

COUNTY CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of the
Virginia Association of Counties

March 18, 2015



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The President's Post

By Penny Gross
VACo President

One more way to serve

Elected county officials across Virginia often wear more than one hat as part of their duties and responsibilities. Planning District Commissions, hospital boards, appointments to state boards of local interest are but a few of the opportunities for county officials to further serve the interests of their constituents and bring the local perspective to regional and statewide bodies. VACo can help.



The six Virginia members of the Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC) to the Chesapeake Executive Council are appointed by the Governor to represent the Commonwealth; currently, four of those six members have strong VACo connections. Supervisors Ruby Brabo (King George County) and Janine Burns (Mathews County), and Larry Land (VACo staff), were appointed to LGAC by Governor McAuliffe last fall; I was reappointed by the Governor, and have served on LGAC since my initial appointment by Governor Mark Warner. It is Virginia's turn to chair LGAC, and Janine Burns was elected earlier this month to chair for the coming year. Ruby Brabo continues to serve as vice chair of LGAC's Virginia delegation.

LGAC meets quarterly around the Chesapeake Bay watershed, joined by local elected officials from Maryland, Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia, as well as EPA staff from the Chesapeake Bay Program, which provides funding for LGAC activities.

VACo asks Governor McAuliffe to modify or eliminate state's seizure of local fines & forfeitures



VACo is working in advance of the General Assembly's reconvened session on April 15 to reduce or eliminate a budget amendment that expands the number of localities subject to state seizure of local fines and forfeitures. VACo sent a letter on Monday, March 16 asking the Governor to send down an amendment for the reconvened session that will reduce any transfer of local fines and forfeitures to a minimal amount this year. VACo also asked the Governor to work with localities to eliminate this mandate in the next proposed budget.

The amendment request concerns the state's seizure of a portion of local fines and forfeitures, a practice begun by the 2012 General Assembly and determined by the State Inspector General in 2013 to be legally unjustified. The practice continues because language authorizing it remains in the Appropriations Acts.

The 2015 General Assembly approved a budget amendment altering the current formula and greatly increasing the number of localities forced to donate a portion of their fines and forfeitures to the state (from five jurisdictions to 33 next year - a more than 500 percent increase). For our member counties, the policy change moves from impacting one county to 16 counties next year. The amendment also increases the amount of fines and forfeitures taken by the state over three years.

VACo understands that these local dollars are not recognized in the HB 1400 conference report and thus no state spending depends on this local money. VACo is requesting that the Governor send down an amendment to reduce the current amendment's impact by changing the amount collected by the state to the total collected by the District Courts less 90 percent (as opposed to 65 percent in the approved budget). Making this change would decrease the number of affected communities from 33 to 3 and cap the amounts going to the state to no more than \$25,000 in FY 2016. VACo is advocating for complete repeal of the mandate in next year's budget.

[Click here for a list of those localities impacted, including 16 counties](#)
[Click here to read VACo's Letter to the Governor](#)
[Click here for VACo's Capitol Contact Alert on this issue](#)

PRESIDENT'S POST
Continued on page 2

VACo Contact: [Dean Lynch, CAE](#)

**VACo to host Regional Legislative Meetings
Join us for the first one - Region 13 - in Wise County**

VACo Members

We are excited to bring the first 2015 VACo Regional Legislative Meeting to VACo Region 13. Regional representatives are invited to attend and should have received the agenda to the right by email. This is an opportunity for county elected officials to share local and regional problems and solutions. We expect a robust discussion and your attendance adds to the value of the meeting.

We also invited state legislators in the VACo Region 13 area. The event format allows for lawmakers to hear your concerns and answer some of your questions.

The meeting begins with a panel presentation on regional economic development and workforce development issues concerning Planning Districts 1 and 2. We encourage you to attend and represent your county.

Light snacks will be provided.

Please RSVP at vrussell@vaco.org.

[Click here to view information flier.](#)

VACo Contact: [Dean Lynch, CAE](#)



Virginia Association of Counties invites you to join us at the 2015 VACo Region 13 Meeting on Wednesday, April 8 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Rhododendron Room on 5th floor, C. Bascom Slemple Student Center at University of Virginia's College at Wise.

Expected attendance includes Board Chairs, Vice Chairs, Supervisors, area legislators, planning district commissioners and County Administrators and Executive Staff from Buchanan, Dickenson, Lee, Russell, Scott, Tazewell and Wise Counties and the City of Norton.

Virginia Association of Counties 2015 Regional Legislative Meeting
University of Virginia's College at Wise
April 8, 2015 • 7 to 9 p.m.

AGENDA

Welcome

Larry Mosley, District 3 Supervisor, Lee County,
Region 13 Director, VACo Board of Directors

&

Dean Lynch, Deputy Executive Director, Virginia Association of Counties

Economic Development and Workforce Development in Southwest Virginia

Darrell Blankenship, Executive Director, WIA One
Aleta Spicer, Center for Advanced Manufacturing

Round Table Discussion of Local Issues

Conversations with State Legislators

(Invited)

U.S. Representative **Morgan Griffith**, 9th House District, United States Congress

Senator **Charles W. "Bill" Carrico** (40th Senate District)

Senator **A. Benton "Ben" Chafin** (38th Senate District)

Delegate **Terry G. Kilgore** (1st House District)

Delegate **James W. "Will" Morefield** (3rd House District)

Delegate **Israel D. O'Quinn** (5th House District)

Delegate **Todd E. Pillion** (4th House District)

Hosted by the following:



PRESIDENT'S POST

Continued from page 1

Discussions to include representation from the headwaters states of West Virginia and New York are underway. There are 1800 or so units of local government, and 600-plus mostly volunteer organizations, in the watershed, all trying to work together, somehow, to help restore the Chesapeake Bay.

It is a daunting task, but one that has economic, as well as environmental, benefits. Expanding public access to the Bay may mean installing a new boat ramp or trail that will help increase tourism, thereby adding new dollars to the local economy. Tree planting and riparian buffers bring a lot of "bang for the buck," reducing storm runoff, lowering energy costs, meeting national ambient air quality standards. But they also encourage collaboration among governments, nonprofits and individual citizens to get the job done. Log on to www.chesapeakebay.net for more information about LGAC, Bay restoration and what these partnerships are all about.



Professor Yu Noda (third from left) and Interpreter Manabu Yoshinaga (second from left) recently visited VACo Headquarters to speak with Executive Director Jim Campbell (left) and Deputy Executive Director Dean Lynch about cooperation and regionalism among Virginia's local governments.

Professor Noda is on the faculty at Aichi University in Japan. He currently is a Fulbright Visiting Scholar in Public Administration and Policy at Georgetown University.

Great having you visit VACo, Professor Noda!

Frederick County hires new Administrator

Brenda Garton is the next County Administrator in Frederick County, it was recently announced. Garton begins her tenure on May 18 and replaces longtime County Administrator John R. Riley, Jr., who retired in January.

It is only the second time since the late 1970s that Frederick County has filled this vacancy.

Garton currently holds the top administrative job in Gloucester County, a position she's been in since 2008. She also served as County Administrator in Orange County (1993-2002) and Prince George County (2002-2008).

Frederick County received 41 applications and the Board of Supervisors conducted interviews with six candidates. Garton was selected from three finalists.

Garton began her career as a mathematics teacher in Albemarle and Orange counties. She is a certified public accountant and has worked as a manager in an accounting firm. She worked as controller and manager of plant administration for Edgcomb Metals located in Troy, Virginia.

Garton earned a master of education degree and a bachelor of science in education degree from the University of Virginia. She is married to Accomack County Administrator Steve Miner.



Arlington County Manager Donnellan to retire

Arlington County Manager Barbara M. Donnellan announced on March 13 that, after serving the Arlington community for nearly 32 years, she is retiring.

"It has been my honor and pleasure to serve Arlington County," said Donnellan. "While I feel in my heart that I could lead this organization for many more years, it is the right time for me to retire and start a new chapter in my life. We have an excellent leadership team in place, and I have every confidence that I will leave Arlington in great hands."

Donnellan's last day on the job will be June 30, 2015. County Board plans to name Deputy County Manager Mark Schwartz as Acting County Manager before conducting a national search.

Named County Manager in 2010

In October, 2010, the County Board named Donnellan County Manager. Under Donnellan's leadership, Arlington County has successfully implemented nationally-recognized Smart Growth planning policies and continued the sound financial policies that have earned the County its triple-triple-A bond rating for many years.

She has worked on several key public/private partnership projects for the County, including: Ballston Garage; E-Trade; Shirlington redevelopment; Gates of Arlington; US Airways; Washington Capitals; and Rosslyn BID development.

Donnellan started her career in County government as Budget Analyst in the Department of Management and Finance (DMF). She also served as Acting Director of the Department of Libraries, and served as DMF Director, before being named Deputy County Manager. Beginning in 2009, she served seven months as Acting County Manager.

"Barbara has been the consummate professional County Manager," said Mary Hynes, chair of the Arlington County Board. "She has kept her eye on the needs of Arlingtonians — residents and businesses — and given her heart, her intellect, and her passion to serving this community for more than 30 years. All five County Board members are tremendously grateful to her."

The County Board plans to name Deputy County Manager Mark Schwartz as Acting County Manager and will embark on a national recruitment for a new Manager. The search will be coordinated by Board Members Jay Fiset and Libby Garvey. "We are confident that Mark will do a great job and provide strong leadership continuity for Arlington," said Chair Hynes.

Regional leadership

Donnellan is a leader in the [Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments \(COG\)](#), which brings together area leaders to address major regional issues in the Washington Metropolitan Region. She currently serves as chair of COG's Chief Administrative Officers Homeland Security Executive Committee. In Oct. 2014, she received COG's [2014 Visionary Leadership Award](#), a prize that recognizes top government officials for their outstanding contributions to metropolitan Washington and their home jurisdictions.

Three governors have appointed Donnellan to the Board of Directors of the Virginia Resources Authority (VRA) and she is a current Board Member. In 2013, Leadership Arlington awarded Ms. Donnellan its Community Impact Award for her "visionary guidance and dedication to Leadership Arlington and the Arlington Community." In 2009, Leadership Greater Washington presented Ms. Donnellan its highest honor — the Fannie Mae Volunteer of the Year Award, honoring her for her role in expanding the [Youth Leadership Greater Washington](#) program through enhanced planning, fundraising and recruiting. She also has served as a volunteer for Arlington County Meals on Wheels and for other community boards.



DEQ convenes study group on stormwater

The Department of Environmental Quality has convened a special Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) to consider additional amendments to Virginia's Stormwater Management Act during the 2016 General Assembly.

SAG held its second meeting on March 16. Six more meetings are scheduled between April and September. SAG's chief objective is to recommend legislative changes that will streamline and clarify provisions in Virginia's laws relating to stormwater management. Virginia's three chief statutes containing stormwater requirements are the Stormwater Management Act, the Erosion and Sediment Control Law and the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act.

Despite various pieces of legislation enacted by the General Assembly over the past 10 years to integrate and streamline stormwater provisions in those three statutes, there continues to be ambiguities and apparent conflicts in language that have confused not only local stormwater managers, but key DEQ staff responsible for overseeing Virginia's stormwater programs.

SAG's chief objective will be to finally solve these problems once and for all.

SAG is comprised of representatives from local government (including VACo and the Virginia Municipal League), along with agriculture, the development and engineering communities and environmental organizations.

The Stormwater SAG's next meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 17, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the DEQ Piedmont Regional Office in Henrico County.

Additional information about the SAG (including full roster and minutes from its first meeting on February 20) [is available at this link](#).

VACo Contact: [Larry Land, CAE](#) (Land is a SAG Member)



VACo files comment on possible new rules for animal shelters

An organization known as the No-Kill Advocacy Center (NKAC) has petitioned the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) for a new rule-making that will require public and private animal shelters to maintain more detailed records relating to when and how each animal is taken into custody.

The petition also requests that more detailed records be maintained relating to the "kinds of care and treatment each animal received, including veterinary treatment, the disposition of each animal, and if the animal was killed, (and) when and why the animal was killed."

In reaction to NKAC's petition, 607 comments have been filed with VDACS. One commenter is VACo. In a letter sent to VDACS on March 13, VACo expressed concern about how counties would be fiscally and administratively affected by this rule-making, especially if it results in the prohibition on, or additional restrictions on, the ability of public animal shelters to administer euthanasia as a final resort after all other alternative remedies have been pursued.

VACo's letter also pointed out how local shelters are overwhelmed by the problem of animal overpopulation, and that they are already subject to extensive (and expensive) requirements under Virginia's Comprehensive Animal Care Law (Section 3.2-6500 of the [Code of Virginia](#).)

Currently Virginia's public shelters are subject to inspection by the State Veterinarian. Animal Control Officers, Humane Investigators and custodians of public animal shelters are required to maintain detailed records of each animal taken into custody. Public animal shelters are also required to meet specific standards in providing care (including medical care) to each animal. Finally, before an animal can be euthanized, a minimum hold period must be observed in order to provide opportunities for adoption.

[Click here to read VACo's letter to the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.](#)

VACo Contact: [Larry Land, CAE](#)



Applications Now Open for the NACo County Health Learning Challenge!

In partnership with the [County Health Rankings & Roadmaps](#) program, NACo presents an opportunity for up to three county teams to participate in the County Health Learning Challenge. Using the [Roadmaps to Health Take Action Cycle](#), this year-long collaborative challenge is intended to help the selected County Health Learning teams develop and strengthen cross-sector partnerships, select potential policy, systems and environmental changes to improve county health and put ideas into action to build a Culture of Health in their counties.

More information, including the application, information about the Challenge, eligibility and criteria and the application timeline are now available at www.naco.org/countyhealthlearningchallenge.

More information, including the application, information about the Challenge, eligibility and criteria and the application timeline are now available at www.naco.org/countyhealthlearningchallenge.



Applications close April 13. If you have questions, please contact Andrew Whitacre at awhitacre@naco.org or 202.942.4215.

[Please apply before the deadline on April 13 at 11:59pm EDT!](#)

Visit Wise County and Interstate #101 Car

Step back in time... Visit the 101 Car in Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Interstate Railroad Private Car #101 has a long and illustrious history. Built in 1870 for the South Carolina & Georgia Railroad, the car and the railroad were acquired by Southern Railway in 1899. It was then rebuilt and placed into service as Office Car #117.

In 1912, Southern swapped the car to the Virginia & Southwestern Railroad in Bristol, Virginia, for a similar car owned by the V&SW. It became V&SW #100 and was assigned to Bristol for the next four years.

In January, 1916, President H.L. Miller of the Interstate Railroad approached Southern Railway, V&SW's new owner, regarding the car. A deal was struck, and the car became Interstate Car #100. The purchase price was \$3,500.

As Interstate #100, the car was used extensively for inspection trips and off-line trips until 1924, when the railroad acquired another second hand office car from Southern Railway. The "new" car was given the treasured number of 100, and the old wooden car was renumbered to #101. The newer car was subsequently sold by the Interstate in 1936, and car 101, was retained for official use thereafter.

In 1959, this well-traveled vehicle was retired and transported from Interstate's headquarters at Andover to Dorchester Lake on Black Creek in Wise County, Va. for use as a hunting cabin. These properties were subsequently purchased by Humphrey's Enterprises, who donated #101 to The Gap Corporation in 1988. A successful community based fundraising effort resulted in the car being moved to Big Stone Gap where it was restored to its present condition and placed in service as the Lonesome Pine Regional Tourist Information Center.

The car is an excellent example of typical passenger car construction for the late 19th century. As built, it contained an observation room, two state rooms, a dining area, facilities for the porter and a kitchen area. Most of the original fixtures are intact, including the lavatories, lighting fixtures and even the speedometer in the rear observation area.

Every effort has been made to retain the original appearance of the car, including the paint scheme and several fixtures that had to be fabricated from original drawings. The only departure from a faithful restoration has been the trucks (wheel sets) which are of a more modern design than the originals. Given the rarity of such components, this concession can be easily forgiven.

With the restoration complete, the car is poised to enter its new career, one that will soon span three centuries.

About Big Stone Gap and Wise County

During the 1870s, much was published about the mineral and timber resources of the Appalachian Mountains. General John Mobden focused on Three Forks as the location for industrial development, touting it as the "new Pittsburgh of the south." The town, which was then being called "Mineral City" was incorporated as Big Stone Gap in 1882.

Many developer's flocked to Big Stone Gap. These included Rufus Ayers, the Goodloe and Wood brothers, the Slemple and the Fox family.



John Fox Jr. wrote about his experiences in "The Gap" and the surrounding region in his 12 novels and 45 short stories. He became the most popular American novelist of his time and immortalized Big Stone Gap in his novel "The Trail of the Lonesome Pine." In modern times, Big Stone Gap is best known for a series of novels by hometown author Adriana Trigiani. In addition to the two best-selling authors, the town has produced the private secretary to President Calvin Coolidge, a governor of Virginia, numerous artisans and musicians, a Grammy-winning recording studio, two NFL running backs and many others who have contributed to our state, nation and world!

SOURCE: VisitWiseCounty.com

2015 Achievement Awards Virginia Association of Counties

ENTER THE 2015 VACo ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Dear VACo Members,

It's time for the 2015 Achievement Awards Program. Any county department is eligible to compete so ENTER NOW!

Award plaques will be presented at VACo's Annual Conference on November 8-10 in Bath County. VACo representatives also will visit Board of Supervisors meetings to present the winners their certificates.

The winning entries will be recognized on VACo's Achievement Awards website page, in a news release sent to statewide media and in an Achievement Awards booklet.

Submissions must be received by June 1.

All entries are required to be submitted in electronic form. No paper copy submissions are necessary. The electronic copy should be a PDF or WORD file. E-mail entries to Gage Harter at gharter@vaco.org.

The judges for the 2015 event will be announced soon. Last year's judges were Tedd Povar, Associate Director of the Virginia Institute of Government; William Quarles, former Goochland County Supervisor; and Linda Lumpkin, retired Essex County Deputy County Administrator.

VACo received more than 300 entries over the past six competitions. Last year's "Best Achievement" winner was Loudoun County for its "You Belong @ Your Library" program.

VACo encourages all counties, big and small, to enter the 2015 Achievement Awards Program. Please contact gharter@vaco.org with questions or for more information.

[Click here for registration form](#)

[Click here for Achievement Awards website](#)

[Click here to browse all of the 2014 entries](#)

[Click here to view past Achievement Award winners](#)

news from our associate members



Introducing our Chief Operating Officer....

Two attributes are important for the COO of a full service, multi-state engineering firm - 1) a practical and realistic approach to managing daily operations and 2) an overabundance of energy. Kenneth M. Piazza, Jr., P. E., thankfully has plenty of both.



How can the manager of the Geotechnical Engineering Division, the champion of our newest location in North Carolina, a member of the firm's Board of Directors and a Managing Principal of the company take on even more responsibility you might ask? It's because Ken has repeatedly demonstrated a mastery of organizational skills and a wealth of enthusiasm that is necessary for a position that screams "multitasker required, faint of heart need not apply."

Kenneth M. Piazza, Jr. PE
kpiazza@daa.com
804.264.2228

Ken will provide overall management direction for the firm and ensure a consistent and continuous approach to all we do.

Enthusiasm is contagious and Ken is enthusiastic about the future of Draper Aden Associates. What better characteristic would you want a COO to possess?

Introducing our Utilities Engineering Division Manager...

Steering the future of utilities engineering requires a "people person"- not just someone who understands and anticipates changes in technology, regulations, economic forces and resource constraints. It requires someone who can see the bigger picture and understand how each of these aspects can apply to your project. With this in mind, we couldn't be happier to announce that Jeffrey A. McInnis, P. E., has been named Utilities Engineering Division Manager for Draper Aden Associates.



Jeff's leadership experience and technical background have prepared him to build upon Draper Aden's strong history and reputation. He will provide

Jeffrey A. McInnis
jmcinnis@daa.com
540.552.0444

clients a fresh approach to ever-evolving technologies, regulations, and project financing.

As Jeff is fond of saying, "the devil is in the details," and responsiveness is key. From crafting an idea on paper to conducting the final inspection, Jeff's proactive approach to every project guarantees a lasting positive impact in your community.

Virginia Grants & Loans Deadlines

In an effort to help our clients be aware of upcoming deadlines for applying to various agencies for grant and loan funding, Draper Aden Associates has compiled a list of funding sources and the associated application deadlines. Several agencies have not established proposal or application deadlines, but this document should help you keep these opportunities on your "radar screen."

Some highlights:

- Virginia Department of Environmental Quality will be accepting applications in July for a wide variety of wastewater and stormwater projects.
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is accepting applications in April and September for two categories of technical capacity grants. Draper Aden Associates is an approved "NFWF Technical Assistance Provider".
- Virginia Resources will accept applications in May and again in the Fall for the Pooled Financing Program,
- Virginia Department of Environmental Quality will accept applications for grant funding from the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund in the Fall.

Click [here](#) to view a listing of funding opportunities. This list is not all-inclusive, but will help you be aware of upcoming deadlines for some sources of grants and low-cost loans for public projects

For more information about this topic please contact: Sheryl Stephens (sstephens@daa.com) or Lori Kroll (lkroll@daa.com). www.daa.com

Virginia County Chairs and Vice Chairs

THE CHAIRS

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Buchanan County Trey Adkins	Franklin County E. Cline Brubaker	Loudoun County Scott K. York	Prince Edward County Howard F. Simpson	Warren County Richard H. Traczyk
Buckingham County Danny R. Allen	Frederick County Richard C. Shickle	Louisa County Tommy J. Barlow	Prince George County William A. Robertson, Jr.	Washington County Phillip B. McCall
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Brunswick County Bernard Lee Jones, Sr.	Fluvanna County Robert W. Ullenbruch	Lee County Larry R. Mosley	Prince Edward County Pattie Cooper-Jones	Warren County Linda Poe Glavis
Buchanan County William P. Harris	Franklin County Charles D. Wagner	Loudoun County Ralph Buona	Prince George County Jerry J. Skalsky	Washington County Randy L. Pennington
Buckingham County Joe N. Chambers, Jr.	Frederick County Charles S. DeHaven, Jr.	Louisa County Troy J. Wade	Prince William County Maureen S. Caddigan	Westmoreland County Woodrow W. Hynson, Jr.
Campbell County Steven M. Shockley	Giles County Larry Jay Williams	Lunenburg County Charles R. Slayton	Pulaski County Charles R. Bopp	Wise County Virginia H. Meador
Caroline County Jeffery M. Sili	Gloucester County John C. Meyer, Jr.	Madison County Robert Clay Jackson	Rappahannock County S. Bryant Lee	Wythe County Arthur E. Hall
Carroll County Thomas W. Littrell	Grayson County Brenda R. Sutherland	Mathews County Janine F. Burns	Richmond County Richard E. Thomas, Sr.	York County George S. Hrichak
Charles City County Floyd H. Miles, Sr.	Greene County James F. Frydl	Mecklenburg County Gregg Gordon	Roanoke County Joseph P. McNamara	

Thank you for sending us your 2015 updates.
Changes and corrections may be emailed any time to ccameron@vaco.org.

Agritourism Conference draws diverse and enthusiastic attendees



The Virginia Association of Counties co-sponsored the first of its kind Agritourism Conference at the Stonewall Jackson Hotel and Conference Center in Staunton on March 10-11.

The conference's organization was spearheaded by Dr. Martha Walker of the Virginia Cooperative Extension and included other co-sponsors – Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission, Farm Credit, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Virginia FAIRS, Virginia Tourism Corporation and USDA Rural Development.

"Every conference session was bursting with engaging speakers and provided valuable tools for Virginia's agritourism industry," said Martha Walker, community viability specialist for Extension.



TOP PHOTO - Rockingham County Attorney Thomas Miller (hand in air) and Rockingham County Zoning Administrator Diana Stultz spoke on the topic of zoning and agritourism.

BOTTOM PHOTO - Virginia Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry Todd Haymore (at podium) was a featured speaker at the Agritourism Conference on March 10-11.

The two-day conference was attended by over 150 people and included a wide variety of attendees from farmers to tourism experts to economic development and government professionals. They came from the private sector as well as local, state and federal government. Attendees visited a number of farms and businesses like Meadowcroft Farm, Polyface Farm, Cestari Sheep & Wool Company, Mt. Crawford Creamery and White Oak Lavender Farm.

The agenda included sessions on event planning, marketing, regional networks, zoning and conservation, financing, legal structures, farm craft breweries, profitability outlook of wineries, bed and breakfast operations, food safety and experience-based tips to make agritourism businesses a success in the rural economy.

Distinguished guests included The Honorable Maurice Jones, Secretary of Commerce and Trade; The Honorable Todd Haymore, Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry; Mary Rae Carter, Special Advisor for Rural Partnerships, Dr. Ed Jones, Director of Virginia Cooperative Extension and Dr. Basil Gooden from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural development program.

On Tuesday afternoon, Shenandoah Valley's Fields of Gold sponsored farm tours open to all attendees. "We are delighted that our region was chosen to host the state's first agritourism conference and for us to showcase our award-winning agritourism program known as Fields of Gold," said Bonnie Riedesel, Executive Director of the Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission, in the Augusta Free Press.

The topics covered included a session on Land Conservation Easements featuring Andy Sorrell from the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and a spirited session on Zoning and Agritourism moderated by Former Delegate Matt Lohr of Farm Credit of Virginia and featured speakers Thomas Miller, Rockingham County Attorney and Diana Stultz, Rockingham County Zoning Administrator.

"This quality conference had a lot to offer many different stakeholders and VACo was proud to be a part of the event," said Phyllis Errico, VACo General Counsel.

VACo Contact: [Phyllis Errico, CAE](#)

Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment Announces Designated Growth Area Grant Assistance Program Extension and New Details about HB2 Needs Assessment Opportunities

The Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) recently launched a [technical assistance program](#) to provide support for localities interested in designating growth areas in their comprehensive plans per the current Urban Development Area (UDA) legislation (§15.2-2223.1). In response to concerns regarding the application deadline, the office is extending the application period for this direct on-call assistance for 5 months. Applications will now be accepted through August 31, 2015.

OIPI is also increasing flexibility in how designated growth areas are being included in the VTrans2040 Multimodal Transportation Plan (VMTP) needs assessment, which will serve as the CTB's first screening criteria for projects submitted for HB2 funding. Under the HB2 legislation, projects considered for funding will have to meet a transportation need as defined in the statewide plan for Corridors of Statewide Significance, Regional Networks or UDAs.

Through research conducted throughout the fall of 2014, OIPI identified many localities with designated growth areas that appear to meet the objectives of the UDA legislation. These designated growth areas may be village centers, suburban activity areas, economic development hubs or any other kind of strategic policy areas designated for future growth that are UDA-like areas without being formally designated as UDAs. In order to maximize the opportunities for localities to receive funding under HB2, OIPI will interpret any designated growth areas *that have a comprehensive plan reference to the UDA legislation* as qualified for HB2 screening, even if they are not named as UDAs. Previously designated and newly designated UDAs will of course also qualify to apply for this funding.

The Office is asking that localities who want their growth areas to qualify for HB2 transportation funding to add this code reference by October 1, 2015 to ensure adequate time for processing prior to the call for HB2 project nominations. UDAs and UDA-like designated growth areas with the proper code reference submitted after October 1 will still be included in the VTrans2040 Needs Assessment in an ongoing fashion; however they will not be considered in the first round of HB2 project screening.

This flexibility increases the opportunity to coordinate local transportation planning and land use decisions regardless of the locally selected name for these designated growth areas. This enhanced opportunity for coordination, both through the assistance program and the availability of transportation funding to promote UDAs through HB2, will help localities enable development that supports more efficient use and management of our transportation system.

The Office encourages localities to assess if they have any UDA-like areas that meet or are close to meeting the requirements of the UDA legislation, and if so to consider using the assistance program to help update their designated growth areas and/or add this code reference to maximize future funding opportunities. More info can be found at www.vtrans.org.

In other transportation and planning news, click here to see an update on the state's VTrans2040 – Multimodal Transportation Plan Kick-Off Announcement.

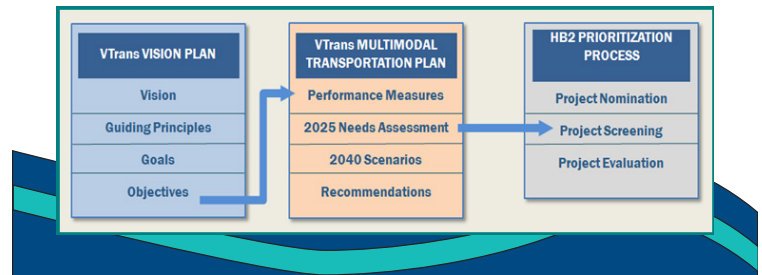


In April 2014 the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) began work on VTrans2040, the Commonwealth's guiding policy for long-range statewide transportation plans and programs. For the first time, VTrans2040 will include two complementary documents. First, the VTrans2040 Vision document, which includes an updated Vision, Guiding Principles, Goals, and Objectives. The Vision document reflects the priorities and concerns of the Administration and includes the input we've received from you and other stakeholders across the Commonwealth. This material has been presented in draft to the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) and will be available for public review soon.

Second, the VTrans2040 Multimodal Transportation Plan (VMTP) will identify the multimodal transportation needs and recommendations for 2025, as well as a discussion of potential future scenarios for 2040. It will replace the 2035 Virginia Surface Transportation Plan, which focused on highway and transit systems but did not address other modes.

The VMTP will provide a multimodal needs analysis, including a statewide assessment of multimodal system maintenance and safety needs based on recently completed agency analyses, and an assessment of 2025 projected operational and capacity needs for Corridors of Statewide Significance, Regional Networks and Urban Development Areas. This needs assessment is a critical input to the HB2 project rating process per the 2014 legislation. At this time, we are kicking off the second phase of the VTrans2040 process and plan to start collecting data and gathering your input to better inform the final VMTP.

As shown in the project schedule on the following page, the development of the VMTP Needs Assessment includes a constant and consistent outreach effort to ensure that our planning partners across the Commonwealth are working closely with us to develop a vision for the future of transportation. These outreach efforts will ensure that each region's unique characteristics are specifically incorporated into the final VMTP. More information regarding the scenario development for 2040 will be forthcoming.



NACo releases model ordinance and application checklist to help counties comply with new FCC Order on wireless facilities siting: On March 5, NACo [released materials](#) to help counties comply with the Federal Communications Commission's Order on wireless facilities siting, which takes effect on April 8.



The new Order will require counties to comply with new rules that will impact their planning and zoning authority. NACo worked with several industry and local government groups to assist counties on the requirements of the new Order.

Mark Your Calendars

NACo 2015 ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS PROGRAM

OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS

The National Association of Counties (NACo) is excited to announce that it is currently accepting applications for the 2015 Achievement Awards!

For 45 years, NACo has recognized innovative programs in county government through the Achievement Awards Program. The awards provide an excellent opportunity for winners to promote their successes to a larger audience and share best practices with their partners and peers.

As a non-competitive awards program, each application is judged on its own merits and not against other applications received. Awards are given in 21 different categories culminating with an awards celebration at the 2015 NACo Annual Conference and Exposition in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

For more information on the application process, deadlines and program criteria, please see the promotional materials by clicking here. We look forward to hearing from you and learning about the outstanding accomplishments of the 3,069 counties across the country!

For more information, please contact, awards@naco.org. | Click here to check out the 2015 Achievement Awards Brochure



Join us for the next Supervisor Certification Course

Managing While Leading: Understanding Your Powers, Duties and Responsibilities

Friday, May 15 and Friday, July 17

Are leadership, management and governance symbiotic or separate? Boards of Supervisors are elected to serve specific roles and guide county functions as defined by the Code of Virginia.

This course reviews the powers, duties and responsibilities of the local Supervisor in addition to identifying the skill set needed to establish a governance policy body that is consequential. Avoiding poor performance and learning how to blend leadership with strategic thinking is a course outcome.

Register Today! The deadline is May 5.

Registration Form
Register Online
Program Webpage

84th Virginia Certified Planning Commissioner Program

Land Use Education Program
education that brings Virginia's future into the present



Opening Session: April 20-21

Meeting Location: Harrisonburg Courtyard by Marriott Hotel

Closing Session: June 29-30

Cost: \$500 per person

Registration Deadline: April 1

Registration information/form available care of www.planvirginia.com.

Contact: Michael Chandler, Director of Education, Land Use Education Program, Virginia Tech, 804.794.6236 or rmchan@vt.edu.



County Supervisors - Here's an opportunity to share your pride in your district through a video project. Produce your own 45-second video that showcases the beauty of your district or the folks in your community.

Here's how...

- Find that special place in your district that represents your pride in your community - whether it's a landmark, landscape, event or just a bunch of your friends and constituents together
- Use a phone with video capabilities
- On camera, introduce yourself, your district, your county, the place in the video and perhaps some history or facts of the location

Here's a sample script...

FADE IN

CAMERA frames the SUPERVISOR, who introduces himself/herself.

SUPERVISOR

Hi. I'm John Jones. Welcome to Wake County's Sixth District and our beautiful waterfall at Moss Creek Park! The waterfall stretches 200 feet in the air and its water is warm enough to swim. Come visit us!

CAMERA pans the area to show the landscape and waterfalls.

FADE OUT

VACo will create a Supervisors Video Wall on www.vaco.org where the 45-second videos will be posted individually as they are received. We hope the video wall will grow to represent all of Virginia's supervisor districts.

As a reminder - each video should contain the following:

- Limit to 45 seconds in duration (the time limit allows you to email or text the clip)
- Supervisors must identify themselves
- Supervisors must identify their county and district
- Videos must be done in one take | No editing

Supervisors are encouraged to use their phones and email or text their clip to gcharter@vaco.org. Please contact gcharter@vaco.org to confirm delivery of your clip.

Employment Opportunities

Employment ads are edited due to space considerations. Visit www.vaco.org to view the full versions. Click on the County Employment link on the menu bar.

CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER | City of Alexandria

Fiscal Officer III. Salary: \$74,645.48 - \$119,940.86. Full Benefits. Full Time. Deadline: Monday, April 6. This critical position provides the DCHS Director with analyses on which to base financial related policy decisions for all department programs. The work includes planning, organizing and directing preparation of the operating and capital improvement budgets, as well as supervising contract, grant, and procurement activities. This is a key leadership position which includes supervisory responsibilities. For more information or to apply visit www.alexandriava.gov/jobs.

PLANS EXAMINER II | City of Alexandria

Closing Date/Time: March 27. \$29.53 - \$47.45 Hourly | \$61,423.18 - \$98,695.48 Annually. Full-Time. [Print Job Information](#) | [Apply](#) | [Job Description](#) | [Benefits](#) | [Supplemental Questions](#). The Department of Code Administration works in concert with other City agencies and our customers (residents, tenants, business owners, building owners, architects, engineers, builders, tradesmen, contractors, and developers) as part of the safe building team. Our objective is to assist customers with compliance related to Virginia's Uniform Statewide Building and Maintenance Codes (USBC), and the City Code nuisance and development provisions. This is accomplished through permit processing, plan review; timely and consistent inspections, and education regarding the requirements of the referenced codes.

DIVISION CHIEF - PLANS REVIEW SERVICES | City of Alexandria

Closing Date: April 10. \$35.89 - \$57.66 Hourly | \$74,645.48 - \$119,940.86 Annually. Full-Time. [Print Job Information](#) | [Apply](#) | [Job Description](#) | [Benefits](#) | [Supplemental Questions](#). The Department of Code Administration works in concert with other City agencies and our customers (residents, tenants, business owners, building owners, architects, engineers, builders, tradesmen, contractors, and developers) as part of the safe building team. Our objective is to assist customers with compliance related to Virginia's Uniform Statewide Building

and Maintenance Codes (USBC), and the nuisance and development provisions of the City Code. This is accomplished through efficient permit processing, timely and consistent plan review, effective inspections, and education regarding the requirements of the referenced codes.

DEPUTY CITY MANAGER | City of Chesapeake

Under the direction of the City Manager, this position supervises staff and assists the City Manager in oversight and management of City functions; establishes long range plans, develops and recommends policy and procedures; oversees, assists, and assesses City departments, documents and reports on events and activities to senior management and elected or appointed officials; negotiates for, and represents the City with intergovernmental activities, regional agencies, citizen's groups, and civic or professional leaders. For more information about information about the position, visit <http://www.cityofchesapeake.net/government/City-Departments/Departments/Human-Resources-Department/Human-Resources-Announcements/deputy-city-manager-recruitment.htm>. Interested candidates should complete a City of Chesapeake employment application via the following link: www.jobs.cityofchesapeake.net.

FINANCIAL SERVICES TECHNICIAN | Fluvanna County

The preferred applicant will have a thorough understanding and experience in preparation and maintenance of payroll and billing processes. The Financial Services Technician is responsible for preparing and participating in the bi-weekly payroll, preparing monthly, quarterly and year-end tax reporting and other financial recordkeeping processes of the County. The ideal candidate will need to be able to respond to questions regarding payroll deductions and other billing inquiries, research and resolve problems, prepare billing reconciliations and reports, as well as cross train for other financial functions. An equivalent combination of education and experience will be considered. Salary range \$15 - \$19 per hour plus benefits (\$31,200-\$39,520 annually), DOQ. Submit a County application, resume, cover letter, and references by 5 p.m., March 20 to jobs@fluvannacounty.org. Applications are available at the county website, <http://fluvannacounty.jobs>. EOE

ACCOUNTANT | Powhatan County

This position performs professional accounting work including maintenance of the County's general ledger and assistance with the annual external audit. Additional duties include overseeing reconciliation of expenditures and revenues and coordinating accounts payable, in addition to processing of payroll and related tax filings. Salary negotiable, with a range from \$45,739 to \$50,313, based on qualifications and experience. Submit completed County application, letter of application, detailed resume, salary history and work related references to: Human Resources, County of Powhatan, 3834 Old Buckingham Road, Powhatan, VA 23139 or email humanresources@powhatanva.gov. Position open until filled, with first consideration given to applications received by April 17. Official Powhatan County applications can be downloaded and printed from the County's website at www.powhatanva.gov.

DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM | Clarke County

This is a new executive level position that reports to the County Administrator and is responsible for managing economic development and tourism activities in accordance with the County's new Economic Development Strategic Plan. Salary DOQ. Position may be filled as full-time or part-time depending on candidate's qualifications and career goals. Open until filled. For more information on applying for this position including the full recruitment announcement, please visit the County website - www.clarkecounty.gov - or contact Lora Walburn at 540.955.5175.

BUDGET AND LMIS PROGRAM SPECIALIST | Loudoun County

Loudoun County's Department of Building and Development, Permit Issuance/ Administration Division, is seeking applicants for a full time Budget and LMIS (Land Management Information Systems) Program Specialist. Primary duties include: coordination/ preparation of departmental budget; responsibility for significant portions of the department's procurement and accounts payable processes and assisting the Systems Administrator in coordinating LMIS need. Must be a self-motivated team player with strong analytical and computer skills. Project management, especially related

EMPLOYMENT

Continued from page 14

to information technology, preferred. Must successfully complete criminal and credit background checks. (Salary Range: \$52,621-\$76,784) Recruitment #15-S454-0974. Closes: March 24. Visit our online employment center at www.loudoun.gov for more information and to apply.

TRANSIT DIRECTOR | Town of Blacksburg

The Blacksburg Transit Department provides safe, reliable, courteous and affordable public transportation to the citizens of Blacksburg, Virginia Tech and partnering communities in the New River Valley. The salary range for the position is \$75,000-\$100,000 and is negotiable dependent upon the candidate's qualifications and experience. A full profile describing the Town, the Director's position and the Department may be found at www.Springsted.com under "Active Executive Search" or on the Town's website: <http://www.blacksburg.gov>. The position is open until filled; review of résumés will begin on April 15. To be considered, please submit a résumé, cover letter, five (5) professional references, and salary history to: John A. Anzivino, Springsted Incorporated, 1564 East Parham Road, Richmond, VA 23228. E-Mail: richmond@springsted.com

WEB INTERACTION DESIGNER | James City County

\$54,287-67,859, DOQ + Benefits including health and dental insurance, VRS retirement, paid leave and holidays, deferred compensation plan, and flexible spending accounts. Are you seeking a position that requires creativity and innovation? What about a position that challenges you and that you can take pride in? James City County is seeking a tech savvy individual to fill an critical position that designs, builds and maintains the County's internet and intranet websites. Position helps create and maintain the County's website to allow for positive user experience for citizens and County employees. Accepting applications until position is filled. To apply, visit the James City County career center at <https://jobs.jamescitycountyva.gov>.

PROGRAMMER ANALYST | James City County

\$50,488-63,109, DOQ + Benefits including health and dental insurance, VRS retirement, paid leave and holidays,

deferred compensation plan, and flexible spending accounts. Are you seeking a position that requires creativity and innovation? What about a position that challenges you and that you can take pride in? James City County is seeking a tech savvy individual to analyze, design and develop new solutions to assist with smooth operation of essential systems for the various County departments. Accepting applications until position is filled. To apply, visit the James City County career center at <https://jobs.jamescitycountyva.gov>.

MAINTENANCE MECHANIC | Albemarle County

Building Services Department. Non-Exempt, Pay Grade 10. Full-Time, 12 Months. The Maintenance Mechanic performs skilled work in making electrical, carpentry, plumbing, mechanical, refrigeration, painting and related repairs and installations. Supervision is exercised over semi-skilled workers. Maintains acceptable attendance in accordance with Albemarle county guidelines as well as compliance with safety standards. Hiring Range \$15.07 - \$18.09, plus possible evening shift differential/per hour depending on qualifications, experience, and internal equity.

WATER WASTEWATER ADMINISTRATOR | City of Chesapeake

Department of Public Utilities. Link to Post Application: <https://www.jobs.cityofchesapeake.net/applicants/jsp/shared/position/JobDetails.css.jsp?postingId=222986>. Salary: \$76,633 - \$101,539 (DOE). Provide planning and management for the City's water and wastewater systems. This position is responsible for establishing and implementing policies, administering personnel actions, planning and overseeing activities, developing and controlling budgets, and preparing and presenting reports. The class plans, organizes, and implements programs within major organizational policies; reports progress of major activities to executive level administrators through reports and conferences. Job Close Date: March 27.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE FOREMAN | Albemarle County

Maintenance Department. Full-Time, 12 Months. Non-Exempt, Pay Grade 11. The General Maintenance Foreman performs routine skilled work in making electrical, carpentry, plumbing, mechanical, refrigeration, painting and related repairs and installations. Supervision is

exercised over skilled and semi-skilled workers. Maintains acceptable attendance in accordance with Albemarle County guidelines as well as compliance with safety standards. Hiring Range: \$16.17 - \$19.40/ per hour based on experience, education, and internal equity considerations. DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: Until Filled.

PROGRAM COORDINATOR | Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

The Northern Virginia Transportation (NVTA) Authority is hiring a Project Coordinator. As a key member of the Authority's management team, the program coordinator will assist the executive director in coordinating and providing technical support to the NVTA committees in the development of NVTA plans and programs. They will oversee implementation of projects funded by NVTA, work closely with the CFO to ensure that NVTA funds are properly allocated and spent. For full job description and application process go to: <http://thenovaauthority.org>.

UTILITY SUPERINTENDENT | Hanover County

We are seeking an experienced Utility Superintendent with strong management, technical and team building skills. The Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent is a supervisory, professional position responsible for managing utility supervisors, utility operators and technicians. Hiring range \$52,362 - \$70,679 plus excellent benefits. For more information and to apply, please visit our career site at www.hanovercountyjobs.com. 804.365.6489, (TDD #365.6140).

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TECHNICIAN | Botetourt County

\$27,914 - \$30,000 DOQ. Experience related to building, GIS, land development and application of results and regulations. Knowledge of and ability to apply the administrative provisions of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code and Botetourt County Code. Go to www.botetourtva.gov for application and complete job description. Application, cover letter, and resume can be submitted to: Botetourt County Human Resources, 5 West Main St, Suite 200, Fincastle, VA 24090 or e-mail to jobs@botetourtva.gov. (Reference Community Development Technician in the subject line). A completed application form is required to be considered for the position. Open until filled.



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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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