

COUNTY CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of the
Virginia Association of Counties

October 3, 2017



Larry Land reflects on 29 years at VACo... Page 2



Visit Patrick County and the Mayberry Trading Post... Page 5



Albemarle Board appoints Jeffrey Richardson as new County Executive... Page 3



Mental Health Study Commission Discusses Proposed Financial Realignment of Public Mental Health System... Page 7



VACo releases 2018 Preliminary Legislative Program



VACo has released its [2018 Preliminary Legislative Program](#), which was drafted through VACo's steering committee process. The document includes a host of important and timely proposed policy statements including language pertaining to K-12 education funding, local taxing authority, stormwater regulations, land use planning, transportation, broadband, health and human resources and other local budget and legislative issues.

Please click on the link to read the [2018 Preliminary Legislative Program](#).

The 2018 Legislative Program will be adopted during the [VACo Annual Conference](#) on November 12-14 in Bath County.

VACo's seven steering committees will finalize and adopt their policy sections on Sunday, November 12. The Resolutions Committee will ratify the Legislative Program on Monday, November 13. VACo's membership will vote to adopt the Final Legislative Program on Tuesday, November 14.

VACo members are encouraged to continue to add their input to this document by working through their county's legislative process and the VACo steering committee process to put forward suggested changes to VACo's 2018 Legislative Program.

For questions regarding VACo's legislative process, contact Joe Lerch at jlerch@vaco.org or 804.343.2506.

VACo Contact: [Joe Lerch, AICP](#)

Larry Land retires and reflects on 29 years at VACo



When bad ideas are proposed at the power centers of state government, I hate to think how much more difficult life might be for local officials if energetic and articulate advocates are never present to explain how governance at the local level might be adversely affected. That doesn't mean we at VACo can always prevent undesirable policy outcomes. In Richmond's sausage factory, otherwise known as the Virginia General Assembly, we've often had to settle for making bad proposals more palatable than they would have been without our intervention. That's simply the nature of legislative battle. But win, lose, or compromise, it is a battle from which local governments, acting collaboratively, must never retreat. And the collaborative engagement in those battles is difficult to imagine without the efforts of the Virginia Association of Counties acting in partnership with our friends at the Virginia Municipal League.

When major legislation is considered either at the state or federal level, the concerns of local governments must never be minimized, nor should they be dismissed simply as those of another "special interest." Because local governments bear the lion's share of responsibility for delivering the most critical and necessary services expected by the public, the role VACo plays in the legislative process is essential. It is a role that is distinct from roles played by other lobbying organizations. The quality of Virginia's educational system depends upon the financial and administrative ability of managers at the local level to hire and retain an adequate number of capable teachers. Most law enforcement activities and first responder services provided in emergencies are administered locally, requiring the recruitment and retention of qualified fire and rescue squads as well as law enforcement officers, all of which are very local functions. Many improvements to our natural environment, and protection of public health, are not possible unless local agencies are equipped with the legal authority, financial ability and technical expertise to assure the attainment of environmental standards by our wastewater treatment plants and water treatment facilities.

In our federal system, the three levels of government constitute a partnership, albeit one that's often hampered by natural tensions. But however fragile, it is a partnership that cannot be sustained in an atmosphere of ignorance where decision makers at state and federal levels have little or no understanding of the responsibilities, limitations, capabilities and resource needs of local agencies operating at ground level. That is precisely why communications and dialogue between state and local officials are so essential for basic services to be successfully provided. It is difficult to imagine how local government officials can be integral parts of that necessary dialogue if not for the presence of organizations like the Virginia Association of Counties, the Virginia Municipal League and others. By facilitating the exchange of information between counties and state government, VACo performs an important public service. Another public service provided by VACo is the growing number of our educational programs that are all meant to help local officials serve their constituents as effectively as possible.

And for the privilege of helping to provide those services over the past 29 years, I have nothing more to write than "thank you!" Thank you for allowing me to serve you, the county officials of Virginia. Each day of my time with VACo has been a learning experience. Each day has provided new and stimulating intellectual challenges. Each day has provided me with opportunities to make friends while working closely with a wonderful group of team members along with many other amazing people serving nonprofit organizations and state agencies.

On August 21 at the County Officials Summit I was honored to stand before many of you to express my appreciation and admiration for so many of you who, as county supervisors, offer your time and talents in service to your communities. Our system of government could not work without people like you who decide to run for public office. I also wish to express my admiration and appreciation to many of you who serve your counties in key staff positions. Through the years I have been incredibly impressed with the professionalism and dedication I have witnessed in county managers, department directors, and so many others who have contributed their knowledge and expertise to VACo's educational programs and advocacy efforts. I have learned much from you. My hope for the future is that I will be able to apply my experiences and what I've learned from all of you in the most constructive ways possible.

So, to all of you, my final and parting message can only be a deeply and heart-felt Thank You!!

Albemarle Board appoints Jeffrey Richardson as new County Executive effective November 6

The Board of Supervisors is pleased to announce the appointment of Jeffrey Richardson as County Executive for Albemarle County effective on November 6, 2017.

Mr. Richardson has 27 years of local government experience, including 17 years in senior management, most recently serving as County Manager for Cleveland County, NC, since 2013. He also served twelve years as Deputy City Manager for the City of Asheville, NC. He is a credentialed manager with the International City/County Management Association.

The Board has identified many strong advantages that Richardson's appointment brings to Albemarle County. He embraces the high performance organizational approach that is important to the County, and has produced tangible results with a wide range of successful economic development projects, complex capital projects delivered on-time and under budget, and service delivery transformation, while achieving state and national level organizational awards for "best practices" in several areas. Richardson has extensive experience in building collaborative working partnerships with critical stakeholders and in working with public education systems as well as human services.

Richardson has a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of North Carolina at Asheville and a Master of Public Administration Degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is also a 2003 graduate of the Senior Executive Institute at the University of Virginia.

"As we continue to focus on the challenges and opportunities presented by the County's evolution as an urbanizing locality, we welcome the skills and expertise that Mr. Richardson brings to our staff team," said Board Chair Diantha McKeel in making the announcement. "His demonstrated success in public sector management coupled with his background in developing successful economic development partnerships and responding to service delivery needs in rural, suburban and urban settings makes him an ideal choice to lead the County at this crucial moment in our journey."

In announcing this appointment, the Board expressed its very sincere gratitude to Doug Walker for serving as Interim County Executive since the departure of former County Executive Tom Foley in February 2017. "Doug has provided strong and effective leadership for an extended interim period and has continued the County's forward progress on a wide variety of critical initiatives," said Board Chair McKeel. "We very much appreciate his efforts and his professionalism in leading our organization for the past seven months and look forward to his continued critical role as a member of our senior management team."



October 6 is the deadline to submit Go Green Scores

October 6 is the deadline for VACo members to register and submit their scores for certification under the 2017 Green Government Challenge, a friendly competition designed to encourage implementation of specific policies and practical actions to protect the environment and promote energy efficiency by local governments and the broader communities they serve. As in years past, those qualifying with at least 100 "green" points, for completing certain action items, will be recognized at the VACo conference in November.

In this year's Go Green Challenge there are more action items than ever, up to 73 from last year's 55, thereby presenting additional opportunities to garner points to reach the 100 level. Many of the new items will present opportunities for VACo members to build partnerships (both public and private) to expand efforts at building more resilient communities. For example, points can be earned by participating in the FEMA Community Rating System (CRS) program, a certification process that reduces risks and damages due to flooding with the reward of lower insurance premiums for policyholders. Another example is the ability to earn points by facilitating or supporting a "solarize" initiative in your community to lower the cost of solar panel installations through bulk purchasing. More opportunities are also available in such categories as community involvement, energy efficiency, renewable energy, procurement, land use/transportation, water stewardship and waste management. The score sheet is also structured to allow applicants to earn points for innovative programs.

As with the current challenge, there will be plenty of resources and examples available on the website for each action item. For more information and to register for the challenge go to www.gogreenva.org. If you have any questions contact Joe Lerch, VACo's Director of Local Government Policy, at lerch@vaco.org or by calling him at 804.343.2506.

VACo Contact: [Joe Lerch, AICP](mailto:Joe.Lerch@AICP)

Joint Subcommittee to Evaluate Tax Preferences to take broad look at tax structure

The Joint Subcommittee to Evaluate Tax Preferences signaled a new approach to its work at its meeting on September 25. Chairman R. Lee Ware opened the meeting by suggesting that the joint subcommittee take a holistic approach to the effect of tax preferences on the overall tax code rather than examining individual deductions, exemptions, or credits one by one. He suggested that tax preferences be weighed against a set of principles for a sound tax system, such as fairness, transparency, and stability, noting that from a global perspective, tax preferences reduce the overall tax base and require higher tax rates to generate the same amount of revenue. He suggested that eliminating tax carveouts that narrow the tax base could allow overall rates to be lowered. He cited North Carolina as an example of a state that has recently undertaken a large tax restructuring that sought to modify or reduce special tax treatment for some taxpayers in favor of reducing rates overall.



David Rosenberg, Senior Attorney with the Division of Legislative Services, provided a [brief overview of some principles](#) for a fair tax system that are generally shared by the Tax Foundation, the American Legislative Exchange Council, and the National Conference of State Legislatures. According to these principles, taxes should be simple (understandable by the average citizen and imposing minimal compliance burdens); transparent (straightforward in their structure); fair (treating taxpayers in similar economic circumstances similarly and minimizing regressivity); economically neutral (applied to a broad base at a low rate and intended to raise revenue, not influence economic decisions); and reliable (stable and sufficient sources of revenue that are predictable for the taxpayer and for the government).

Kristin Collins, Policy Development Director at the Virginia Department of Taxation (TAX), [presented information about the revenue implications](#) of several of Virginia's largest tax preferences. Subcommittee members discussed the growing importance of services in Virginia's economy and the state's reliance on individual income taxes. The subcommittee also discussed the effect of sales tax exemptions on localities and requested additional information about the interaction of local taxes, including BPOL, with the state tax system. TAX staff will be providing more information at the subcommittee's next meeting, which is expected to be in late November or early December.

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)

Commission on Local Government shares catalog of mandates



The Commission on Local Government met September 12 and unveiled its updated, searchable [Catalog of State and Local Mandates on Local Government](#). This is a tool that all local governments can use for information and guidance on mandates.



Visit Patrick County and the Mayberry Trading Post

Built in 1892, it originally housed the Mayberry Post Office as well as a general store. Today it's still a general store and it features apple butter making on weekends in the fall.

Address | 883 Mayberry Church Road | Meadows of Dan, VA 24120

Phone | 276.952.2155 | [Mayberry Trading Post on Facebook](#)



Mark Your Calendars



The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Community Development Division will be traveling throughout the state to provide information about the various community development and capacity building programs available through the agency.

We will introduce stakeholders to our programs, provide examples of how communities have used these grant funds and prepare participants for the upcoming grant cycle this winter.

Attendees will learn about Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), Virginia Main Street (VMS), the Industrial Revitalization Fund (IRF), Building Collaborative Communities (BCC), Building Entrepreneurial Economies (BEE), Community Business Launch (CBL), and Virginia Individual Development Accounts (VIDA).

DHCD representatives will be available to introduce you to the programs, as well as talk individually about potential projects.

This event is free, but pre-registration is requested.



Dates and Locations

October 26, 2017 | Bolling Wilson Hotel Banquet Hall, Wytheville | 1-4 pm

October 30, 2017 | Main Street Center, Gloucester | 1-4 pm

November 2, 2017 | Historic Train Station, Farmville | 1-4 pm

November 6, 2017 | John Barton Payne Building, Warrenton | 1-4 pm

Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development
 600 East Main Street | Suite 300 | Richmond, Virginia 23219
 804.371.7000 | www.dhcd.virginia.gov

Mental Health Study Commission Discusses Proposed Financial Realignment of Public Mental Health System



The Joint Subcommittee to Study Mental Health Services in the Commonwealth in the 21st Century (often referred to as the “Deeds Commission”) met on September 28 to receive updates from its expert advisory panels and to discuss current initiatives underway at the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS).

Dr. Jack Barber, Interim DBHDS Commissioner, spoke about the implementation of the STEP-VA plan, which requires a standard menu of services to be available at all Community Services Boards (CSBs) by July 2021. The new services are to be phased in, with the first addition, same-day access to screening at CSBs, available by July 1, 2019. Funding was provided in the 2017 Appropriations Act to enable 18 CSBs to provide this service; it is anticipated that funding for the remaining 22 CSBs will be included in the Governor’s budget in December. In discussion among joint subcommittee members, some concern was expressed that the timeline for implementing the remainder of the STEP-VA services (which include primary care integration, psychiatric rehabilitation, and behavioral health services for veterans) may be too aggressive.

Commissioner Barber also discussed DBHDS’s work on a “financial realignment” proposal that was directed by budget language in the 2017 session. The plan seeks to address the problem of over-reliance on state hospitals by proposing to direct a portion of state General Funds currently distributed to state hospitals instead directly to CSBs, who would be responsible for purchasing bed-days at the state hospitals. The plan contemplates that the redirected General Fund dollars would be used to develop community services in accordance with STEP-VA, which would provide alternatives to hospitalization. As discussed with VACo’s Health and Human Resources Steering Committee, a major concern with the plan is that it will require a significant increase in community services before any state hospital funds could be redirected; in addition, without some kind of funding reserve at the state level to mitigate unexpected needs for state hospital beds, localities could potentially be responsible for these costs in the event that hospital utilization is underestimated. Additional details of the plan will need to be refined, such as how to develop a fair funding formula for allocating funds to CSBs, and how to address cash flow issues with the state hospitals.

The subcommittee received updates from its Expert Advisory Panel on System Structure and Financing, which is preparing to embark on a study of the relationships between local governments and CSBs, a project discussed by the panel’s chair, Dr. Richard Bonnie, with VACo’s HHR Steering Committee in August. This project will examine local funding contributions as well as potential regional collaborations. The Expert Advisory Panel on DBHDS Oversight Authority and Responsibility also made a report on its plan of study, to include the role of DBHDS in managing quality improvement and data collection. The chair of the panel reviewing emergency services discussed its work plan, including reviewing models for alternative transportation for emergency custody and temporary detention orders, enhancing telemental health services, and examining the current eight-hour window for emergency custody orders to determine whether additional time could allow resolution of some crises without resorting to hospitalization. A representative from the panel examining criminal justice issues reported on its work, which includes coordinating with the Compensation Board on its implementation of a standard mental health screening instrument for jails and surveying localities with successful diversion programs, especially in rural localities.

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)

Counties eligible for grants to support agriculture and forestry economic development

The Governor's Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Fund ([AFID Facilities Grant program](#)) provides incentives for agriculture or forestry processing businesses to expand or locate in Virginia. In addition, the [AFID Planning Grant program](#) offers matching funds to support Virginia localities' planning initiatives for agriculture and forestry economic development and job-creation. Both programs are available to support county efforts that will have significant and lasting positive impact on the local agriculture and/or forestry sector.

AFID Facilities Grants support localities efforts to attract new and expanding facilities that add value to Virginia-grown agriculture or forestry products. By providing the funding critical to these projects' success, the state is helping these businesses create new markets for the products of Virginia's working lands and new opportunities for those who derive value from them. Facilities Grant awards are based on a return-on-investment calculation. Awards are capped at \$500,000 which must be matched by a locality in case or in-kind contributions, like tax rebates. AFID Facilities grants have supported an array of value-added facilities, such as meat and dairy processing greenhouses, sawmills, and food and beverage manufacturing.

AFID Planning Grants have funded feasibility studies for meat processing, timber transportation and produce handling facilities. Eligible projects include planning documents, economic development studies, community resources, or local initiatives to help farm and forestry businesses. The program provides dollar-for-dollar matching funds for a locality's project up to \$20,000, or up to \$35,000 for a multi-jurisdictional project. Contributions in-kind, such as staff time, are eligible for up to half of the local match required.

There is no deadline to apply as applications are accepted on a rolling basis. For more information go to <http://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/agribusiness> or contact Cassidy Rasnick, afid@vdacs.virginia.gov, 804.225.4535.

VACo Contact: [Joe Lerch, AICP](#)



Virginia Chapter 2017 Annual Meeting *Conservation Unleashed: Ferrum College*

Topics include: Smith Mountain Lake Water Quality Monitoring Project; Drone Field Surveillance; Till/No-Till and Impacts on Microbial Communities; Hemp Culture and Prospects

**Tuesday, October 17 | 8 am – 4 pm | Ferrum College
Franklin Hall, Blue Ridge Mountain Room
215 Ferrum Mountain Rd, Ferrum VA 24088**

Registration Deadline is Tuesday, October 10. Register at <https://fs28.formsite.com/SWCSvameeting1017/form2/index.html>. Send payment to: SWCS Virginia Chapter c/o Brian Benham, Biological Systems Engineering (0303) - Virginia Tech, 209 Seitz Hall, 155 Ag Quad Lane, Blacksburg, VA 24061.

Registration Fees: Student \$20 | SWCS Member: \$40 | Non-SWCS Members \$50

[CLICK HERE FOR THE MEETING AGENDA](#)

83rd Annual Conference Update



If you are attending VACO's Annual Conference, here are some few helpful suggestions to make your time at The Omni Homestead run smoothly. Please call 804.788.6652 with questions.

UPON ARRIVAL

Check-in time for your room is 4 p.m.

Valet parking is included in the 15 percent daily charge that is automatically added to your room rate.

When you arrive, please remember that bellmen and doormen work for tips and are not compensated through any service fees collected by the hotel. These individuals should be rewarded at the guest's discretion for their superior service.

- The doormen will give each guest a Valet Parking ticket for the car, or you may park in the complimentary parking lots at the top of the hill.
- The doormen will give each guest a luggage ticket that you should take to the front desk where you will check-in.
- You will need a credit card, a photo ID and your luggage claim ticket.
- If your room **is** ready, you will receive your room keys and hotel ID cards and the bellman will deliver your luggage to your room.
- If your room **is not** ready, you will receive a temporary ID card for charging purposes. Luggage will be stored until your room is ready.
- Please provide a cell phone number if you would like to be called when your room is available.
- Luggage delivery will take approximately 20 minutes, but can vary depending on the flow of guests arriving around the same time.

UPON DEPARTURE

Checkout time is noon.

To order your car for departure:

- Call the Transportation Department directly at Ext. 57711.
- Allow 15 minutes for your car to be delivered at the front drive. Please keep in mind that peak departure is between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., and you may experience a wait.
- As a reminder, the hotel is unable to leave cars unattended in front of the resort, due to the flow of arrivals and departures. Please call for your car when you are ready to depart.

Luggage pick up:

- Please call the bellman directly by pressing the "Bellman Button" on your guest room phone, or dialing Ext. #57571.
- Place luggage inside your guest room by the door for the bellman.
- Your luggage may be retrieved on the front porch.
- Please speak to a doormen for assistance with departure, and notify them if you have golf clubs to load.

Checkout:

- You will receive a copy of your charges under your door the last night of your stay.
- You may leave your Express Checkout card (located in your key packet) at the Front Desk in the Express Checkout Box (keys may be dropped in the box).
- You may check out directly with the front desk. Please keep in mind that peak departure is between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., and you may experience an extended wait time.

BILL SPLITTING

Separate billing for room, the Daily Resort Charge, the Modified American Plan (MAP) and related taxes will be provided for each conference attendee staying at The Omni Homestead. Expenses for spouse, guests and children, as well as incidentals will be provided on a separate bill. For more information about bill splitting, please request assistance from the front desk during check-in.

Revive RVA regional summit to explore solutions to heroin, opioid epidemic



The city of Richmond and the counties of Henrico, Chesterfield and Hanover will present a free summit Thursday, October 26 to examine and identify solutions to the alarming rise of heroin and opioid abuse in central Virginia.

The community event — titled Revive RVA: Regional Solutions to the Opioid Crisis — will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Greater Richmond Convention Center, 403 N. Third St. in downtown Richmond. The summit is open to the public, but registration is required. To sign up, go to <https://regionalopioidsummit2017.sched.com/> by Thursday, October 12.

Revive RVA will feature keynote addresses by Dr. Robert L. DuPont, president of the nonprofit Institute for Behavior and Health, and Dr. A. Omar Abubaker, professor and chairman of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry.

DuPont, a longtime leader in drug abuse prevention and treatment, served as the first director of the National Institutes of Health's National Institute on Drug Abuse, from 1973 to 1978, and was the second White House drug chief, from 1973 to 1977. Abubaker, an oral surgeon, has spoken extensively about the heroin and opioid crisis after his 21-year-old son, Adam, died following an overdose in 2014.

The summit will continue with breakout sessions examining the issue from different perspectives: medical community and prescribers; addiction treatment; emergency medical services; law enforcement; state policy; and youth and schools. The program will conclude with a panel discussion led by individuals in recovery and an open dialogue on ways to address the problem. An exhibit featuring more than 15 community service providers and agencies will take place throughout the day.

In addition, the summit will offer free training from 3 to 4:30 p.m. on how to administer naloxone following an actual or suspected overdose of heroin or opioids. Naloxone, which is available in Virginia without a prescription, can temporarily reverse the drugs' toxic effects, allowing time to seek professional medical attention.

The training, developed by the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, is intended for family and friends of someone who is at risk of an overdose. The class provides hands-on instruction on the administration of naloxone's nasal form and is restricted to individuals age 18 and older. Because spaces are limited, registration is encouraged as soon as possible. To sign up, go to surveymonkey.com/r/ZZC6V6X. Participants will leave the session with a complimentary dose of naloxone.

Revive RVA comes as the region's localities and public school systems are taking steps to address the public-safety threat posed by heroin and opioids. The potent, highly addictive drugs, which include prescription painkillers such as OxyContin and Vicodin, are threatening all communities and segments of society. Virginia State Health Commissioner Marissa J. Levine designated opioid addiction a public health emergency in 2016.

The number of fatal opioid overdoses continues to rise sharply locally, across Virginia and throughout the United States. In Richmond, Henrico, Chesterfield and Hanover, the combined number of opioid overdose deaths increased from 51 in 2010 to 79 in 2012 before jumping to 108 in 2014 and 189 in 2016, according to the Virginia Department of Health.



Register Now for NACo’s 2017 Poverty Summit & Fall Board Meeting

This fall, the National Association of Counties will convene in Tarrant County, Fort Worth, Texas from **December 7–9** for the **2017 Poverty Summit and NACo Fall Board Meeting**.

Under the leadership of NACo President Roy Charles Brooks, NACo is embarking on an initiative in 2017 and 2018 that focuses on the critical role counties play in breaking multi-generational cycles of poverty, especially for our children, who are impacted by poverty more than any other age group. As the ultimate safety net, county investment in early childhood development will lower future costs in county health, child welfare, safety and justice and other systems.

During this summit, county elected leaders and national experts will discuss the impact of poverty on children and their families and how counties can help to break the cycle of poverty.

The Poverty Summit will take place immediately before the Board of Directors meeting. We encourage board members to attend both events, and non-board members may also observe the Board of Directors meeting.

REGISTER NOW

Hotel Information

The 2017 Fall Board Meeting and Poverty Summit will be held at the Worthington Renaissance Fort Worth Hotel. We have secured rooms at a special rate of \$159/night plus tax. By November 8, [reserve your room online](#) or call 800-468-3571 and mention you are with the NACo meeting.



MOURNED IN COUNTY

By Billy Coleburn | Editor

Blackstone Courier-Record

Nottoway leaders are mourning a County colleague who's being remembered as a good listener, effective Supervisor, and joyful presence on the Board.

Long-time District Five representative Clarence Simpson died September 24 from complications after suffering a fall. He was 83.

Simpson had missed the Board's last six regular meetings after a fall in March but was said to be improving until another fall last week.

Simpson was well-known not only in District Five but also throughout Nottoway County and Southside Virginia. The easy-going cattle farmer was a retired Blackstone Police officer, retired phone company employee, and part-owner of Southside Livestock Market.

Simpson served several times on the Board's Finance Committee and was regarded as one of the board's most consistently conservative members. Simpson quietly did his homework and was hailed by colleagues and constituents for his intricate knowledge on pressing issues of the day. Simpson didn't speak often at the courthouse, but he made it count when he did.

He wasn't afraid to take a stand yet his disagreements with colleagues were never personal. Simpson enjoyed joking with fellow board members and he was known for being able to take a good ribbing, too.

Simpson was first elected to the Board of Supervisors in 1999 and ran unopposed in 2003, 2007, 2011, and 2015. He's one of the longest-serving District Five reps in county history.

Simpson becomes the third Nottoway Supervisor to die while in office in the past 11 years. District One board member Ray Taylor passed away in 2006, and District Three rep Jack Green died in 2014.

According to the Nottoway Voter Registrar's Office, Supervisors will have 45 days from Simpson's death to appoint an interim successor. Afterwards, Circuit Court Judge Paul Cella will schedule a special election, possibly in conjunction with the November 2018 general election for U. S. Senate or sooner.

The Board of Supervisors' next regular monthly meeting is Thursday, October 19.

Wednesday, November 8 would be the 45th day after Simpson's death. Simpson's present term doesn't expire until December 31, 2019.





We were honored to present an Achievement Award to Dinwiddie County at a Board of Supervisors Meeting. The County's "Ready to Hire" Program won for its innovative response to high turnover among local Communications Officers. Congratulations Dinwiddie County!

Pictured left to right - (Back row): Dan Lee, Dr. Mark Moore, Kevin Massengill, Harrison Moody, Brenda Ebron-Bonner. (Front row): Joe Lerch (VACo), Amber Hollowell (Emergency Communications Supervisor), Dennis Hale (Chief of Fire & EMS), Crystal Spain (Director of Human Resources), Denice Crowder (Emergency Communications Manager).



The Mathews Volunteer Rescue Squad received an Achievement Award for its countywide AED program from the Virginia Association of Counties during the Mathews County Board of Supervisors Meeting. Here, VACo Director of Policy Development Larry Land, left, presents the award to, from left, Ron Lambert, who developed the plan, and squad members Neal Hudgins, Lisa Conway, Malcolm Conway and Chris Buchanan.

Photo by Sherry Hamilton | Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal

Henrico County receives four Achievement Awards



Andy Jenks, Henrico County Public Schools' Director of Communication and Public Relations (left); Dr. Pat Kinlaw, HCPS' Superintendent (middle); and VACo's Dean Lynch



David Calkins, Henrico Health Department's Emergency Coordinator (left); Laura Young, Henrico Health Department's Epidemiologist (second); Jasmin Johnson, Henrico Health Department's Medical Reserve Corps Coordinator (third); Randy Buchanan, Department of Public Works' Environmental Program Specialist (fourth), Alec Oughton, Deputy Fire Chief - Operations (right)



Cari Tretina, Division of Fire's Administration Division Director



Alicia Ahlvers, Henrico County Public Library's Library Public Services Coordinator (left); Barbara Weedman, HCPL's Assistant Library Director (middle); Erin Lovelace, HCPL's Library Public Services Supervisor (right)

COUNTY OF LOUISA
Troy J. Wade, Chairman
Board of Supervisors



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 19, 2017

Contact: Alexandra Dixon
Phone: (540) 967-3499
Email: adixon@louisa.org

JEFFREY FERREL NAMED ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR FOR OPERATIONS

LOUISA, VIRGINIA – Jeffrey Ferrel will assume the role of Assistant County Administrator for Operations.

Mr. Ferrel has led the Department of General Services since 2013, and his accomplishments have been significant. His efforts have reduced the County's solid waste hauling and landfilling costs by nearly \$1 million annually, and the County is currently in the running for its third annual "Go Green" Award for energy efficiency and expense reduction. He currently oversees Facilities Management, the Animal Shelter, Solid Waste and Recycling, Fleet Management and numerous capital projects. Additionally, he manages a number of special assignments, including capital projects for the Library Foundation at the Louisa Library and the SmartScale road improvements process with the Virginia Department of Transportation.

Mr. Ferrel's oversight will include several functions, and he will retain management of the Department of General Services. The County has had Assistant/Deputy roles in Administration in the past, but not since Christian Goodwin became County Administrator in 2014.

"The County continues to experience growth along the rest of our region, and a proactive, responsible approach is critical," said County Administrator Christian Goodwin. "Jeff's efforts to date have been indispensable, and his enhanced operational oversight will allow more focus on strategic planning and Board objectives as we prepare for Louisa's future."

"Jeff has shown a willingness to overcome challenges and assume new duties, and has repeatedly proven himself during his time here," said Board Chairman Troy Wade. He is detailed, cost conscious and results oriented, and the Board is grateful for his efforts."

Mr. Ferrel holds a B.S. from Virginia Tech and a number of certifications. His tenure with the County follows management roles in several large-scale construction firms.

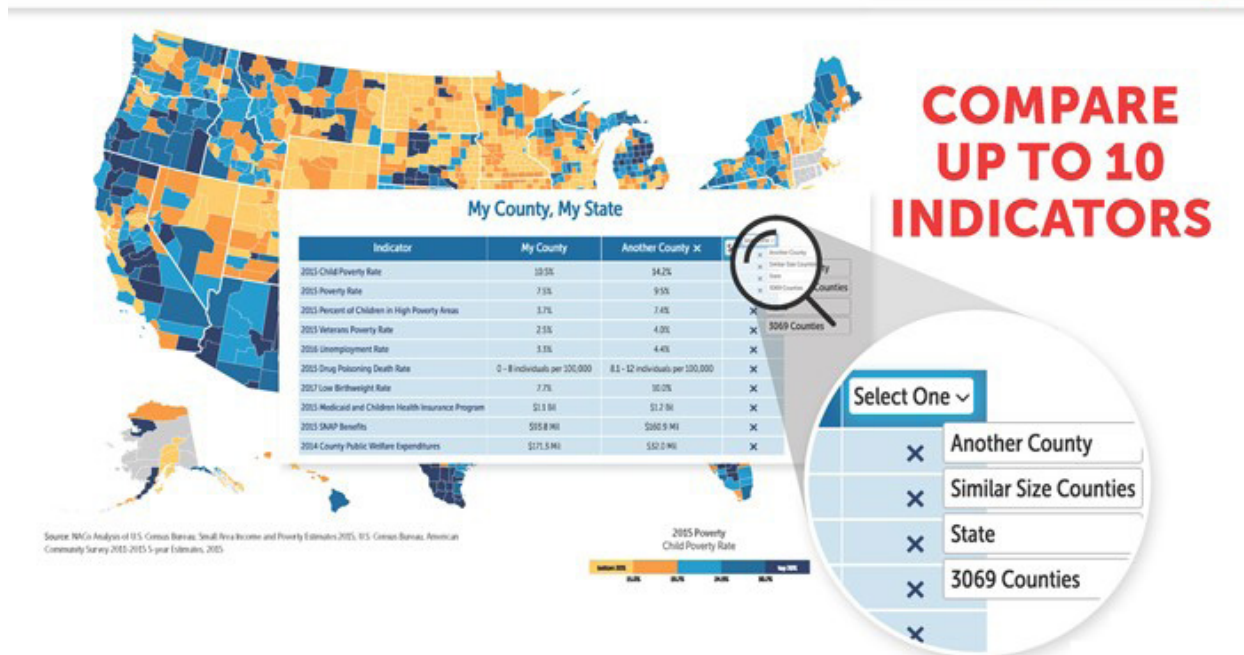
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COMPARE YOUR COUNTY
NACo COUNTY EXPLORER

www.NACo.org/CountyExplorer
www.NACo.org/Lab



Search an Indicator



NACo Counties Futures Lab Adds Benchmarking Feature to County Explorer

NACo’s County Explorer allows users to use data for communication, advocacy and now benchmarking. The new benchmarking feature makes it easier to draw comparisons between counties — allowing users to select up to 10 indicators for a county and compare with peer counties, state medians and/or even medians across the 3,069 counties.

The new County Explorer feature allows users to:

- Benchmark a county across up to 10 indicators
- Select from over 850 indicators in County Explorer to benchmark
- Benchmark against other counties, states, similarly-sized counties or the median for the 3,069 counties with county governments
- Print or download the benchmark table

Go to explorer.naco.org and start benchmarking your county today by clicking on the county on the interactive map and the “Benchmark” button next to the county name.

Some extra features:

- For indicators derived from survey data, such as child poverty rates, NACo added a reliability marker showing a dot colored green, yellow or red. Estimates in green are more reliable, while those in red should be used with caution.
- The interactive provides information about county elected officials in each county and about each county’s structure. Find the information by clicking on the county on the interactive map and the “County Info” button next to the county name. The information can now be printed by clicking the “Print County Information” button.

Learn more about the new functionality by reading the [County News](#) article or by visiting the [County Explorer](#) site.

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).



TOURISM COORDINATOR

| Mecklenburg County | Posted September 28



DIVISION CHIEF

MATERIALS MANAGEMENT | Arlington County | Posted September 26



DIRECTOR OF

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT | New Kent County | Posted September 25



INFORMATION

SYSTEMS SUPPORT TECHNICIAN | Westmoreland County | Posted September 25



CHIEF DEPUTY

TREASURER | Chesterfield County | Posted September 25



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/TOURISM COORDINATOR | Page County | Posted September 25



ENGINEERING

SPECIALIST (PT) | Westmoreland County | Posted September 25



DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC

DEVELOPMENT | Tazewell County | Posted September 25



FIREFIGHTER I/II/III/IV AND OTHER CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

| James City County | Posted September 22



TOURISM

COORDINATOR | Brunswick County | Posted September 22



GIS MANAGER

| Botetourt County | Posted September 20



CITY AUDITOR

| City of Richmond | Posted September 19



ENVIRONMENTAL

ENGINEER SENIOR | Virginia Department of Health | Posted September 19



DEPUTY CLERK TO THE

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS | Frederick County | Posted September 19



EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

PERFORMANCE MANAGER | Prince William County | Posted September 19



CHIEF FINANCIAL

OFFICER | Williamsburg-James City County Public Schools | Posted September 15



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

| Gloucester County | Posted September 15



PROCUREMENT

MANAGER | New Kent County | Posted September 15



PLANNER

| New Kent County | Posted September 15



ENGINEERING

ASSISTANT | James City County | Posted September 15



PERMIT TECHNICIAN AND OTHER CAREER OPPORTUNITIES | James City County | Posted September 15



BUILDING OFFICIAL/INSPECTOR | King & Queen County | Posted September 14



PARALEGAL | City of Falls Church | Posted September 14



TOURISM MANAGER | Orange County | Posted September 13



DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY | Goochland County | Posted September 13

Chesapeake LICENSED CLINICIAN II | City of Chesapeake | Posted September 13



ENVIRONMENTAL AND CODES COMPLIANCE OFFICER PT OR FT | Middlesex County | Posted September 13



DIRECTOR OF GENERAL SERVICES | County of Louisa | Posted September 12



SENIOR PLANNER ZONING | Fauquier County | Posted September 11



WASTEWATER COLLECTION APPRENTICE | James City County | Posted September 8



DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT | Louisa County | Posted September 8



PRINCIPAL PLANNER | Isle of Wight County | Posted September 6



DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS | Rockingham County | Posted September 6



ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF FISCAL MANAGEMENT | Bedford County | Posted September 6



DEPUTY TREASURER IV | Bedford County | Posted September 6



DIRECTOR OF FINANCE | Charles City County | Posted September 6



PLANNER/ASSISTANT ZONING ADMINISTRATOR | Charles City County | Posted September 6



DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT | Pittsylvania County | Posted September 6



IT BUSINESS ANALYST | City of Fredericksburg | Posted September 6



AUDITOR | City of Fredericksburg | Posted September 6



ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTOR I/II/III | James City County | Posted September 1



POLICE OFFICER I / II AND OTHER CAREER OPPORTUNITIES | James City County | Posted September 1



DIVISION DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS | Spotsylvania County | Posted September 1



FAMILY SERVICES SPECIALIST | Montgomery County | Posted August 31



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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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