

COUNTY CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of the
Virginia Association of Counties

May 19, 2017



Conference Planning Committee decides on theme... Page 2



Visit Bedford County and the Johnny Appleseed Statue... Page 5



Fairfax County Executive Edward Long Jr. to Retire... Page 3



News from our Associate Members - Branch Civil... Page 7



Governor Takes Final Actions on 2017 Legislation

Earlier this month, Governor McAuliffe took final action on legislation that was returned to him from the April 5 Reconvened Session. Under the Constitutional provisions governing this process, the Governor had 30 days to sign or veto such legislation; bills not acted upon by the deadline would become law without his signature. Of the 20 bills for which the General Assembly rejected his amendments, in whole or in part, the Governor signed 11 and vetoed nine (these figures include several pairs of companion House and Senate measures). The Governor also vetoed five items in the budget and noted that he believes a sixth provision to be unconstitutional; the House has disputed the Governor's authority to take two of these actions (dealing with Medicaid expansion and public works contract requirements for projects developed under the Public-Private Transportation Act of 1995) and did not publish them in the final version of the budget.

Of particular interest to local government, the Governor vetoed SB 1239 (Hanger), which would have imposed certain minimum health and safety standards on child day programs exempt from licensure by the state Department of Social Services. VACo had requested amendments to the bill that would preserve local parks and recreation programs' existing exemption from VDSS supervision, since these programs are operated under safety standards set by local elected officials. The Governor's amendments instead focused on reinstating certain safety requirements for child care programs operated under an exemption for religious institutions that had been removed in the bill as it emerged from conference in the final days of the regular session. The General Assembly rejected this proposal, and the Governor vetoed the bill, citing concerns about its effect on existing safety standards for child day programs. The Governor noted in his veto message that he has directed the Commissioner of Social Services to undertake "administrative actions to ensure all children are safely cared for regardless of the type of child day center they attend." VACo will continue to work with the Administration to ensure that local parks and recreation programs are not subject to unnecessary regulation that could potentially have a chilling effect on participation in these programs.



Also of interest to local governments, the Governor signed SB 1296 (Vogel), which imposes a three-year waiting period on a board of supervisors placing a meals tax referendum on the ballot after the defeat of a previous referendum and requires that specific language be included on the ballot regarding the total tax levy to be imposed on meals. The Governor had proposed amendments to narrow the waiting period to one year and remove the prescriptive language regarding the ballot question, but the Senate rejected these amendments.

With final action complete on all legislation from the 2017 session, the General Assembly now turns its attention to preparatory work for the 2018 session. The Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission held its organizational meeting on May 8; among other study bodies, the Freedom of Information Advisory Council and Virginia Housing Commission have begun their work; and a host of other standing commissions and ad-hoc workgroups have scheduled initial meetings in the near future.

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)

Conference Planning Committee decides on theme



VACo's 2017 Annual Conference Planning Committee met on May 8 to discuss the 83rd VACo Annual Conference theme, general and breakout session topics and speakers and conference logistics. Led by Committee Chair Bob Thomas, Stafford County Supervisor and VACo Second Vice President, the group agreed that communications should be the focus of the conference and the theme will be "**Communications | Engagement | Knowledge | Success.**" General and breakout session topics will tie into this theme.

The Committee selected Dr. Chris Kilmartin, Professor Emeritus of Psychology, University of Mary Washington as the Opening General Session speaker. He will focus on microaggressions in daily verbal, behavioral and environmental situations and how they negatively affect effective communication. Attendees will learn to identify these behaviors, modify them and move forward. Tuesday morning's Closing General Session will be a moderated panel discussing the November elections.

The Committee discussed possible breakout session topics including: Board of Supervisors/School Board communications and relationships, Fiscal Stress Work Group findings, addressing the Opioid Epidemic, Agritourism, Q&A with General Assembly members, a program by our Certified County Board Supervisors program leaders and recognition of the Achievement Awards winners. The VACo Team will meet mid-summer to finalize the breakout session list. Stay tuned to future articles for details.

In keeping with the theme, the committee requested a series of workshops in addition to the breakouts where counties can share tools used to engage their communities in Board meetings electronically, methods for interacting with constituents, identifying barriers and solutions in communication, and a social media how-to workshop.

As a reminder to all, the Hotel Reservation Form will be sent to VACo Board members, County Administrators and confirmed exhibitors on June 15. Attendee Registration Forms will be sent on August 15. For information on the room reservation process, or any questions about the VACo Annual Conference, contact [Carol Cameron](#) or [Amy V. Sales](#).

VACo Contact: [Amy V. Sales, CMP](#)

VACo is pleased to announce that in recognition of the Veterans' Day holiday the Roanoke County Color Guard will perform the Presentation of Colors at the start of the Monday morning Opening General Session. During this program, the VACo Team asks current and former service members for a photo to appear in the continuous loop PowerPoint presentation played during the session. If you want to participate, please send a photo with your name, branch of service and rank to [John Kandris](#).



Fairfax County Executive Edward Long Jr. to Retire



Fairfax County Executive Edward L. Long Jr. announced his plans to retire on September 15. Long has served as the county's administrative leader since April 2012 and has worked for Fairfax County for almost 40 years.

In a message to all employees, Long wrote:

"I joined Fairfax County as an enthusiastic budget analyst I in August 1977, almost 40 years ago. My initial enthusiasm did not wane over the years and I have thoroughly enjoyed my long career with the county. My last five years as county executive have been especially rewarding and leading Team Fairfax as county executive has been the highlight of my career.

The opportunity to work on a daily basis with such dedicated, talented and passionate staff, serving the Board of Supervisors and our community, is a gift I will treasure always."

During his tenure, Long served as director of the Department of Management and Budget from 1989 to 1997. He was then appointed deputy county executive/chief financial officer, responsible for overseeing all of the county's financial and human resources functions. He came out of retirement in 2012 to take the position as county executive.

"Ed Long has done great work for this county, both during his time as director of Management and Budget and as county executive. He has balanced very difficult budgets for our board to consider and has served as a transformational leader and manager within Fairfax County Government," said Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova. "I feel extremely fortunate to have worked alongside Ed for many years and will miss him in retirement!"

Among his achievements, Long steered Fairfax County through challenging financial waters, during which the county maintained its AAA bond rating and eliminated its negative rating outlook; established a multi-year budget process; revamped the county's employee evaluation system to add emphasis on promoting and encouraging employee development as part of new succession planning efforts; and negotiated a new financial plan to ensure the sustainability of the county's Workhouse Arts assets.

In 2016, Long received the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Institute for Regional Excellence Visionary Leadership Award. He is a 2012 recipient of the Distinguished Local Government Leadership Award from the Association of Government Accountants and was recognized in 2006 with the A. Heath Onthank Award – Fairfax County's highest employee honor.

Long has also served as an adjunct professor in the master's in public administration programs at George Mason University and American University. He has served on the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board and is active in and has held offices in numerous professional organizations in the Northern Virginia region.

The Board of Supervisors will establish a timeline and recruit for the position nationally, and will seek input from various stakeholder groups in the coming months.

President Biggs addresses Virginia Symposium on Philanthropy



VACo President Mary W. Biggs addressed the Virginia Symposium on Philanthropy on May 8, providing attendees with an overview of the role of local government in Virginia, challenges faced by localities, and opportunities for collaboration with private philanthropy. The event, formally titled “The Virginia Symposium on Philanthropy: Collaborating for Kids, Families and Communities,” was organized by First Lady Dorothy McAuliffe, Secretary of Health and Human Resources William Hazel, MD, and U.S. Trust, and included representatives from state agencies, local government, nonprofit agencies, private and community foundations in Virginia, and national foundations. The goal of the event was for representatives of government and the philanthropic community to understand each other’s activities and challenges so that future efforts could be better aligned.

President Biggs explained that the state’s structure of government favors a model where many services are state-supervised, but locally-administered, making local elected officials and staff the face of government for many Virginia residents. This arrangement can be strained, however, when the state’s budget pressures lead it to reduce its support for shared services, with K-12 education a prime example. She also discussed stresses on local revenue resulting from slow growth in real property taxes and limited options for revenue diversification. She encouraged local donors and foundations to seek out their local elected officials, who have a holistic view of local needs, to find opportunities to collaborate. An example of such work is the Montgomery County Educational Foundation, which supplements state and local contributions to the school system by making grants to teachers, students, and staff. The Foundation has purchased tablets for at-risk classrooms and funded a “One School, One Book” program to promote reading. She suggested some multi-disciplinary, complex issues where local governments would welcome creative solutions from the private sector: providing high-speed internet access in rural areas; combatting substance abuse, especially prevention efforts; and developing a pre-K-through workforce educational continuum to prepare students for

those jobs that do not require a college degree but do require some post-high school education and training.

The Symposium featured a number of panel discussions, including several sessions focused on examples of successful public-private collaboration. Andrew Crawford, the Director of Social Services in Bedford County, and Denny Huff, the Executive Director of the Bedford Community Health Foundation, spoke about their efforts to help residents achieve self-sufficiency. An umbrella organization, the Bedford Area Resource Council, coordinates efforts among community institutions, such as the local hospital, school system, and Workforce Investment Board, and supports mentorships and training classes to help residents in poverty obtain the skills and social supports needed to move out of poverty.

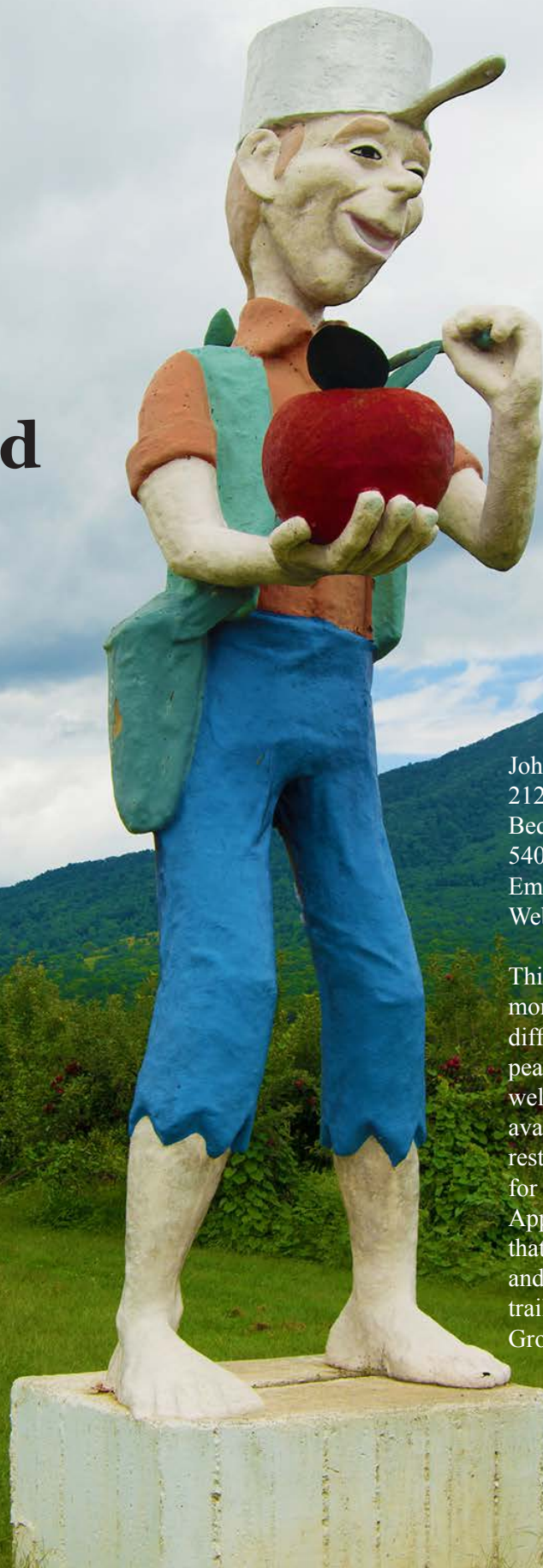
Several themes emerged from the discussions over the course of the symposium. First, although government provides the major building blocks for essential social services, the strictures of the biennial state budgeting cycle can be ill-suited to addressing deep-rooted social problems such as multi-generational poverty.

Philanthropy, by contrast, is sometimes able to supply “patient capital,” and fund projects that may not demonstrate success for several years. Representatives from the philanthropy community were interested in having further conversations with state agencies and localities, perhaps in future meetings at the regional level, to continue discussions about capitalizing on the unique strengths of each sector in coordinating efforts.

President Biggs said, “I appreciate the First Lady and Secretary Hazel inviting local government to be part of the conversation. It was a great opportunity to share some examples of public-private collaboration happening in my locality, and to learn about work happening in other parts of the state. Government resources are limited, so we welcome opportunities for innovative partnerships with the private sector in better serving our community. I’m looking forward to more discussions about this issue.”

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)

Visit Bedford County and the Johnny Appleseed Statue



Johnson's Orchards
2122 Sheep Creek Road
Bedford, VA 24523
540.586.3707
Email: appleseed@earthlink.net
Website: www.johnsonorchards.com

This farm has 200-plus acres with more than 7,000 apple trees of 200 different varieties. Several hundred peach, nectarine, and damson trees, as well as pumpkins in the fall, are also available. Facilities include modern restrooms, a log cabin, a pavilion for picnicking with a 15-foot Johnny Appleseed, a replica of an old store that houses a restored 1939 Chevrolet and a 1979 F-150 Ford, and many trails in the orchard for walking. Group and student tours available.

SOURCE: visitbedford.com



Mark Your Calendars



ENTER THE 2017 VACo ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Dear VACo Members:

It's time for the 2017 Achievement Awards Program. Any county department is eligible to compete so ENTER NOW!

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. Email entries to Gage Harter at gcharter@vaco.org.

Submissions must be received by June 2.

Last year we processed 91 entries and selected 29 winners from 21 counties. VACo presented awards at 18 Board of Supervisors Meetings and recognized winners at the Annual Conference, in a news release sent to statewide media and in an Achievement Awards booklet.

The judges for the 2017 Achievement Awards will be announced soon.

VACo received more than 500 entries over the past eight competitions. Last year's Best Achievement winner was King and Queen County for its "King and Queen Broadband Internet" program.

VACo encourages all counties, big and small, to enter the 2017 Achievement Awards Program. Please contact gcharter@vaco.org with questions or for more information.

[Click here for entry form](#) | [Click here for Achievement Awards website](#) | [Click here to browse all of the 2016 entries](#) | [Click here to view past Achievement Award winners](#)

VIRGINIA CERTIFIED COUNTY SUPERVISORS' PROGRAM

Funding Public Services in the 21st Century

Opening Session: June 2, 2017 | **Closing Session:** July 28, 2017

Location: Albemarle County

Cost: \$350 | **Registration Deadline:** May 23, 2017

[Registration Form](#) | [Register Online](#)



Powhatan County Vice-Chairman Larry Nordvig (facing camera) attends a Supervisors Certification Course in Albemarle County on May 12. Nordvig is set to complete his final course this summer and will graduate along with nine other supervisors in a ceremony held during the Closing General Session at VACo's 83rd Annual Conference.

NEWS FROM OUR ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

HEAVY CIVIL CONSTRUCTION ■ SITE DEVELOPMENT ■ DESIGN-BUILD



Branch Civil is an employee-owned (ESOP) company based out of Roanoke, Virginia, with regional divisions in Northern Virginia, Virginia Beach, and North Carolina.

Committed to continuing its 75-year tradition of building enduring infrastructure projects in the Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern United States, Branch Civil projects include public highway and street construction, public-private partnerships, military bases, ports, airports, utilities, landfills, and reservoir dams. In the private sector, site work includes manufacturing and distribution facilities, office and retail developments, and residential subdivisions.



BUILDING LEGACIES FOR A THRIVING FUTURE
A BRANCH GROUP COMPANY
©2017 BRANCH CIVIL, INC. | ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



ROANOKE ■ NORTHERN VIRGINIA ■ VIRGINIA BEACH ■ RALEIGH

branchcivil.com

VACo
SPOTLIGHT

**Robbie
McCraw
Carroll
County
Supervisor**



Q1. You've lived in Carroll County for more than 40 years and served your community in a variety of volunteer capacities. What inspired you to run for elected office?

Robbie McCraw: I have lived in Carroll County for more than 40 years and have served my community in a variety of volunteer activities alongside my family. My profession has allowed me to serve the public in many aspects and while doing so, I have listened to many disgruntled citizens voice their concerns regarding the well-being of our county. I have always had a interest in local government and now that my children are grown and have pursued their own careers, I found it time to seek an elected position with the Board of Supervisors in hopes of serving my community to the fullest extent. I firmly believe one is not allowed to complain unless there has been some proactivity; hence, if you chose to do nothing, then say nothing!

Q2. What's the best advice you've ever gotten? What advice would you give to others who are contemplating serving in public office?

RM: Some of the best advice I've ever received I believe to be very simplistic and was shared with me by a very dear friend and mentor. "You have two ears and one mouth, so listen twice as much as you speak." I consider being an active listener to be very instrumental in serving the public. Receiving constructive criticism, whether positive or negative, is key to change. To anyone contemplating service in a public office, a few points of interest would include, but not be limited to: always listen before speaking, you will never satisfy everyone, a thick skin is best, always be honest, you are an 'elected' servant, and it is OK to agree to disagree!

Q3. You've been involved in VACo since taking office. In addition to serving on the Health and Human Resources Steering Committee, you are currently enrolled in the Certified Supervisors Program. What elements of your experience with VACo have been most relevant to your work on the Board of Supervisors?

RM: The certified supervisor training program has assisted me in gaining a much better understanding of the functions of the Board of Supervisors role in local government, educating me in the laws, codes and proper etiquette to perform my duties.

Q4. What challenges and opportunities do you see facing Carroll County in the near future?

RM: Economic Development seems to be a challenge for all the counties across our state, but particularly in Southwestern Virginia. The population in our area is not as fast growing as seen in central, south side and northern Virginia. It appears as if the more dense population, a decreased diversely trained workforce, and the current available workforce living primarily on government entitlements deem our area much less appealing to economic growth. Therefore, I consider economic development and growth to be one of the largest challenges facing our area. I feel entitlements need to be reduced and a personal incentive to work needs to be encouraged.

Q5. Your background includes a variety of professional work, including electrical contracting and marketing. How does your experience in these fields influence your work in public service?

RM: In my work career I have had the opportunity to work for several companies that have allowed me to advance and grow my knowledge of business. My job-related experiences have included industrial and retail sales, residential drug rehabilitation technician, HVAC/electrical technician, purchasing/inventory control specialist for electrical contractor, and HVAC/electrical/plumbing estimation. Public relations has been vital in each of these job positions and has allowed me to develop a nationwide network of contacts. I consider my ability to form working friendships/relationships to be vital in performing my duties as a public servant.

Q6. Tell us a little bit about your family.

RM: My family is my favorite topic! After dating six years, I married my high school sweetheart and am proud to say that soon we will be celebrating 33 years of young love! She is my best friend and the love of my life. She is a BSN, RN and is employed with the Virginia Department of Health. We are the proud parents of two very wonderful and accomplished children. Our daughter, an East Tennessee State University grad with a degree in Public Health, is currently employed as a marketing/admissions director for a long term care facility. She loves missions, music, theater, traveling, and sunshine! Our son, a New River Criminal Justice Training Academy graduate, has worked in law enforcement with Virginia's DCR and is currently employed as a deputy sheriff in a neighboring county. He loves football, wrestling, hunting, "working out" and just "hanging out!" Our family believes service to others is most important.

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)

JLARC releases 2017 Work Plan

As the General Assembly turns its attention to preparation for the 2018 session, the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) met on May 8 to approve its work plan for 2017. In addition to its statutorily-mandated oversight of the Virginia Retirement System and the Virginia College Savings Plan, among other responsibilities, JLARC undertakes studies at the request of the General Assembly or by direction of Commission members.

JLARC plans to issue reports in 2017 on several issues of interest to local governments. A report on the regulation and use of biosolids and industrial residuals as fertilizer is scheduled to be presented on October 10. JLARC staff will brief the Commission on state early childhood programs on December 11. A briefing on the Virginia Community College System, to include “outcomes and affordability of the academic and workforce programs provided by community colleges,” is scheduled for September 11. All of these reports were directed by study resolutions passed by the General Assembly in 2016.

A major new area of study this year is state employee compensation, a topic JLARC agreed to undertake at the recommendation of the Commission on Employee Retirement Security and Pension Reform last year. State leaders have expressed concern about problems with employee turnover and recruitment in the state workforce; JLARC staff will work with a consultant to compare total state employee compensation to compensation packages offered by large employers for similar positions. State employee groups have advocated for compensation increases to be more integrated into the state’s budget development process, rather than being funded out of available revenues on an ad-hoc basis. This report is due to be presented on November 13.

JLARC staff will also issue reports on areas of ongoing oversight, including economic development incentives (November 13), state spending (October 10), funding for the Standards of Quality (December 11), and VRS (July 10 and December 11). JLARC’s [2017 workplan](#), which includes a full calendar of briefings, is available on its website.

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)

State General Fund revenues down in April; several factors at play

Secretary of Finance Richard D. Brown issued his report on April revenue collections on May 11. Total General Fund revenue collections fell 3.4 percent in April relative to last year, a drop largely driven by underperformance in individual income tax non-withholding payments. However, Secretary Brown’s letter cautions that April and May collections must be considered together in order to provide a true picture of revenue growth, since estimated and final payments for non-withholding continue to be processed in May. In addition, this April was one deposit day shorter than last April, potentially skewing the comparison with last year.

On a fiscal-year-to-date basis, total revenue collections are ahead of the forecast of 2.9 percent growth, rising 3.6 percent. Individual income tax withholding, responsible for 63 percent of General Fund revenues, grew only 0.7 percent in April, but continues to outpace the forecast on a year-to-date basis. By contrast, sales tax collections continue to lag the forecast of 2.8 percent growth, increasing by 1.3 percent year-to-date.

In an article in the Richmond Times-Dispatch, Secretary Brown said that he was “cautiously optimistic” that revenues will exceed projections by the end of the fiscal year. His report notes that May and June are both significant months for revenue collections.

Secretary Brown’s April revenue letter may be found [here](#).

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)



Government has historically lagged industry in keeping up with the best practices and most efficient methods of forecasting. Some of the pitfalls encountered include:

- Slow preparation
- Optimism bias
- Lack of support for assumptions
- Poor data quality
- Lack of ownership and accountability
- Misalignment of incentives
- Lack of forecasting skills in the team
- Lack of understanding of risk and volatility in the forecast

VACo Contact: [Vicky Steinruck, CPA](#)

Join us at the Region 4 Legislative Meeting



PHOTO CREDIT: Taber Andrew Bain / Flickr

We are just a few weeks away from the Region 4 Meeting in Brunswick County where we expect a robust legislative conversation. VACo staff is prepared to take copious notes as county officials and legislators share the issues that affect their counties. This information gathering is important because it helps steer VACo's legislative program for the 2018 General Assembly Session.

Expected attendance includes Board Chairs, Vice Chairs, Supervisors, Legislators, Planning District Commissioners and County Administrators and Executive Staff from Amelia, Brunswick, Charlotte, Dinwiddie, Greensville, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, Nottoway and Prince Edward Counties.

We look forward to seeing you there!

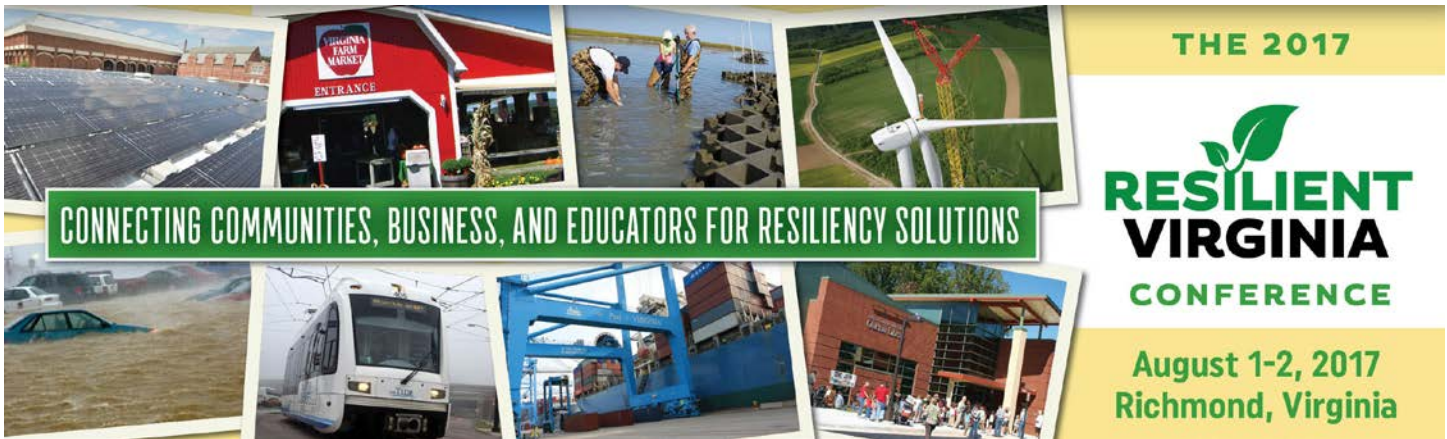
- [Region 4](#) | June 7 | Brunswick County | [Preliminary Agenda](#)
Region 4 Director - Charlotte County Supervisor Nancy Carwile

This year, VACo has scheduled 7 Regional Meetings spanning 10 regions.

- [Region 7](#) | June 22 | Louisa County | [Preliminary Agenda](#)
- [Regions 12 & 13](#) | June 29 | Washington County | [Preliminary Agenda](#)
- [Regions 9 & 11](#) | September 14 | Rockbridge County | [Preliminary Agenda](#)
- [Regions 1 & 2](#) | TBA
- [Region 6](#) | TBA
- [Region 10](#) | TBA

We look forward to seeing you at an upcoming Regional Meeting. If you are interested in sponsoring a Regional Meeting, [please use this link for more information.](#)

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



2017 Resilient Virginia Conference

August 1-2, 2017 | Richmond, Virginia

Resilient Virginia is pleased to announce the 2017 Resilient Virginia Conference, taking place August 1-2 at the Richmond Convention Center. This year, the Virginia Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security and Chief Resiliency Officer, Brian Moran, and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM), will take a leading role in supporting the conference.

Our focus, Connecting Communities, Business, and Educators for Resiliency Solutions, will bring together participants from local and state governments, the business community, and representatives from higher education and community organizations to:

- Explore resiliency rationales for their organizations;
- Learn resiliency processes that benefit the public and private sector;
- Develop an understanding of the resiliency priorities for different regions of the state; and
- Take away tools that can be used for resiliency planning in their own communities.

Local governments are turning their attention to resiliency planning for a number of critical reasons that include the increasing effects of changing and unpredictable weather events, and other risks, such as community health and national security concerns. In the long term, communities face economic and social challenges brought on by the need to adapt to sea level rise, increased flooding risks, infrastructure adaptation needs, and emergency preparedness requirements.

Topics at the August 1-2, 2017 Resilient Virginia Conference include:

An overview of Virginia's resiliency initiatives | National security and resiliency | Infrastructure risks and solutions | Challenges for the agricultural sector | Resiliency factors for businesses | Energy security strategies | Built environment adaptations | Developments in emergency preparedness | Tools and strategies for resiliency planning

Plan to participate in the conference to gain insights, network, and join colleagues in working toward a resilient future! Registration is available at our conference website. (www.resilientvirginia.org/buildings/2017-conference)

About Resilient Virginia

Resilient Virginia's mission is to accelerate community resiliency planning across the diverse geographic regions of the Commonwealth. Our website and activities provide resources to inform, educate, and activate communities to develop their own resiliency initiatives. Contact: Annette Osso, Managing Director, Resilient Virginia (osso@resilientvirginia.org or 703.486.2966). Website: www.resilientvirginia.org



For Immediate Release: May 8, 2017

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

The Local Government Attorneys of Virginia, Inc. (LGA) elected new officers and members of the board of directors at its recently completed spring conference at Wintergreen Resort. The LGA has more than 300 organizational members, represented by more than 800 attorneys from Virginia localities, private law firms, and other entities that specialize in local government matters, and by members of the judiciary.

The following officers and directors will lead the LGA for the 2017-18 year:

For a one-year term as officer: President, Tara A. McGee, Goochland County
Vice President, Roderick B. Williams, Frederick County
Treasurer, Timothy R. Spencer, City of Roanoke
Secretary, Lola Rodriguez Perkins, City of Hampton

For an initial two-year term as director: Helivi L. Holland, City of Suffolk
Lesa J. Yeatts, Town of Herndon

For a second two-year term as director: Mark C. Popovich, County of Isle of Wight
Erin C. Ward, County of Fairfax

These newly elected LGA leaders will join sitting directors Haskell C. Brown III (City of Richmond), Deborah C. Icenhour (Town of Abingdon), Michelle R. Robl (Prince William County), Olaun A. Simmons (City of Manassas), and W. Clarke Whitfield Jr. (City of Danville), who will be the immediate past LGA president.

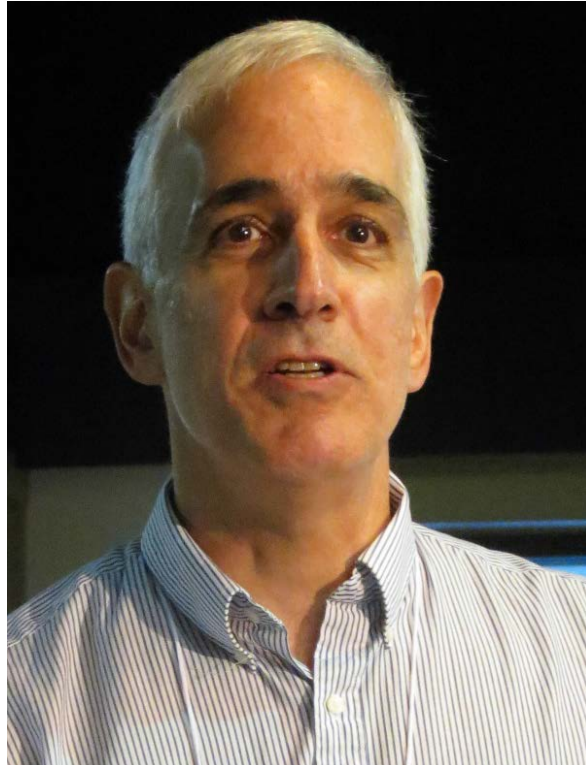
The LGA supports common interests and an exchange of information among members on legal issues that are particularly relevant to Virginia's counties, cities, and towns. The LGA's member services include two conferences and a regional seminar each year, which present in-depth analyses of legal issues related to local government. Mandatory Continuing Legal Education credit can be earned by attorneys attending the LGA's conferences and seminars.

Other member services include:

- The annual *LGA Handbook of Virginia Local Government Law*, authored by Virginia attorneys with specialized expertise in the areas of law addressed.
- A monthly newsletter, the *Bill of Particulars*, summarizing recent federal and state court cases.
- *Amicus curiae* briefs filed periodically in cases involving issues important to local government.
- An ethics committee that works closely with the Virginia State Bar on ethics issues of significance to local government attorneys.
- Practice groups that focus on social services, local taxation, eminent domain, employment law, and younger local government attorneys.
- A group email service that allows members to exchange legal inquiries and information.
- A website library of legal documents and related materials.

For more information on the LGA and its programs, visit the LGA website at www.lgava.org.

Local Government Attorneys honor Ara Tramblian



PRESENTED A. ROBERT CHERIN AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING DEPUTY OR ASSISTANT LOCAL GOVERNMENT ATTORNEY

Arlington Deputy County Attorney Ara L. Tramblian was honored by the Local Government Attorneys of Virginia, Inc. (LGA) with the 2017 A. Robert Cherin Award for Outstanding Deputy or Assistant Local Government Attorney at LGA's recently concluded spring conference at Wintergreen Resort.

Mr. Tramblian was selected for the LGA's prestigious A. Robert Cherin Award in recognition of his "distinguished public service that reflects a personal commitment to the highest ethical and professional principles and enhances the image of local government attorneys in the Commonwealth."

Arlington County Attorney Stephen MacIsaac nominated Mr. Tramblian for the award, describing him as a "genteel but hard-nosed" litigator with a "ferocious work ethic." These characteristics, combined with his legal expertise in the complex areas of tort liability and real estate taxation, have saved the taxpayers of Arlington County millions of dollars and earned him the respect and admiration of Arlington County Board members and other elected officials, as well as fellow attorneys and members of the judiciary.

Mr. Tramblian began his legal career with Arlington County in 1984 and will retire at the end of 2017. He is a graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law. He has received the highest peer review rating from Martindale-Hubbell.

He is a member of the Armenian Bar Association, the Virginia Association of (Civil) Defense Attorneys, and the Virginia Police Legal Advisors Committee.

The A. Robert Cherin Award was established in 1994 and renamed in 2000 to honor the memory of Bob Cherin, an outstanding local government attorney who served in the Fairfax County Attorney's Office for 25 years.

employment opportunities



The Virginia Association of Counties accepts employment ads in a PDF file or a link to a job site. Please include information for applying, and a link to other important information. Please do not fax your employment ad. VACo members are not charged for placing an employment ad. The cost is \$50 per ad for non-VACo members. VACo publishes the ad on its website and mobile app as well as the upcoming County Connections issue. If you have any questions or concerns, please email [Valerie Russell](mailto:Valerie.Russell).



SENIOR UTILITIES

ENGINEER | Town of Leesburg | Posted May 17



ASSISTANT COUNTY

ATTORNEY | Louisa County | Posted May 17



PERMIT TECHNICIAN |

James City County | Posted May 16



LIBRARY DIRECTOR |

Essex County | Posted May 16



BUILDING INSPECTOR

PART TIME | Pittsylvania County | Posted May 16



LIBRARY DIRECTOR |

City of Falls Church | Posted May 12



DEPUTY SHERIFF

I/II AND OTHER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES | James City County | Posted May 12



BUYER III | Albemarle

County | Posted May 12



CHIEF

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER | Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control | Posted May 11



TOWN MANAGER | Town

of Christiansburg | Posted May 11



PLANNER/COUNTY

PLANNER | Campbell County | Posted May 10



ENGINEER III |

Spotsylvania County | Posted May 10



ENVIRONMENTAL

TECHNICIAN – LANDELL | Frederick County | Posted May 10



DEPUTY CITY CLERK |

City of Manassas | Posted May 9



EMERGENCY

MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR | Gloucester County | Posted May 8



SENIOR PROJECT

MANAGER | Chesterfield County | Posted May 8



SENIOR AUTOMATION

ANALYST | Chesterfield County | Posted May 8



COUNTY EXECUTIVE |

Albemarle County | Posted May 8



FINANCE DIRECTOR |

King George County | Posted May 5



ATHLETICS SUPERVISOR

| Gloucester County | Posted May 5



GIS SPECIALIST

| Albemarle County | Posted May 1



BASIC COMMUNICATOR

| City of Harrisonburg | Posted April 21



PERMIT TECHNICIAN

| City of Manassas | Posted May 4



ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTOR III/ PLANS REVIEWER

| Gloucester County | Posted May 1



WATER PLANT OPERATOR & PW TECHNICIAN

| Town of Dayton | Posted April 21



PRINCIPAL PLANNER

| Goochland County | Posted May 2



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

| Augusta County Service Authority | Posted May 1



LINE OF DUTY ACT (LODA) COORDINATOR

| Virginia Retirement Systems | Posted April 21



CHIEF

INFORMATION OFFICER | City of Chesapeake | Posted May 1



CIRCULATION SERVICES ASSISTANT AND OTHER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

| James City County | Posted April 28



MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

| Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission | Posted April 20



FIRE RESCUE

TECHNICIAN I | Fauquier County | Posted May 1



HUMAN RESOURCES

GENERALIST | City of Harrisonburg | Posted April 28



COUNTY PLANNER

| Essex County | Posted April 20



DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

| Chesterfield County | Posted May 1



BUDGET ANALYST

| City of Manassas | Posted April 26



DISCOVERY & COLLECTIONS MANAGER

| City of Alexandria | Posted April 20



FIRE RESCUE

TECHNICIAN I | Fauquier County | Posted May 1



PAYROLL

SUPERVISOR | City of Chesapeake | Posted April 24



CAPITAL BUDGET

MANAGER | Loudoun County | Posted April 19



DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

| Chesterfield County | Posted May 1



GIS INTERN AND OTHER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

| James City County | Posted April 21



BUILDING INSPECTOR

| King George County | Posted April 18



FIRE RESCUE FLEET

MANAGER | Albemarle County | Posted May 1



GROUNDSKEEPER

| Gloucester County | Posted April 21



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Mary W. Biggs, Montgomery County
President-Elect: William A. Robertson, Jr., Prince George County
1st Vice President: Sherrin C. Alsop, King and Queen County
2nd Vice President: Robert Thomas, Jr., Stafford County
Secretary Treasurer: Donald L. Hart, Jr., Accomack County
Immediate Past President: Judy S. Lyttle, Surry County

STAFF

Executive Director: Dean A. Lynch, CAE
General Counsel: Phyllis A. Errico, Esq., CAE
Director of Administration and Finance: Vicky D. Steinruck, CPA
Director of Association Services: Amy V. Sales, CMP
Director of Communications: A. Gage Harter
Director of Government Affairs: Katie Boyle
Director of Local Government Policy: Joe Lerch, AICP
Director of Member Services: Carol I. Cameron
Director of Policy Development: Larry J. Land, CAE
Director of Technical Services: John N. Kandris, A+, ACT, CCA
Administrative Assistant: Valerie Russell
VACORP: Chris Carey, Administrator, 888.822.6772

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

1207 East Main Street
Suite 300
Richmond, VA 23219-3627
Phone: 804.788.6652
Fax: 804.788.0083
www.vaco.org

County Connections is a semimonthly publication.

Editor: A. Gage Harter
804.343.2502