343. An online position description is available at www.carrollcountyva.org/employment.

Water, Sewer and Streets Bureau Chief/Arlington County

Salary in the mid-to-upper \$120,000's based on experience & qualifications. For a full description of the position and the position's requirements please visit: The Executive Search page of Springsted Incorporated: www.springsted.com or the Arlington County

Human Resources Department at: www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/HumanResources/HumanResourcesMain.aspx. This is an open recruitment, but preference will be given to applications received before Aug. 25. To be considered, please submit a letter of interest, complete resume, salary history and five work related and personal references to: John A. Anzivino
Springsted Incorporated
1564 East Parham Road
Richmond, VA 23228
Tel: 804.726.9750
Fax: 804.726.9752
E-Mail: richmond@springsted.com
Applications accepted by e-mail, fax or US mail. To learn more about Arlington County and its departments please visit: www.arlingtonva.us

Deputy-Senior Assistant County Attorney/Chesterfield County

Chesterfield County, a nationally-recognized and award-winning local government, seeks an experienced attorney to provide legal counsel to County officials and employees, to be responsible for a variety of complex legal matters, and to represent the County and its officials and employees in litigation, both as part of litigation teams and individually. Depending on knowledge, experience, writing skill and potential, the candidate will be hired for the position of Deputy County Attorney or Senior Assistant County Attorney. Salary negotiable. Visit careers.chesterfield.gov to submit an online application. PLEASE NOTE: In addition to the online application, a hard copy resume is required and must be submitted to: Chesterfield County Attorney's Office, Attn: Michelle Heilman, P.O. Box 40, Chesterfield, VA 23832. The resume must be received and the online application must be submitted by 5 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 19.

Accountant/Orange County

This is a full-time position that reports

EMPLOYMENT

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to the Director of Finance. Incumbent will assist Finance Director with monthly and annual close of general ledger, produce and distribute revenue and expense reports, act as primary point of contact for annual audit, assist Finance Director with budget development and execution, oversee County Fixed Asset recording and reporting and act as Finance Director in his absence. Hiring Salary range is \$40,454-\$52,590. The successful candidate must pass a criminal background check. Interested applicants should call for or pick up an application package from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at the County Administrator's Office, 112 W. Main St., Orange, VA 22960; 540-672-3313 or visit our Web site orangecountyva.gov. This position is open until filled. Please direct any questions to Karen Gibson, at 540-672-3313 and send the bill to: Orange County Board of Supervisors PO Box 111 Orange, VA 22960 540-672-3313 FAX: 540-672-1679

Recreation Specialist/Isle of Wight County

Salary \$27,333
Isle of Wight County seeks an individual to assist in coordinating, planning, and marketing a variety of activities, special events and programs provided to County residents through the Parks and Recreation Department. Must have general knowledge of the practices, methods, materials, and equipment associated with planning and implementing recreational programs. Requires a high school diploma and 1-3 years of related experience. Interested candidates should submit an application and resume by Aug. 6 to: Human Resources, P.O. Box 80, Isle of Wight, VA 23397. Visit our Web site at www.iwus.net or call 757-365-6263.

Deputy Clerk I/Isle of Wight County
Starting Salary \$24,792

Isle of Wight County seeks a Deputy Clerk I in the Treasurer's Office to perform clerical work and serve as a collections cashier. Interested candidates should submit an application and resume by Aug. 6 to Human Resources, P.O. Box 80, Isle of Wight, VA 23397. Visit our Web site at www.iwus.net or call 757-365-6263.

Director of Public Works-General Services/City of Portsmouth

A progressive city government seeks an innovative, dynamic and forward thinking leader in the role of Director of Public Works/General Services. Education/Experience: Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering or a closely related field. Professional engineering license preferred; 6 to 9 years of progressively responsible experience in public works and general services operations, planning and managing resources, including 3 to 5 years of responsible supervisory experience; or any equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the required knowledge, skills and abilities. Closing Date: Open Until Filled. Hiring Range: \$71,996-\$97,195. Please submit a completed City of Portsmouth application to the Department of Human Resource Management, 801 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, VA 23704. Please visit our Web site for additional information. www.portsmouthva.gov.

Manager of Public Works Operation/City of Portsmouth

Education/Experience: Bachelor's degree in environmental engineering, civil engineering or a related field. Professional engineering license preferred. 3 to 5 years of operational experience in public works fields to include stormwater and experience in an administrative capacity; or any equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the required knowledge, skills and abilities. Closing Date: Open Until Filled. Salary Range: \$56,410-\$76,154. Please submit a completed City of Portsmouth application to the Department of Human Resource

Management, 801 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, VA 23704. Please visit our Web site for additional information. www.portsmouthva.gov.

County Administrator/Russell County

Russell County (pop.30,308), located in beautiful Southwest Virginia, invites applications from highly skilled candidates to serve as the County's next County Administrator. The salary for the position is negotiable within a range of \$60,000 to \$85,000 based on the candidate's qualifications and experience and is supplemented by an excellent benefit package. Please submit a 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; Fax 804-726-9752 or e-mail Richmond@springsted.com. Resumes received by Aug. 17 will receive priority consideration. Position remains open until filled. For a complete community/position, profile related to the position please visit www.springsted.com.

Zoning and Plans Inspector II/Franklin County

Franklin County, a fast growing community known for its scenic beauty, nestled between Philpott and Smith Mountain Lakes along the Blue Ridge Mountains, located approximately 10 miles south of Roanoke, VA, is currently accepting applications for the position of Zoning & Plans Inspector II. Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in planning or related field is required. A minimum of two years of code enforcement is required. Excellent interpersonal and customer service skills a must. Salary DOQ/E + excellent benefits. Applications and a complete job description may be obtained in the County Finance Suite #111, 1255 Franklin Street, Rocky Mount VA 24151 OR apply online at www.franklincountyva.org. Applications must be received no later than 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 13.



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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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