

Virginia Association of Counties

Official Program

83rd Annual Conference

COMMUNICATIONS
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SUCCESS



November 12-14, 2017
The Omni Homestead
Bath County, Virginia



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President's Welcome

Over the past year, VACo held seven regional meetings throughout the Commonwealth. I was able to attend all of them, and for that I feel very fortunate. By being at these very important meetings, I was able to listen to many of you. I was able to deepen existing friendships and make new ones. And very importantly, attending these meetings provided me with opportunities to learn about the common challenges we all face as county officials, regardless of our counties' size, location or population. I also gained a deeper sense of how vital it is for our counties to act in unison through VACo to communicate our concerns to members of the General Assembly and others in leadership positions.



Serving as VACo's President has given me an opportunity to work with the dedicated and talented group of individuals who serve you as VACo staff. In his first full year as Executive Director, Dean Lynch has created a climate in VACo's office of high morale and energetic teamwork.

It is my sincere hope that you will find your participation in this year's Annual Conference rewarding. The schedule of general and concurrent sessions was designed by our Conference Planning Committee to be as informative as possible about high-profile issues. I'd like to thank the Conference Planning Committee for its hard work. The conference theme they chose, "Communications | Knowledge | Success | Engagement," is consistent with VACo's core organizational missions, which are to maintain effective communications with members about important initiatives and developments affecting county governments; to constantly promote knowledge about the complex issues we are responsible for understanding; to encourage regular engagement between county officials and those occupying leadership positions at the state and federal levels; and finally, to do as much as possible to help county officials successfully serve their communities.

As I close out my year as VACo's President, let me thank all of you for your support. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve in this position. I would also like to thank all of our sponsors and exhibitors whose contributions are vital to the success of the conference. Please take the time to visit our exhibit hall to familiarize yourselves with the services and products they offer.

My final request is for all of you attending this conference to get as much information from it, and make as many friends through it as you possibly can!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary W. Biggs". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and legible.

Mary W. Biggs
VACo President

While he was
on the front lines
we had his back.



At Dominion Energy, 1 in 5 new hires is a Veteran. And if they are called to duty, it's our duty to take care of them and their families. That's why we cover any difference between their military pay and their Dominion Energy salary and continue benefits for them and their families for up to five years. We depend on our servicemen and women, and they can depend on us.



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King and Queen County



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Region 5

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Region 6

Barbara J. Byrd Clarke County

Region 7

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John D. Jenkins Prince William County
Jeffrey C. McKay Fairfax County
Linda Q. Smyth Fairfax County
Phyllis J. Randall Loudoun County
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Region 10

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Region 11

Bill Thomasson Bedford County

Region 12

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Catherine M. Hudgins Fairfax County

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Vincent White | Director of Information Systems

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Lee Brannon | Member Services, Schools Specialist

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Kim Patrick

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Conference Information

Registration

Everyone attending the conference must register. This includes members, their families, guests, exhibitors and news media representatives. No one will be admitted to a business or social function without a conference badge.

Registration will take place:

- 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. | Sunday, November 12 | Mount Vernon Foyer
- 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. | Monday, November 13 | Mount Vernon Foyer

VACo staff and volunteers will be at the registration desk during the hours listed above and will be happy to assist you. Notices are posted on a message board at the conference registration desk and in a marquee in the main lobby.

Legislative Program

VACo's annual legislative program is finalized and adopted during the conference. The seven steering committees meet Sunday afternoon, the Resolutions Committee meets Monday morning and the membership acts on the 2018 Legislative Program during the annual business meeting Tuesday morning.

A copy of the Preliminary Legislative Program is included in your bag. Proposed amendments to the program should be available by Noon, November 13 at the Registration Desk. Proposals should go through the steering committee process. The 2018 Preliminary Legislative Program was shared with members in October. Additional copies are also available at the Registration Desk.

Banquet Tickets

All county officials, county staff, VACo associate members and exhibitors registered for the conference are welcome to attend the Sunday banquet, as are registered spouses and guests. If you are staying at The Omni Homestead, the banquet ticket is included in your meal package. If you are not, you may purchase a banquet ticket for \$75. If you have registered for the banquet but do not attend, you will be charged \$75 for the meal. Check at the registration desk if you do not have a ticket. Tickets will be collected at the door by the VACo team, so don't forget your ticket!

Guest Programs

The Omni Homestead has undergone major renovations in recent years and now offers many new activities. For more information, visit www.thehomestead.com/activities or visit the Concierge Desk.

Other Information

Voting Credentials

Article VI of the VACo bylaws provides that each county is to designate a representative of its Board of Supervisors to vote at the annual business meeting. However, the bylaws allow a county to designate a proxy to vote if a member of the Board of Supervisors cannot be present for this meeting. Counties should have received voting credential forms and proxy forms by mail in September. If you did not return your form to VACo in the mail, you can submit it to the VACo Credentials Committee at its meeting on Monday, November 13 at 1 p.m. in the Monroe Room. You can also drop it off at the conference registration desk before the Credentials Committee meeting.

Election of Officers

The election of VACo Officers and Board members will take place at the annual business meeting Tuesday morning.

Golf

VACo's 21st Annual Golf Tournament will begin at 11 a.m. on Saturday, November 11 on The Old Homestead Course. The 2017 recipient of proceeds from the Mulligan sales is Bath County Christmas Mother, Inc., which provides assistance to needy families during the holidays.

We also want to thank our VACo Partners for their support, sponsorship and participation at the 83rd VACo Annual Conference and all throughout the year: **Asset Protection Group | Aflac, Aetna, Nationwide Retirement Solutions, Param Solutions, The Berkley Group and VML/VACo Finance.**



VACo 2018 Calendar

VACo/VML Finance Forum

January 3 | Omni Richmond Hotel

General Assembly Convenes

January 10 | Richmond

Rural Caucus Reception and Dinner

February 7 | Omni Richmond Hotel

VACo Board of Directors Meeting

February 8 | Omni Richmond Hotel

VACo County Government Day at the General Assembly

February 8 | Omni Richmond Hotel

Chairpersons' Institute

February 8-9 | Omni Richmond Hotel

Certified County Supervisors' Program

March and May | TBA

NACo Legislative Conference

March 3-7 | Washington Hilton | Washington, D.C.

Supervisors' Forum

March 23 | Omni Richmond Hotel

VACo Regional Meetings

May-September | TBA

VACo Board of Directors Meeting

May | Prince George County

Certified County Supervisors' Program

May and July | TBA

NACo 2018 Annual Conference & Exposition

July 13-16 | Davidson County | Nashville, TN

VACo County Officials' Summit

August | TBA

VACo Board of Directors Meeting

August | TBA

Certified County Supervisors' Program

September and November | TBA

VACo 84th Annual Conference

November 11-13 | The Omni Homestead

VACo Board of Directors Meeting

November 11 | The Omni Homestead

Sponsors

VACo thanks the following companies that have contributed to the conference through their sponsorship.

Platinum Sponsors



DOMINION ENERGY

Sunday Evening Opening Reception



ROBINSON, FARMER, COX ASSOCIATES

President's Reception



SUNTRUST BANK

Monday Deli Luncheon

Gold Sponsors



AETNA

Name Badge Lanyards | WIFI



MOSELEY ARCHITECTS

Sunday Afternoon Football and Refreshments |
Conference Tote Bags



CYPRESS CREEK RENEWABLES

Hotel Key Cards



VML/VACo FINANCE

Opening General Session

Water Bottles

Giveaways



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is on your side

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Cyber Lounge | Charging Station



ASSET PROTECTION GROUP | AFLAC

Sunday Afternoon Refreshment Break

Monday Morning Break

Monday Afternoon Refreshment Break



AT&T

AT&T

Tuesday Morning Break

Exhibit Hall

The exhibit hall will be open **12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.** on Sunday, November 12 and **8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** on Monday, November 13.

There will be a refreshment break in the exhibit hall at 2 p.m. on Monday. Following the refreshment break, there will be the first Exhibitor Drawing (aka “Mini-Drawing”). You must be present to win, so make time in your schedule to attend. To enter, have the card in your registration packet marked by each exhibitor and place your completed card in the box at the registration desk by 2 p.m. on Monday. Exhibitors who are not participating in the drawing are indicated on the card. Immediately following the Mini-Drawing, the name of one lucky exhibitor will be drawn for a free booth at the 2018 annual conference. The exhibitor must still be present and set up to win.

A second Exhibitor Drawing will take place after VACo’s annual business meeting on Tuesday. This drawing is made up of cards not drawn on Monday afternoon. The person whose name is drawn must be present to win. Good luck to everyone who participates!

WiFi | Charging Station

VACo will once again have the Cyber Lounge/Charging Station set up in the exhibit hall, generously sponsored by **Nationwide Retirement Solutions**. A laptop will be set up for your use, as well as the device charger. The charger has a variety of charging connections that can accommodate Android or Apple products. **You will find the Cyber Lounge Charging Station at Booth 705.** Nationwide’s booth is **#608**; stop by and meet them!

You can enjoy free Wi-Fi access in the exhibit hall and other areas during the conference, generously sponsored once again by **Aetna**. An instruction sheet on how to get connected to the sponsored Wi-Fi can be found on the information billboard at the registration desk. Visit Aetna at **Booth 1003 in the Colonnade** and say “Hi!”

Keep up with conference events in real time by following **#VACoConf** on Twitter, Facebook or Instagram.



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Conference Schedule

Saturday, November 11

Golf Tournament

11 a.m. • Old Golf Course

Budget Committee Meeting

3 p.m. • Wilson

VACORP Supervisory Board Meeting

5 p.m. • Lexington

Sunday, November 12

Nondenominational Worship Service

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. • Chesapeake

SPEAKER: The Honorable **William M. McCarty**,
Vice Chair, Isle of Wight County

Exhibitor Setup

8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. • Grand Ballroom and
Colonnade

VACo Board of Directors

9 a.m. - 1 p.m. • Dominion

VACORP Annual Business Meeting

10 a.m. • Crystal and Empire

Annual Conference Registration

10 a.m. - 5 p.m. • Mount Vernon Foyer

Exhibit Hall Opens

12:30 p.m. - 5 p.m. • Grand Ballroom and
Colonnade

Sunday Afternoon Break

1 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. • MV/ST Rotunda

Sponsored by Asset Protection Group | Aflac

Sunday, November 12

Steering Committee Meetings

1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Economic Development and Planning •

Stratford

Finance • Mount Vernon

General Government • Blue Ridge

Sunday Afternoon Football & Refreshments

2 p.m. - 5 p.m. • Exhibit Hall

Sponsored by Moseley Architects

Steering Committee Meetings

2:45 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Education • Blue Ridge

Environment and Agriculture • Stratford

Health and Human Resources • Mount Vernon

Transportation • Piedmont

Regional Caucuses to Nominate Representatives on VACo Board of Directors

4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Region 2 • Blue Ridge

Region 3 • Wilson

Region 4 • Appalachian

Region 7 • Stratford

Region 8 • Tower Suite

Region 9 • Mount Vernon

Region 10 • Madison

Region 13 • Piedmont

Sunday Evening Opening Reception

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. • Crystal and Empire

Sponsored by Dominion Energy

Banquet

(Must present Banquet ticket to attend)

6:30 p.m. • Regency Ballrooms

PRESIDING: The Honorable **Mary W. Biggs**,
President, Virginia Association of Counties, and
Supervisor, Montgomery County

Sunday, November 12

WELCOME: The Honorable **Claire Collins**,
Supervisor, Bath County

INVOCATION: The Honorable **William D. Chavis**,
Supervisor, Dinwiddie County

Hosted Music

9 p.m. • DownTime

Monday, November 13

Resolutions Committee

7:15 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. • Dominion

Annual Conference Registration

8 a.m. - 2 p.m. • Mount Vernon Foyer

Exhibit Hall Opens

8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. • Grand Ballroom and Colonnade

OPENING GENERAL SESSION

8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. • Regency Ballrooms

Sponsored by VML/VACo Finance

PRESIDING: The Honorable **Mary W. Biggs**,
President, Virginia Association of Counties, and
Supervisor, Montgomery County

Presentation of the Colors: Police Department
Color Guard, Roanoke County

• KEYNOTE SPEAKER •

Dr. Christopher Kilmartin,
Ph.D., Independent Consultant
and Professor Emeritus of
Psychology, Mary Washington
University



**Microaggressions: Be Aware,
Learn to Repair, and Don't Just
Stand There**

Microaggressions are brief and commonplace
verbal, behavioral, and environmental indignities,

Monday, November 13

whether intentional or unintentional, which communicate hostile, derogatory, or negative slights and insults to the target person or group. In this presentation, participants will learn to identify microaggressions (be aware), minimize their damage (learn to repair), and intervene as bystanders (don't just stand there). When an organization communicates respect and inclusion through its culture, it garners numerous advantages, including increased recruitment, retention, morale, and cooperation, and decreased absenteeism, turnover, and time-consuming formal complaints.

• NACo SPEAKER •

The Honorable **Roy Charles Brooks**, President, National Association of Counties, and Commissioner, Tarrant County, Texas



Monday Morning Break

9:45 a.m. - 10 a.m. • Regency Ballroom Foyer
Sponsored by Asset Protection Group | Aflac

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

10 a.m - 11:15 a.m.

2018-2020 STATE BUDGET: WHAT CAN WE EXPECT?

- Stratford

Moderator: The Honorable **Claire A. Collins**, Supervisor, Bath County

Speaker: **James J. Regimbal, Jr.**, Principal, Fiscal Analytics

Funding for programs of critical importance to counties will be decided as the 2018 General Assembly works to develop the 2018C2020 biennium budget. This session offers a preview of the key issues under discussion.

Monday, November 13

ADVANCES IN RENEWABLE ENERGY • Mount Vernon

Moderator and Speaker: The Honorable **Stephen W. Bowen**, Supervisor, Nottoway County

Speakers: The Honorable **Terry G. Kilgore**, 1st House District; **John Warren**, Director, Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy

Delegate Terry Kilgore and DMME Director John Warren will discuss recent developments in renewable energy in Virginia and what local governments can expect in the future. Topics will include solar energy, wind energy, biofuels and pumped hydroelectric storage.

HOT TOPICS IN HUMAN SERVICES: A CONVERSATION WITH SECRETARY HAZEL •

Piedmont

Moderator: The Honorable **Mary W. Biggs**, President, Virginia Association of Counties, and Supervisor, Montgomery County

Speaker: The Honorable Dr. **William A. Hazel, Jr.**, Secretary of Health and Human Resources, Commonwealth of Virginia

This session is an opportunity to learn about major issues of interest to localities in the human services arena, including mental health, the Children's Services Act, and substance abuse.

CONNECTING VIRGINIA'S COUNTIES TO THE INTERNET • Blue Ridge

Moderator: The Honorable **Sherrin C. Alsop**, Supervisor, King and Queen County

Speakers: The Honorable **Kathy J. Byron**, 22nd House District; **Chris S. Kyle**, Vice President Industry Affairs and Regulatory, Shenandoah Telecommunications Company (Shentel);

Marshall Pearsall, Senior Project Manager, KCI Communications Infrastructure

Many counties in Virginia lack universal

Monday, November 13

affordable access to broadband and wireless internet services. This session highlights innovations and collaborations between public and private entities at the state and local level to bring these services to underserved and rural areas.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

11:30 a.m - 12:45 p.m.

ADDRESSING CHALLENGES IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

- Stratford

Moderator: The Honorable **William A. Robertson, Jr.**, President-Elect, Virginia Association of Counties, and Supervisor, Prince George County

Speakers: **Victoria H. Cochran**, Deputy Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security; **Robyn M. de Socio**, Executive Secretary, State Compensation Board

Learn from state experts about key issues in law enforcement, including community policing, mental health, and state funding.

KEY LEGISLATORS TALK TAX POLICY AND FISCAL STRESS • Mount Vernon

Moderator: The Honorable **Andy McCready**, Chair, Pulaski County, and Chair, VACo Finance Steering Committee

Speakers: The Honorable **Emmett W. Hanger, Jr.**, 24th Senate District; The Honorable **R. Lee Ware**, 65th House District

How should local fiscal stress be measured and how can it be alleviated? How will proposed changes to Virginia's tax structure affect localities? This session is an opportunity to hear from General Assembly experts on taxation and finance issues.

Monday, November 13

SNAPSHOTS OF INNOVATIVE COUNTY PROGRAMS

- Piedmont

Moderator: Dr. Sheryl Bailey, Senior Vice President, Springsted Incorporated

Speakers: The Honorable **Karl Leonard**, Sheriff's Office, Chesterfield County; The Honorable **Sherrin C. Alsop**, Supervisor, King and Queen County, and The Honorable **James Lawrence Simpkins**, Supervisor, King and Queen County; The Honorable **Jack White**, Supervisor, Mathews County; **Nina Stively**, CAWA, Director of Animal Services, Loudoun County, and **Amy Martin**, Animal Shelter Operations Manager, Loudoun County; **Melissa Davidson**, Assistant Director of Economic Development, York County

An important objective of the VACo Achievement Awards Program is to celebrate innovative and smart solutions to challenges in our counties. This session shares the creative work from county leadership and staff as Achievement Award winners tell their stories on how they overcame challenges.

OPIATES ADDICTION CRISIS AND SOLUTIONS

SPONSORED BY AETNA • Blue Ridge

Moderator: The Honorable **Phyllis J. Randall**, Chair, Loudoun County

Speaker: Dr. Barbara E. Ziv, Medical Director, Aetna

Counties across the country are struggling to combat the public health crisis caused by the opioid epidemic. This session will explore the impacts of the epidemic and Aetna's efforts to provide successful strategies to address the issue.

Monday, November 13

SPECIAL SESSION

11:30 a.m - 1 p.m.

MESSAGING WORKSHOP FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS •

Regency Ballroom

Advocate Through the Process of Constituent Concerns to Bill Development

Jeff McKay | Supervisor | Fairfax County

Producing Daily Social Media Content

Ruby Brabo | Supervisor | King George County

Media Relations

Gage Harter | Director of Communications | Virginia Association of Counties

Deli Luncheon

12:45 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. • Exhibit Hall

Sponsored by SunTrust

VLGMA Luncheon

12:45 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. • Crystal and Empire

(Must have ticket to attend)

The VLGMA Luncheon is a ticketed event for county managers and key members of their management teams. You can sign up for this \$55 event on VACo's online system or fill out the registration form.

Credentials Committee

1 p.m. • Monroe

VACo Mini Drawing

1:45 p.m. • Exhibit Hall

Monday, November 13

Communications | Engagement | Knowledge | Success

2 p.m. • Exhibit Hall

Free Time in the Exhibit Hall

Take this opportunity to network and meet and speak with our exhibitors in the Exhibit Hall.

Monday Afternoon Break

2 p.m. • Exhibit Hall

Sponsored by Asset Protection Group | Aflac

Exhibitor Mini Drawing

2:30 p.m. • Exhibit Hall

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

2:45 p.m - 4 p.m.

PROSPECTS FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC GROWTH • Stratford

Moderator: The Honorable **Daniel Lee**, Supervisor, Board of Supervisors, Dinwiddie County

Speakers: **Stephen Moret**, President and CEO, Virginia Economic Development Partnership; **Jay Stegmaier**, President G-O Strategies and former Chesterfield County Administrator

This session explores the changing landscape in economic development in the post-recession era. Attendees will learn about state programs and policies aimed at promoting local and regional efforts to create new and expanding businesses.

NAVIGATING THE ROAD TO TRANSPORTATION FUNDING • Mount Vernon

Moderator: The Honorable **Wayne T. Hazzard**, Supervisor, Hanover County

Speakers: **Jennifer Mitchell**, Director, Department of Rail and Public Transportation
Adequate funding for roads and transit

Monday, November 13

is a perennial issue for counties. Attendees will learn about recent changes to the “Smart Scale” process for allocating construction funds for state and local roads. The session will also explore the prospects for addressing a looming shortfall in state funds allocated for local and regional transit systems.

COST OF CLEAN WATER TO COUNTIES: CHESAPEAKE BAY AND STORMWATER ISSUES •

Blue Ridge

Moderator: The Honorable **Penelope A.**

“Penny” Gross, Vice-Chairman, Fairfax County

Speakers: The Honorable **M. Keith Hodges**, 98th House District; The Honorable **David L. Bulova**, 37th House District

Delegates Keith Hodges and David Bulova will chair a panel on the status of Chesapeake Bay cleanup programs and recent stormwater management efforts. Attendees will hear updates on the status of 2017 legislation and workgroups as well as a preview of what the 2018 General Assembly session may bring.

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN THE NATION’S CAPITAL? FEDERAL POLICY ISSUES FACING COUNTIES •

Piedmont

Moderator: The Honorable **Harrison A. Moody**, Supervisor, Dinwiddie County

Speaker: **Deborah Cox**, Legislative Director, National Association of Counties

In this everchanging political environment what happens in Washington affects counties in a variety of ways. This session will provide an overview of the key federal issues facing counties including budget issues, healthcare reform, tax reform, unfunded mandates, infrastructure and community development funding, online sales tax, immigration issues and more.

Monday, November 13

SPECIAL SESSION

2:45 p.m - 4 p.m.

MAKING BETTER BOARD DECISIONS: THE ROLE OF DELIBERATIVE THINKING

- Dominion

Speakers: Mike Chandler, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Virginia Tech University; **Martha A. Walker**, Ph.D., Extension Community Viability Specialist, Virginia Cooperative Extension

Making decisions is a feature common to County Boards of Supervisors. In fact, nothing of real consequence, from a governance perspective, will happen in your county without the Board's concurrence and support - usually following a discussion and vote. This Supervisors' Certification session will examine the key parameters associated with the role deliberative thinking can and should play utilizing Edward de Bono's Six Thinking Hats.

High Growth Coalition

4 p.m. • Dominion

Rural Caucus

4 p.m. • Stratford

Nominations Committee

4 p.m. • Appalachian

President's Reception

5:45 p.m. - 7 p.m. • Crystal and Empire

Sponsored by Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates

Hosted Music

9 p.m. - Midnight • DownTime

Tuesday, November 14

CLOSING GENERAL SESSION

9 a.m. • Regency Ballrooms

PRESIDING: The Honorable **Mary W. Biggs**,
President, Virginia Association of Counties, and
Supervisor, Montgomery County

• **GO GREEN AWARDS CEREMONY** •

VACo recognizes counties that have achieved
“Green Government” certification in 2017.

• **VIRGINIA CERTIFIED COUNTY SUPERVISORS’
GRADUATION** •

VACo will honor 10 graduates who have
completed the Virginia Certified County
Supervisors’ Program.

• **KEYNOTE SPEAKER** •

Dr. Robert Holsworth,
DecideSmart, LLC.

Prior to joining DecideSmart,
LLC, Dr. Holsworth was the
Founding Director of the
Center for Public Policy at the
L. Douglas Wilder School of
Government and Public Affairs
at Virginia Commonwealth

University. Virginia will select the next Governor
as well as 100 Delegates days before VACo’s
Annual Conference. **Dr. Holsworth** will give his
analysis on this important state election.



Tuesday Morning Break

10:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. • Regency Ballroom
Foyer

Sponsored by AT&T

**Annual Business Meeting followed by Exhibitor
Drawing and Adjournment**

10:30 a.m. • Regency Ballrooms

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McLean District Police Station and Governmental Center
Renovation and Addition, Fairfax County, VA



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- Inspections and Permits
- Utility Billing/Collection
- Fixed Asset Tracking/Work Orders
- Payroll
- Human Resources

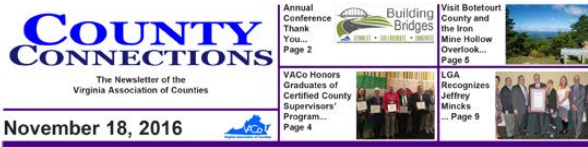
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For a recap of the Annual Conference, read the next issue of County Connections



Mary W. Biggs Elected VACo President for 2016-2017



The membership of the Virginia Association of Counties elected Montgomery County Supervisor Mary W. Biggs as 2016-2017 President during VACo's 82nd Annual Conference in Bath County. Biggs and other newly elected officers started their terms at the association's Annual Business Meeting on November 15.

Biggs succeeds Surry County Supervisor Judy S. Lyttle. Biggs becomes the first President from Montgomery County and the first from VACo's Region 10 since 1988.

"I am excited for this honor of leading our association," Biggs said. "VACo has changed over the past year, and with those changes come opportunities for us to improve and excel as an organization. I hope to make a difference in my year as President and do my part to advance VACo's growth."

Biggs is a veteran member of VACo. She first served on a committee in 1998 and has represented Region 10 on the Board of Directors for five years. Governor Terry McAuliffe appointed Biggs to serve on the State Executive Council for Children's Services and the Local Government Policy Council.

"VACo is in a good place legislatively and administratively," Biggs said. "Our leadership and membership are strong. More county officials are participating in our programs and process. But what really encourages me is the collaboration and cooperation among counties to make our communities a better place. VACo is the bridge that connects counties."

Biggs was first elected to the Montgomery Board of Supervisors in 1996. She served as Chair in 2000, 2001 and 2002. She was Vice Chair five times.

"Mary has been a leader for a long time," VACo Executive Director Dean Lynch said. "Her practical experience and knowledge in education and family issues will continue to serve the association well. I look forward to a great year with Mary at the helm."

Biggs retired after 42 years as a teacher, including 37 years at Harding Elementary School. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Virginia Tech in Management, Housing and Family Development.

[Click here to view New Members of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors](#)



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Steering Committees

Members are listed in order by their VACo region.
(C)-Chair; (VC)-Vice Chair

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

1	Jeffrey Stoke	Prince George County
2	Mindy Conner	Mathews County
2	John Magruder	Essex County
2	Jeff Wassmer	York County
3	Bill Dupler	Chesterfield County
3	Randall Silber	Henrico County
4	Steve Bowen-C	Nottoway County
4	Calvin Gray	Prince Edward County
4	Daniel Lee	Dinwiddie County
5	Bret Schardein	Powhatan County
6	John Barkley	Greene County
6	Kevin McGhee	Madison County
6	Doug Stanley	Warren County
6	John Woodward	Page County
7	R. Bryan David-VC	Orange County
7	Thomas Foley	Stafford County
7	Ryan Gandy	King George County
7	Wendy Maurer	Stafford County
7	Paul Milde	Stafford County
7	Neiman Young	King George County
8	Ruth Anderson	Prince William County
8	Peter Candland	Prince William County
8	John Vihstadt	Arlington County
9	George Anas	Rockingham County
9	Wendell Coleman	Augusta County
9	James Griffith	Alleghany County
9	Jonathan Lanford	Alleghany County
10	Jerry Hagerman	Pittsylvania County
10	Roger Hayden	Patrick County
10	Steven Sandy	Franklin County
11	Andy Dooley	Bedford County
11	Gary Larrowe	Botetourt County
11	David Moorman	Botetourt County
12	Charlie Lester	Wythe County
12	Steve Truitt	Carroll County
13	Charles Stacy	Tazewell County

EDUCATION

1	Donald Hart	Accomack County
2	Jason Bellows-C	Lancaster County
2	Sidney Johnson	Essex County
2	Ruth Larson	James City County
3	Sean Davis	Hanover County

3	Leslie Haley	Chesterfield County
3	Frank Thornton	Henrico County
4	Calvin Gray	Prince Edward County
4	Bernard Jones, Sr.	Brunswick County
4	Claudia Lundy	Mecklenburg County
4	Mark Moore	Dinwiddie County
4	Odessa Pride	Prince Edward County
4	Gary Simmons	Nottoway County
5	Donnie Bryan	Buckingham County
5	Mike Sheridan	Fluvanna County
7	Meg Bohmke-VC	Stafford County
7	Richard Granger	King George County
8	Maureen Caddigan	Prince William County
8	Cathy Hudgins	Fairfax County
9	William Kyger	Rockingham County
9	Tracy Pyles, Jr.	Augusta County
10	Mary Biggs	Montgomery County
10	Fred Gerald	Floyd County
10	Annette Perkins	Montgomery County
12	James Baker	Washington County
12	Joseph Guthrie	Pulaski County
12	Ralph Martin	Carroll County

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

1	Michael Johnson	Southampton County
1	Susan Seward	Sussex County
2	Prue Davis	Essex County
2	Bob Ehrhart	King William County
2	Jack Miller	Middlesex County
2	GC Morrow	Mathews County
2	Jack White	Mathews County
3	Randall Silber	Henrico County
4	Taylor Harvie	Amelia County
4	Harrison Moody	Dinwiddie County
5	E.M Dunnavant	Buckingham County
5	Ann Mallek	Albemarle County
6	Barbara Byrd	Clarke County
7	Jim Howard	King George County
8	Gwen Kennedy	Loudoun County
8	Jeanine Lawson	Prince William County
9	Fred Eberly-VC	Rockingham County
9	Michael Shull	Augusta County
10	Jessie Barksdale	Pittsylvania County
10	Sara Carter	Appomattox County
10	Thomas Slaughter	Henry County
10	Clifton Tweedy	Campbell County
10	Lauren Yoder	Floyd County
11	Billy Martin	Botetourt County
12	Michael Carter	Smyth County
12	Dean Pratt	Pulaski County

12	Timothy Reeves-C	Wythe County
12	Steve Truitt	Carroll County
13	Steve Breeding	Russell County

FINANCE

1	Keith Blowe	Sussex County
1	William Robertson	Prince George County
2	Vivian Calkins-McGettigan	York County
2	Ashley Chriscoe	Gloucester County
2	Morgan Quicke	Richmond County
3	Thomas Branin	Henrico County
3	Allan Carmody	Chesterfield County
4	Wade Bartlett	Prince Edward County
4	Sherman Vaughn	Nottoway County
5	Bill Melton	Powhatan County
5	Liz Palmer	Albemarle County
6	Thomas Sayre	Warren County
7	Ruby Brabo	King George County
7	Brenda Garton	Rappahannock County
7	Christian Goodwin	Louisa County
7	Bob Thomas	Stafford County
8	Sharon Bulova	Fairfax County
8	Chris Martino	Prince William County
9	Carolyn Bragg	Augusta County
9	Claire Collins-VC	Bath County
9	Pablo Cuevas	Rockingham County
9	Trish Davidson	Rockingham County
10	Craig Meadows	Montgomery County
12	Jason Berry	Washington County
12	Nikki Cannon	Carroll County
12	Phil McCraw	Carroll County
12	Andy McCready-C	Pulaski County
13	David Cox	Wise County
13	Lonzo Lester	Russell County

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

1	Joel Acree	Isle of Wight County
1	Percy Ashcraft	Prince George County
1	William McCarthy	Isle of Wight County
2	Bob Ehrhart	King William County
2	Sidney Johnson	Essex County
2	John Meyer-VC	Gloucester County
2	Sheila Noll	York County County
3	Patricia O'Bannon	Henrico County
4	Charlette Woolridge	Brunswick County
5	Vivian Giles	Cumberland County
5	Steve Nichols	Fluvanna County
5	Richard Randolph	Albemarle County
7	Lee Frame	Orange County
7	Alexa Fritz-C	Culpeper County

7	Neiman Young	King George County
8	Penny Gross	Fairfax County
8	John Jenkins	Prince William County
8	Charles Yudd	Loudoun County
9	Rick Chandler	Rockingham County
9	Thomas Miller	Rockingham County
9	Marshall Pattie	Augusta County
10	Susan Adams	Appomattox County
10	Tim Hall	Henry County
10	Geri Hazelwood	Patrick County
12	Rex Hill	Carroll County
13	David Eaton	Russell County
13	Pat Green	Tazewell County
13	Tim Lovelace	Russell County
13	J.H. Rivers	Wise County

HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

1	Judy Lyttle	Surry County
2	Sherrin Alsop	King & Queen County
3	W. Brandon Hinton	Henrico County
3	Sarah Snead	Chesterfield County
4	Brenda Ebron-Bonner	Dinwiddie County
4	Judy Jones	Amelia County
4	Helen Simmons	Nottway County
5	Connie Brennan	Nelson County
5	Catherine Pemberton	Powhatan County
6	Linda Glavis	Warren County
7	Lee Frame	Orange County
7	Stephanie Koren-C	Louisa County
7	Amanda Sumiel	King George County
7	Paul Trampe	Spotsylvania County
8	Elijah Johnson	Prince William County
8	Phyllis Randall-VC	Loudoun County
9	Suzanne Adcock	Alleghany County
9	Michael Breeden	Rockingham County
9	Terry Kelley	Augusta County
10	Larry Giordano	Halifax County
10	Bryan Moody	Appomattox County
11	Bill Thomasson	Bedford County
12	Thomas Littrell	Carroll County
12	Robbie McCraw	Carroll County
13	Rebecca Dye	Russell County


TRANSPORTATION

1	Joel Acree	Isle of Wight County
2	Stanley Langford	Essex County
2	George Morrow	Mathews County
2	Sheila Noll	York County
3	Steve Elswick	Chesterfield County
3	Wayne Hazzard	Hanover County

3	Tyrone Nelson	Henrico County
4	William Chavis	Dinwiddie County
4	Glanzy Spain, Jr.	Mecklenburg County
5	Morgan Dunnivant	Buckingham County
6	Doug Stanley	Warren County
7	Jim Crozier	Orange County
7	John Jenkins, Jr.	King George County
8	Jeff McKay-C	Fairfax County
8	Ron Meyer	Loudoun County
8	Martin Nohe	Prince William County
8	Kristen Umstatt	Loudoun County
8	Charles Yudd	Loudoun County
9	Gerald Garber	Augusta County
9	Stephen King	Rockingham County
10	Steven Sandy	Franklin County
11	Bill Thomasson-VC	Bedford County
12	Joe Hale	Wythe County
13	Joe Herron	Scott County
13	Tim Lovelace	Russell County
13	Carl Rhea	Russell County

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Operational Committees

BUDGET AND FINANCE

1	Donald Hart-C	Accomack County
2	Lawrence Simpkins	King & Queen County
7	Bob Thomas	Stafford County
10	Craig Meadows	Montgomery County
12	Tim Reeves	Wythe County

CONFERENCE PLANNING

1	Ruth Larson	James City County
1	Judy Lyttle	Surry County
1	William McCarty	Isle of Wight County
2	Bob Ehrhart	King William County
2	Vivian Calkins McGettigan	York County
2	Sheila Noll	York County
4	Bill Chavis	Dinwiddie County
4	Bernard Jones, Jr.	Brunswick County
5	Bret Schardein	Powhatan County
7	Ruby Brabo	King George County
7	Stephanie Koren	Louisa County
7	Bob Thomas-C	Stafford County
10	Susan Adams	Appomattox County
10	Annette Perkins	Montgomery County
12	Steve Truitt	Carroll County

NOMINATIONS

1	Judy Lyttle	Surry County
2	Prue Davis	Essex County
3	Frank Thornton	Henrico County
4	Steve Bowen	Nottoway County
5	Constance Brennan	Nelson County
6	David Cox	Greene County
7	Stephanie Koren	Louisa County
8	Penny Gross-C	Fairfax County
9	Claire Collins	Bath County
10	Jessie Barksdale	Pittsylvania County
11	John Williamson	Botetourt County
12	Dean Pratt	Pulaski County
13	Larry Mosley-VC	Lee County

RESOLUTIONS

1	Sherrin Alsop	King and Queen County
1	Donald Hart	Accomack County
1	Judy Lyttle	Surry County
1	William Robertson-C	Prince George County
2	Jason Bellows	Lancaster County
2	John Meyer	Gloucester County
4	Steve Bowen	Nottoway County

7	Meg Bohmke	Stafford County
7	R. Bryan David	Orange County
7	Alexa Fritz	Culpeper County
7	Stephanie Koren	Louisa County
7	Bob Thomas	Stafford County
8	Jeffrey McKay	Fairfax County
8	Phyllis Randall	Loudoun County
9	Claire Collins	Bath County
9	Fred Eberly	Rockingham County
11	Bill Thomasson	Bedford County
12	Andy McCready	Pulaski County
12	Tim Reeves	Wythe County
13	Larry Mosley	Lee County



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the opportunity to provide
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projects in low-income areas.



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income homeowners and those
seeking to become homeowners.

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- Aging in Place Program
- CDBG Administration



Regional Department

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At-A-Glance 2017

Sunday, November 12

Nondenominational Worship Service

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. • Chesapeake

SPEAKER: The Honorable **William M. McCarty**, Vice Chair,
Isle of Wight County

Exhibitor Setup

8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. • Grand Ballroom and Colonnade

VACo Board of Directors

9 a.m. • Dominion

VACORP Annual Business Meeting

10 a.m. • Crystal and Empire

Annual Conference Registration

10 a.m. - 5 p.m. • Mount Vernon Foyer

Exhibit Hall Opens

12:30 p.m. - 5 p.m. • Grand Ballroom and Colonnade

Sunday Afternoon Coffee Break

1 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. • MV/ST Rotunda

Sponsored by Asset Protection Group | Aflac

Steering committee meetings

1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Economic Development and Planning • Stratford
Finance • Mount Vernon
General Government • Blue Ridge

Sunday Afternoon Football & Refreshments

2 p.m. - 5 p.m. • Exhibit Hall

Sponsored by Moseley Architects

Steering committee meetings

2:45 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Education • Blue Ridge
Environment and Agriculture • Stratford

**Health and Human Resources • Mount Vernon
Transportation • Piedmont**

Regional Caucuses to Nominate Representatives to VACo Board of Directors

4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Region 2 • Blue Ridge

Region 3 • Wilson

Region 4 • Appalachian

Region 7 • Stratford

Region 8 • Tower Suite

Region 9 • Mount Vernon

Region 10 • Madison

Region 13 • Piedmont

Sunday Evening Opening Reception

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. • Crystal and Empire

Sponsored by Dominion Energy

VACo Annual Banquet

(Must have Banquet ticket to attend)

6:30 p.m. • Regency Ballrooms

PRESIDING: The Honorable **Mary W. Biggs**, President,
Virginia Association of Counties, and Supervisor,
Montgomery County

WELCOME: The Honorable **Claire Collins**, Supervisor,
Bath County

INVOCATION: The Honorable **William D. Chavis**,
Supervisor, Dinwiddie County

Hosted Music

9 p.m. - Midnight • DownTime

Monday, November 13

Resolutions Committee

7:15 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. • Dominion

Annual Conference Registration

8 a.m. - 2 p.m. • Mount Vernon Foyer

Exhibit Hall Opens

8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. • Grand Ballroom and Colonnade

Monday, November 13

OPENING GENERAL SESSION

8:30 a.m. • Regency Ballrooms

Sponsored by VML/VACo Finance

PRESIDING: The Honorable **Mary W. Biggs**, President, Virginia Association of Counties, and Supervisor, Montgomery County

Presentation of the Colors: Police Department Color Guard, Roanoke County

• KEYNOTE SPEAKERS •

Dr. Christopher Kilmartin, Ph.D., Independent Consultant and Professor of Emeritus of Psychology, Mary Washington University

• NACo SPEAKER •

The Honorable **Roy Charles Brooks**, President, National Association of Counties, and Commissioner, Board of County Commissioners, Tarrant County, Texas

Monday Morning Coffee Break

9:45 a.m. • Regency Ballroom Foyer

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CONCURRENT SESSIONS

10 a.m - 11:15 p.m.

2018-2020 STATE BUDGET: WHAT CAN WE EXPECT? • Stratford

ADVANCES IN RENEWABLE ENERGY • Mount Vernon

HOT TOPICS IN HUMAN SERVICES: A CONVERSATION WITH SECRETARY HAZEL • Piedmont

CONNECTING VIRGINIA'S COUNTIES TO THE INTERNET • Blue Ridge

Monday, November 13

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

11:30 a.m - 12:45 p.m.

ADDRESSING CHALLENGES IN LAW ENFORCEMENT •

Stratford

KEY LEGISLATORS TALK TAX POLICY AND FISCAL STRESS • Mount Vernon

SNAPSHOTS OF INNOVATIVE COUNTY PROGRAMS •

Piedmont

OPIATES ADDICTION CRISIS AND SOLUTIONS

SPONSORED BY AETNA • Blue Ridge

SPECIAL SESSION

11:30 a.m - 1 p.m.

MESSAGING WORKSHOP FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS •

Dominion

Deli Luncheon

12:45 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. • Exhibit Hall

Sponsored by SunTrust

VLGMA Luncheon

12:45 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. • Crystal and Empire

(Must have ticket to attend)

The VLGMA Luncheon is a ticketed event for county managers and key members of their management teams.

Credentials Committee

1 p.m. • Monroe

VACo Mini Drawing

1:45 p.m. • Exhibit Hall

Communications | Engagement | Knowledge | Success

2 p.m. • Exhibit Hall

Free Time in the Exhibit Hall

Take this opportunity to network and meet and speak with our exhibitors in the Exhibit Hall.

Monday, November 14

Monday Afternoon Break

2 p.m. • Exhibit Hall

Sponsored by Asset Protection Group | Aflac

Exhibitor Mini Drawing

2:30 p.m. • Exhibit Hall

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

2:45 p.m - 4 p.m.

PROSPECTS FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC GROWTH • Stratford

NAVIGATING THE ROAD TO TRANSPORTATION FUNDING • Mount Vernon

COST OF CLEAN WATER TO COUNTIES: CHESAPEAKE BAY AND STORMWATER • Blue Ridge

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL? FEDERAL POLICY ISSUES FACING COUNTIES • Piedmont

SPECIAL SESSION

2:45 p.m - 4 p.m.

MAKING BETTER BOARD DECISIONS: THE ROLE OF DELIBERATIVE THINKING • Dominion

High Growth Coalition

4 p.m. • Dominion

Rural Caucus

4 p.m. • Stratford

Nominations Committee

4 p.m. • Appalachian

President's Reception

5:45 p.m. - 7 p.m. • Crystal and Empire

Sponsored by Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates

Hosted Music

9 p.m. - Midnight • DownTime

Tuesday, November 14

CLOSING GENERAL SESSION

9 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. • Regency Ballrooms

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Annual Business Meeting followed by Exhibitor Drawing and Adjournment

10:30 a.m. • Regency Ballrooms



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Exhibitors

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Michael Wooden, P.E., Vice President
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Booth 108

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Sandy Henningsen, Vice President of Business

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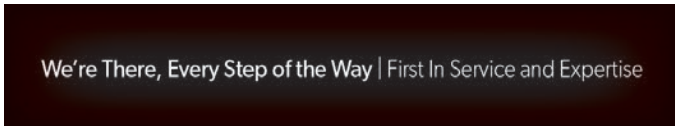
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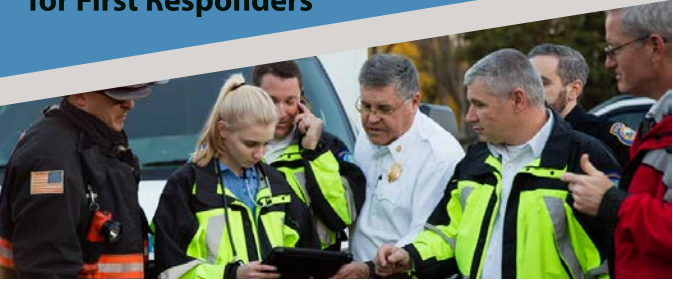




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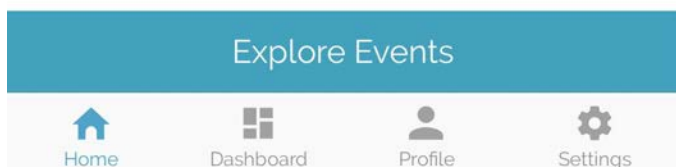
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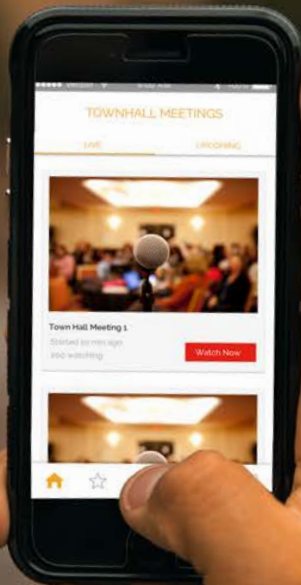
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About the development and adoption of VACo's annual legislative program

1. Spring regional meetings: VACo members are invited to attend regional meetings to identify and discuss key statewide legislative and policy issues.

2. Resolutions Committee meetings: The committee oversees the development of the annual Legislative Program. It meets in early fall and during the annual conference in November. The committee receives legislative updates during the annual legislative session.

The Resolutions Committee includes the six members of VACo's Executive Committee and the chairs and vice chairs of VACo's seven steering committees. VACo's President-Elect chairs the Resolutions Committee.

The seven steering committees are Economic Development and Planning, Education, Environment and Agriculture, Finance, General Government, Health and Human Resources and Transportation.

3. Steering Committees: The seven steering committees meet at least twice - once in late summer and again in November during the annual conference. The Steering Committees develop their policy sections for the annual Legislative Program.

4. VACo membership: The VACo membership adopts the new Legislative Program during the annual business meeting on the last day of the annual conference in November.

Additional information

The President appoints steering committee chairs and vice chairs. VACo members volunteer to serve on steering committees.

In early Fall, prior to the annual conference, the membership receives a Preliminary Legislative Program. This draft is revised during the annual conference.

Contact Executive Director **Dean Lynch** for more information about VACo's legislative policy process: dlynch@vaco.org or 804.343.2511.



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