

COUNTY CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of the
Virginia Association of Counties

February 20, 2019



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County Pulse
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Support and Oppose these Items under Discussion in Budget Conference



The House and Senate budgets were officially placed in conference on February 13 and conferees will be working to resolve differences between the two proposals in advance of the session's scheduled adjournment on Saturday, February 23. Both proposals contain elements of interest to local governments; a short list of priority items is provided below. Amendments labeled "h" are in the House budget; amendments labeled "s" are in the Senate budget.

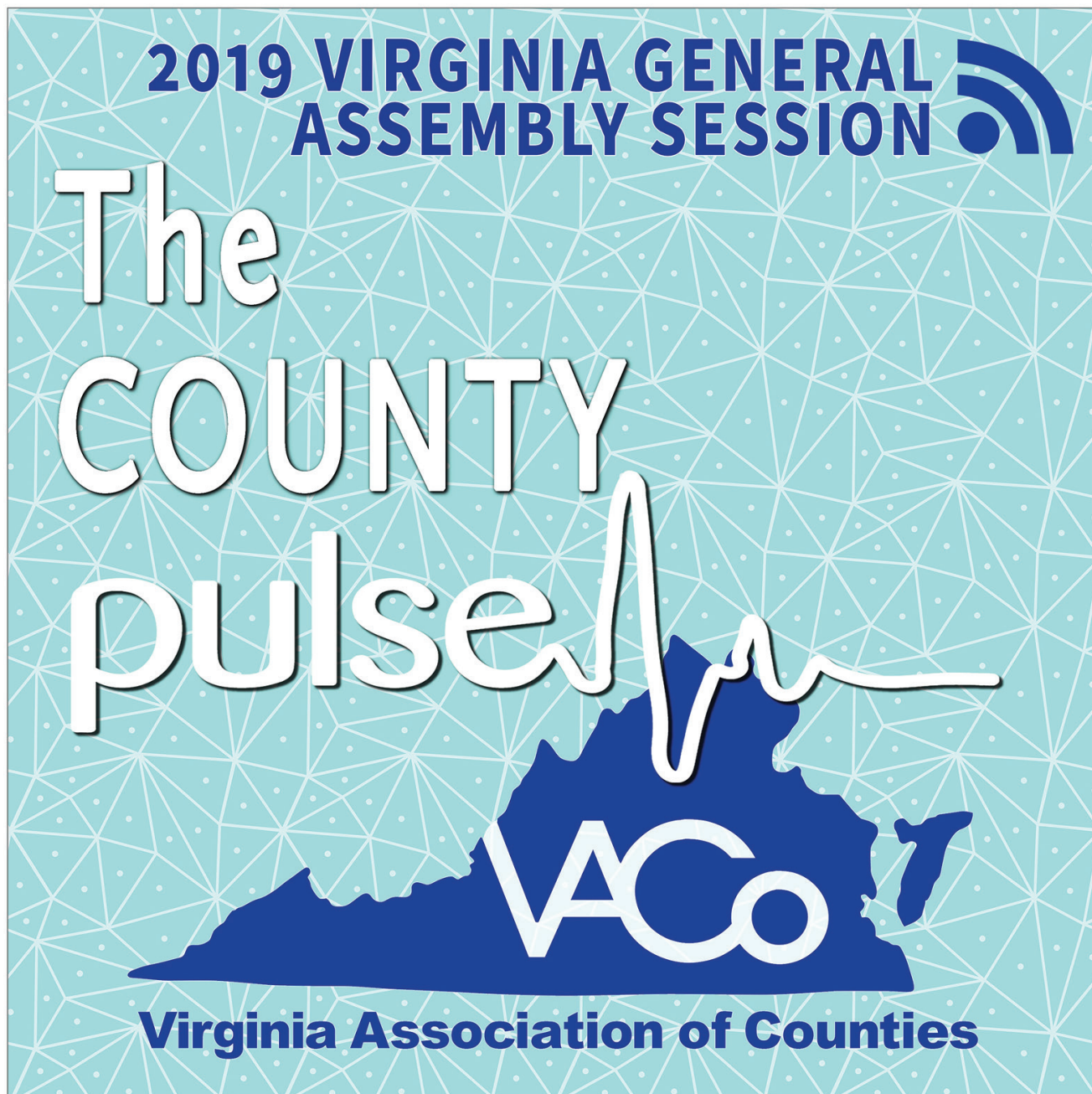
ACTION REQUIRED – VACo encourages members to contact budget conferees and members of your delegation about the following items. VACo would appreciate receiving copies of your correspondence if you contact your legislators in writing.

House Conferees: [House Appropriations Chairman Jones](#); [Delegate Landes](#), [Delegate Peace](#), [Delegate Knight](#), [Delegate Garrett](#), [Delegate Torian](#), [Delegate Sickles](#)

Senate Conferees: [Senate Finance Co-Chairman Norment](#), [Senate Finance Co-Chairman Hanger](#), [Senator Saslaw](#), [Senator Howell](#), [Senator Newman](#), [Senator Ruff](#), [Senator Wagner](#)

[READ STORY](#)

VACo Contact: [VACo Legislative Team](#)



Guests share the legislative pulse of Virginia Counties with host Dean Lynch. Click on the link below to listen to the next episode. Thank you for listening to the County Pulse Podcast | 2019 General Assembly Edition.

[VACo County Pulse Podcast](#)

VACo County Pulse Podcast | 2019 General Assembly Edition | Part 4

Welcome to the County Pulse. Host Chris McDonald talks with VACo General Counsel Phyllis Errico and VACo Lobbyist Jeremy Bennett about a variety of issues, including agritourism, school modernization, school safety, FOIA, COIA and much more. [Part 4 | Chris McDonald, Phyllis Errico and Jeremy Bennett](#)

In Memory of
JOHN D. JENKINS

July 21, 1939 - February 6, 2019

Prince William County | Neabsco District Supervisor | October 1982 - February 2019

Neabsco District Supervisor John D. Jenkins passed away on February 6, 2019. Jenkins served on the Board of County Supervisors for more than 36 years, making him the longest-serving member of the board.

“Prince William County mourns the loss of one of its best,” said Chairman of the Board of County Supervisors Corey Stewart. “For almost 37 years, Supervisor John Jenkins served his community with honor, integrity, and worked tirelessly to improve the lives of the residents in the Neabsco District. He not only loved this country, but he loved this community.”

Jenkins, a retired U.S. Army lieutenant colonel who served two tours in Vietnam, moved to Dale City in 1973 and soon thereafter joined the Dale City Civic Association as the Forestdale representative. In 1982, he was appointed to the Board of County Supervisors to fill the Neabsco District seat vacated by James McCoart.

Since taking office, Jenkins successfully pushed for the construction of the Dale City Recreation Center, the James. J. McCoart Administration Center, the G. Richard Pfitzner Stadium, the Potomac and Rappahannock Transit Center, the county’s Boys’ Home and Girls’ Home, the Hilda Barg Homeless Prevention Center, the Gar-Field Police Station, the Chinn Park Regional Library and Fitness Center, the Freedom Aquatics Center and about a dozen other buildings across the county, including fire stations, schools and senior centers.

In addition to advocating for public spaces, Jenkins always told his constituents that he would work for better education, public safety, transportation, human services and economic development. He advocated for roads and other infrastructure and was a primary proponent for building the Prince William Parkway. He also pushed the initiative to provide police officers with county-issued bullet proof jackets and advocated for the motorcycle traffic unit.

Between 1985 and 1986, Jenkins promoted the building and opening of the Dale City Mini Library. In 1993, at Jenkins’ prompting, the county allocated \$1.44 million in additional funds for Prince William County Schools.

A life-long civil and human rights supporter, Jenkins once asked the board to initiate a local investigation of a Dale City restaurant for refusal of service based on race. In 2018, Jenkins supported a vote on the board to make June “LGBTQ and More Pride Month.”

In 2009, a tribute to Jenkins was entered into the U.S. Congressional Record by Congressman Connolly for Jenkins’ dedication to the community and his work with the Scouts. Jenkins was a recipient of the Occoquan District Good Scout Award by the National Capital Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America. “He has taught generations of Scouts the nobility of public service and the great potential that it holds to help one’s fellow man,” stated the tribute.

Jenkins was voted by his colleagues on the Board of County Supervisors to serve as Vice Chairman two times and as Chairman Pro-Tem for the last several years. He also served two terms as Chairman of the Northern Virginia Regional Commission, State President of the Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions, State President of the Virginia Association of Counties, Chairman of the Virginia Railway Express Operations, and Chairman of the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission. He served as a member of the Washington Council of Governments Transportation Planning Board and was appointed by two Governors to serve as a member of the Virginia Geographical Information Network (VGIN) Advisory Board. In addition, he served on numerous boards and steering committees of the Virginia Municipal League, the Virginia Association of Counties, the National Association of Counties and represented the county on the Quantico Marine Corps and Fort Belvoir Base Realignment and Closing (BRAC) Committee.

Jenkins received numerous awards over his years of service including the Robert W. Baker Award for “outstanding contributions in promoting regional planning and development.” In 2010, Jenkins was honored the Blue Victory Award by the Manassas & Manassas Park Democrats. In 2015, the Virginia Railway Express honored Jenkins for his key role in establishing the commuter rail service by having his name placed on the front of a VRE locomotive. In 2017, Gar-Field High School honored Jenkins for his support of athletic and academic programs as booster club president, parent and county supervisor.

Jenkins served on the board for more than eight terms. He is survived by his wife Ernestine, three sons, 14 grandchildren and several great grandchildren.

[Prince William County’s video tribute.](#)



VACo
SPOTLIGHT

**R. Morgan
Quicke**
Richmond
County
Administrator



Q1. In addition to your Graduate Certificate in Local Government Management, you have an undergraduate degree in Public and Urban Affairs from Virginia Tech. Did you know early on that you wanted to pursue a career in public administration? What sparked your interest in the field?

Morgan Quicke: I knew from an early age that Local Government was an interest of mine, for several reasons. Growing up, my father was on Town Council in Blackstone and my grandfather served on the Commonwealth Transportation Board throughout the 80's. I always had a strong interest in what each of them did at both the local and state level, which led to my interest in local government. While attending Virginia Tech in Public Administration, I was able to intern with the Town of Blackstone during the summer, and the Town of Blacksburg during the school year. These two opportunities only furthered my interest in local government.

Q2. What advice would you give to current public administration students?

MQ: Many things. I would first of all tell them to meet and learn from as many Administrators, Asst. Administrators and Board of Supervisors Members they can. Attend events, interact with these people in a casual setting and you will learn a lot. Learn budget and finance, because the entire operation of a locality is dependent on the operating and capital budgets. Interact with employees and get outside with them to really learn their jobs and responsibilities. Get out in the public, be approachable, talk to people you do not really want to talk to. Read newspaper articles from throughout the state regarding local government, it is interesting how much you can learn from others.

Q3. Last year you were on a panel at an event hosted by the Rural Caucus discussing how to attract younger people to rural areas. One of the points you made was that businesses won't invest in communities unless communities invest in themselves. What types of investments have you found to be most successful in attracting and retaining younger people, and the economic development opportunities that they can bring to a locality?

MQ: I wish I knew the secret to retaining youth in rural Virginia. There are many components to retaining and attracting younger people to rural areas, but it starts with jobs and opportunities. Most rural Virginians leave rural Virginia for higher populated regions primarily for job opportunities. I think one of the top priorities for rural Virginia should be the focus on long standing family owned businesses. These businesses are generally the fabric of rural areas, and if generation after generation can continue the successful operations of these businesses, it provides stability, and it keeps the younger generation in the area to hopefully build off of what those before them created, with the goal of making them bigger and stronger. I had a Board Member tell me once that 10-12 businesses that can employ 5-10 people each, are just as important as that one large company that has the ability to create 100 jobs. I think rural Virginia needs to understand that unless you are on a major transportation corridor, our opportunities for large employers are going to be limited, but our opportunity to see smaller businesses become established is limitless.

Of course education, workforce, technology, recreation, dining and other activities play into the bigger picture as well.

QUICKE Continued on Page 11



Visit Fairfax County and Great Falls Park

Explore one of the nation’s first canals, see the Great Falls of the Potomac, enjoy a hike along Mather Gorge’s dramatic clifftops, and explore the museum exhibits and park film in the visitor center. You can do all of these things and more at Great Falls Park. [These pages](#) have information that will help you plan your trip.

Park hours are 7 a.m. until dark, every day. The three falls overlooks are located within a 5-10 minute walk from the visitor center and parking lots. Trail maps are available at the visitor center and entrance station.

Expect high crowds and delays entering the park on weekends and holidays when weather is nice. Please come early. Vehicle line to enter park begins around 10:30am or 11am. Wait time can be as much as 45 minutes to one hour. To expedite entrance payment, please have payment method ready before you reach the window. Exact change is preferred and helps shorten the entrance line by moving vehicles into the park more quickly.



SOURCE: [National Park Service](#)



Mark Your Calendars



Become a Certified Supervisor



SIGN UP TODAY! | [The Supervisors' Certification Brochure](#)

The Virginia Association of Counties, in partnership with Virginia Tech and Virginia Cooperative Extension, offers Virginia's County Supervisors an opportunity to enhance their capacity to effectively and efficiently lead their respective counties in the 21st century by participating in the Virginia Certified County Supervisors' Program.

Since its inception in 2005, more than 75 supervisors representing more than 40 counties have completed the training program and have earned their credentials as a certified county supervisor.

Of greater importance, each supervisor has gained the insight, perspective and confidence needed to address the issues and opportunities that constitute the governance challenge in the 21st century.

Funding Public Services in the 21st Century: The Role of Budgeting

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

Opening Session | March 22
Albemarle County

Closing Session | May 17
VACo Training Center

Registration Deadline | March 12

Making a Governance Difference: The Role of Purpose Driven Policy, Deliberation and Decision Making

Opening Session | May
31 Albemarle County

Closing Session | July 26
VACo Training Center

Registration Deadline | May 21

Inventing Your County's Future: The Role of Community Planning

Opening Session | September 6
Albemarle County

Closing Session | November 1
VACo Training Center

Registration Deadline | August 27

NEWS

from our Associate Members

BB&T and SunTrust to Combine in Merger of Equals to Create the Premier Financial Institution

- Combination of two iconic franchises creates sixth-largest U.S. bank holding company with 275 years of combined history and culture serving clients and communities in high-growth markets
- Enhanced scale and financial strength will accelerate investment in transformative technology to embrace disruption and create a more distinctive client experience
- Expanded fee income base will create opportunities to build scale in specialized businesses across a larger client base
- Compelling value creation expected for both companies' shareholders as demonstrated by double-digit earnings per share accretion by 2021
- Estimated net cost synergies of at least \$1.6 billion by 2022
- Proven management teams with history of successful merger integrations, strong risk management skills and shared mission- and purpose-driven cultures
- Combined company to operate under a new name and be headquartered in Charlotte, NC while maintaining significant operations and investment in Winston-Salem, NC and Atlanta, GA

SunTrust Banks, Inc. (NYSE: STI) and BB&T Corporation (NYSE: BBT) announced on February 7 that both companies' boards of directors have unanimously approved a definitive agreement to combine in an all-stock merger of equals valued at approximately \$66 billion. The combined company will be the sixth-largest U.S. bank based on assets and deposits.

The pro forma company will have approximately \$442 billion in assets, \$301 billion in loans, and \$324 billion in deposits serving more than 10 million households in the United States, with leading market share in many of the most attractive, high-growth markets in the country. The incremental scale positions the new company to achieve industry-leading financial and operating metrics with the strongest return profile among its peers.

In a reflection of the equal contribution both banks bring to the new institution, the combined company will operate under a new name and brand, which will be determined prior to closing. The combined company's board of directors and executive management team will be evenly split between the two institutions. A new corporate headquarters will be established in Charlotte, NC, including an Innovation and Technology Center to drive digital transformation. In the current home markets for both companies, the combined company will maintain the Community Banking Center in Winston-Salem, NC and the Wholesale Banking Center in Atlanta, GA. This continued strong presence is also supported by the combined company's commitment to increase the respective banks' current levels of community investment.

GAAP and Cash EPS accretion per BB&T share in 2021 is expected to be approximately 13% and 17%, respectively (based on Street estimates). GAAP and Cash EPS accretion per SunTrust share in 2021 is expected to be approximately 9% and 16%, respectively (based on Street estimates). SunTrust shareholders will receive a 5% increase in their dividend upon consummation of the transaction based upon each Company's current dividend per share. Under the terms of the merger agreement, SunTrust shareholders will receive 1.295 shares of BB&T for each SunTrust share they own. BB&T shareholders will own approximately 57% and SunTrust shareholders will own approximately 43% of the combined company.

"This is a true merger of equals, combining the best of both companies to create the premier financial institution of the future," said BB&T Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Kelly S. King. "It's an extraordinarily attractive financial proposition that provides the scale needed to compete and win in the rapidly evolving world of financial services. Together with Bill's leadership and our new SunTrust teammates, we're going to bring the best of both companies forward to serve our clients and communities."

William H. Rogers, Jr., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of SunTrust, said, "By bringing together these two mission- and purpose-driven institutions, we will accelerate our capacity to invest in transformational technologies for our clients. Our shared culture embraces the disruption of technology and we will take this innovative mindset to expand our leadership in the next chapter of these historic brands. With our geographic position, enhanced scale and leading financial profile, these two companies will achieve substantially more for clients, teammates, associates, communities, and shareholders than we could alone. I have tremendous respect for Kelly, his leadership team and the BB&T associates. We will leverage our respective strengths as we focus together on the future."

[Click here for more information.](#)

2019 Virginia County Board Chairs and Vice Chairs

COUNTY	CHAIRMAN	VICE CHAIRMAN
Accomack County	Donald L. Hart, Jr.	C. Reneta Major
Albemarle County	Ned L. Gallaway	Rick Randolph
Alleghany County	Steve Bennett	Cletus Nicely
Amelia County	Thomas R. Gleason	Ralph A. Whitaker, Jr.
Amherst County	L. J. “Jimmy” Ayers	Kenneth Campbell
Appomattox County	Samuel E. Carter	Chad E. Millner
Arlington County	Christian Dorsey	Libby Garvey
Augusta County	Gerald W. Garber	Carolyn S. Bragg
Bath County	Richard B. Byrd	Phillip B. Perdue
Bedford County	Thomas W. Scott	Andrew D. Dooley
Bland County	Randy Johnson	Stephen Kelley
Botetourt County	Billy Martin, Sr.	Dr. Donald M. Scothorn
Brunswick County	Barbara Jarrett Harris	John W. Zubrod
Buchanan County	J. Carroll Branham	G. Roger Rife
Buckingham County	Donnie Bryan	Harry W. Bryant
Campbell County	Eddie Gunter, Jr.	Charlie A. Watts, II
Caroline County	Clayton T. “Clay” Forehand	Jeffery M. Sili
Carroll County	Rex Hill	Joe Neil Webb
Charles City County	Floyd H. Miles, Sr.	William Coad
Charlotte County	Garland H. “Butch” Hamlett, Jr.	Nancy R. Carwile
Chesterfield County	Leslie A. Haley	Stephen A. Elswick
Clarke County	David S. Weiss	Beverly “Bev” B. McKay
Craig County	Jesse Spence	Carl Bailey
Culpeper County	Brad Rosenberger	Sue Hansohn
Cumberland County	David E. Meinhard	Parker H. Wheeler
Dickenson County	David Perry	Shelbie Willis
Dinwiddie County	William Chavis	Daniel Lee
Essex County	Margaret H. Davis	Sidney N. Johnson
Fairfax County	Sharon Bulova	Penelope A. Gross
Fauquier County	Christopher T. Butler	Mary Leigh McDaniel
Floyd County	Lauren D. Yoder	Joe D. Turman

Fluvanna County	Mike Sheridan	Anthony O'Brien
Franklin County	E. Cline Brubaker	Leland Mitchell
Frederick County	Charles DeHaven	Gary Lofton
Giles County	Jeffrey Morris	Larry "Jay" Williams
Gloucester County	Ashley C. Chriscoe	Phillip N. Bazzani
Grayson County	Kenneth Belton	Michael S. Hash
Greene County	William "Bill" Martin	Michelle Flynn
Greensville County	Michael W. Ferguson	Raymond L. Bryant, Jr.
Halifax County	Dennis Witt	Hubert Pannell
Hanover County	W. Canova Peterson	Scott A. Wyatt
Henrico County	Tyrone E. Nelson	Thomas M. Branin
Henry County	Jim Adams	Debra Buchanan
Highland County	Kevin Wagner	David Blanchard
Isle of Wight County	William M. McCarty	Joel Acree
James City County	Jim Icenhour	Michael J. Hipple
King and Queen County	James M. Burns	J. Lawrence Simpkins
King George County	Jeffrey Bueche	Cathy Binder
King William County	William B. Hodges	Stephen Greenwood
Lancaster County	Jason D. Bellows	Ernest W. Palin, Jr.
Lee County	Nathan P. Cope	Richard "D.D." Leonard
Loudoun County	Phyllis J. Randall	Ralph M. Buona
Louisa County	R. T. "Toni" Williams, Jr.	Duane A. Adams
Lunenburg County	Charles R. Slayton	Frank W. Bacon
Madison County	R. Clay Jackson	Amber Foster
Mathews County	G. C. Morrow	Edwina J. Casey
Mecklenburg County	Glenn E. Barbour	Gregg Gordon
Middlesex County	Mark E. "Chip" Holt, III	Peter W. Mansfield
Montgomery County	M. Todd King	April N. DeMotts
Nelson County	Larry D. Saunders	Thomas D. Harvey
New Kent County	C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Patricia A. Paige
Northampton County	H. Spencer Murray	John Coker
Northumberland County	Ronald L. Jett	Richard F. Haynie
Nottoway County	Stephen W. Bowen	Gary L. Simmons
Orange County	James K. White	James P. Crozier

Page County	Morgan Phoenix	Jeffery P. Vaughan
Patrick County	Rickie Fulcher	Karl Von Weiss
Pittsylvania County	Joe B. Davis	Dr. Charles H. Miller, Jr.
Powhatan County	Angela Y. Cabell	William E. Melton
Prince Edward County	James R. Wilck	Jerry R. Townsend
Prince George County	Donald R. Hunter	Floyd M. Brown, Jr.
Prince William County	Phyllis J. Randall	Ralph Buona
Pulaski County	Howard “Andy” McCready	Dean K. Pratt
Rappahannock County	Roger Welch	Christine Smith
Richmond County	F. Lee Sanders	Richard E. Thomas
Roanoke County	Phil C. North	Martha B. Hooker
Rockbridge County	Jay Lewis	Dan Lyons
Rockingham County	Michael A. Breeden	William B. Kyger, Jr.
Russell County	Rebecca T. Dye	Steven G. Breeding
Scott County	Danny Mann	David S. Redwine
Shenandoah County	Dr. Conrad A. Helsley	Dick Neese
Smyth County	M. Todd Dishner	Richard K. Blevins
Southampton County	Dallas O. Jones	Ronald M. West
Spotsylvania County	Paul D. Trampe	Gary F. Skinner
Stafford County	Gary F. Snellings	L. Mark Dudenhefer
Surry County	Michael H. Drewry	Judy S. Lyttle
Sussex County	Susan B. Seward	Keith C. Blowe
Tazewell County	T. Travis Hackworth	Charles A. Stacy
Warren County	Daniel J. Murray	Thomas H. Sayre
Washington County	Saul A. Hernandez	Allison G. Mays
Westmoreland County	Darryl E. Fisher	W. W. Hynson, Jr.
Wise County	Dana G. Kilgore	Robert E. Robbins
Wythe County	Timothy A. Reeves, Sr.	Joe F. Hale
York County	Thomas G. Shepperd, Jr.	W. Chad Green

VACo Contact: [Carol Cameron](#)

QUICKE Continued from Page 4

Q4. You are a member of your regional council for the GO Virginia initiative. What are your goals for economic growth in the region? What projects are underway in your region that you are particularly excited about?

MQ: I believe that the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula have a unique opportunity to continue to promote and advertise the natural beauty of the landscape, through different agribusiness, aquaculture and tourism opportunities. I do not believe that our economic growth goals can mirror those of Richmond, Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads, so we have to continue to find a market that works for us.

I believe that the PamunkeyNet Project bringing more high speed internet to the rural areas of the region could have a major impact on the localities involved. Rural broadband is at the top of the list for all rural localities.

Q5. In your view, what are the biggest challenges and opportunities facing Richmond County in the next ten years?

MQ: One of our biggest challenges over the next 10 years will be the continued expansion of emergency services within the County. Once a completely volunteer service in Richmond County, we are now operating fully paid EMS and Volunteer Fire. I think that both of these services will have to expand in the coming years to better efficiently serve the entire County better.

As mentioned above, I think we have the opportunity over the next ten years to retain and attract more of the younger generation through several initiatives that are currently ongoing throughout Richmond County and the Town of Warsaw. The creation of the Warsaw-Richmond County Main Street Program several years ago seems to have created a renewed sense of optimism that needs to be further expanded through programs and ideas. We also need to continue to enhance recreational opportunities for our residents of all ages.

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)



GASB has issued proposed implementation guidance to provide state and local government financial statement preparers with questions and answers designed to clarify, explain or elaborate on the board’s standards.

Implementation Guidance Update-2019 proposes answers to such topics as:

- Cash flow reporting
- Post-employment benefits
- Derivative instruments
- Irrevocable split-interest agreements
- Tax-abatement disclosures

Amendments to previously issued implementation guidance are also proposed in the exposure draft.

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

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 Start receiving the electronic
 version of VACo’s newsletter,
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 pictures in color, links to additional
 information and more pages than
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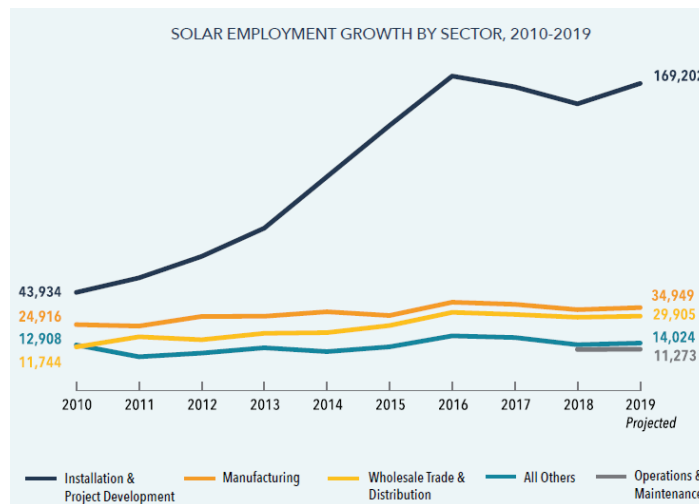
Solar jobs slow down nationally but continue to shine in Virginia

While solar jobs numbers declined nationally in the last year, solar employment continues to surge in Virginia, according to the recently released [National Solar Jobs Census 2018](#).

The Solar Jobs Census, published on February 12, is an annual report from the Solar Foundation on employment and workforce trends in the U.S. solar industry. For just the second time in the history of the Census, the Solar Foundation reports that the industry experienced a decline in employment from 2017, a 3.2 percent drop that represents approximately 8,000 jobs. Interestingly, this is the second year in a row that the overall solar jobs number has experienced a decline.

Despite this overall drop, Virginia still saw a 9 percent growth in its solar industry related jobs, from 3,565 jobs in 2017 to 3,890 jobs in 2018. This places Virginia 20th in the nation in overall solar jobs and 34th in the nation in solar jobs per capita. This is particularly notable given the opposite trend seen in Virginia’s neighbors. North Carolina saw a 12 percent decline in solar jobs over the last year, while Maryland saw a 15 percent decline in jobs.

It is also interesting to note the growth – or decline – in specific job sectors within the solar industry. While there have been occasionally periods of moderate, year-to-year growth in manufacturing jobs and wholesale trade and distribution jobs, unsurprisingly, the greatest area for growth has been in installation and project development. Since 2010, this job sector has experienced a growth of 138.1 percent and now represents 155,157 solar jobs, or approximately 64 percent of all solar jobs. Despite this overall growth trend, like the other types of solar jobs, installation and project development jobs also have experienced a recent downturn, declining 6.1 percent from 2017-2018.



<https://www.thesolarfoundation.org/national>

Beyond these raw numbers, the Census also examines and highlights several trends in the solar industry. Specifically, the Census notes that utility-scale solar suffered in 2018 due to the concerns about tariffs on solar modules and cells. The authors note that since hardware costs represent a greater proportion of total costs in utility-scale solar than they do in small-scale solar (residential and non-residential), the uncertainty about tariffs and their impacts delayed the start of a number of utility-scale projects. The utility-scale segment is expected to recover, however, though the Census predicts a market decline in growth in Virginia. This is likely due to the lack of completion of several major, utility-scale projects in 2018 and a significant projected decrease in such projects in 2019.

Another growing sector of the industry, and one with which many officials within the General Assembly and the Administration are pursuing, is the energy storage industry. While energy storage may not command the same excitement or same number of headlines as solar facilities themselves, storage is an important component of the solar industry. In particular, storage is critically important for improving electrical grid resiliency, stabilizing (and making more consistent) the flow of electricity onto the grid, and reducing electricity costs. Storage deployment is a rapidly growing sector of the industry, accounting for approximately 3,900 jobs across the country. These numbers were not considered or included in the overall solar jobs assessment, however, as they are only now freshly being tracked.

Overall, while solar jobs may have declined in each of the last two years, the industry still looks strong, both in Virginia and nationwide. As costs for hardware continue to rapidly decrease, and as battery storage continues to improve and expand, solar is becoming increasingly cost-competitive with traditional fuels. Moreover, as major corporations, politicians, and citizens all continue to clamor for increased renewable energy resources, it’s clear that the sun is not setting on this industry anytime soon.

VACo Contact: [Chris McDonald, Esq.](#)

U.S. Senate passes bill permanently reauthorizing Land and Water Conservation Fund



The U.S. Senate has passed a bill that permanently reauthorizes the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), a program that safeguards and preserves public land and water resources across the Commonwealth and country.

The LWCF was established by Congress in 1964 to protect and enhance America's public lands and waters, including parks, forests, wildlife refuges, recreational areas, and historic lands, such as Revolutionary War and Civil War battlefields. Entities eligible to compete for LWCF funding include counties, cities and towns, park and recreation authorities, tribal governments, and state agencies.

Since the program's inception, the LWCF has successfully distributed over \$4.1 billion in state grants (matched for a total of \$8.2 billion), funding nearly 42,000 state projects and protecting 2.37 million acres of land. Virginia has seen firsthand the benefits of the LWCF. In the 53 years it's been active, the LWCF has successfully provided over \$358.2 million in funding for over 400 projects across the Commonwealth. Examples of such projects include the Rappahannock River Valley Wildlife Refuge, the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Historic District, the Appalachian National Scenic Trail, and the Blue Ridge Parkway, to name a few.

Despite over five decades of success with the program, Congress initially allowed the LWCF to expire in 2015 before eventually reauthorizing the program through 2018. On September 30, 2018, Congress once again allowed the LWCF to expire.

In the Fall of 2018, VACo sent a letter to Senator Mark Warner in support of the Land Water Conservation Fund and asking him to support legislation permanently reauthorizing the Fund due to its sizeable impact on Virginia. Following this initial letter, VACo continued to work with and correspond with Senator Warner's state and Washington, D.C. offices to highlight the critical importance of the LWCF.

Now, months later, Senator Lisa Murkowski's [S. 47 - the Natural Resources Management Act](#), which permanently reauthorizes the LWCF, has officially passed the full Senate [92-8](#). VACo thanks Senator Warner and Senator Tim Kaine (who also supported the bill) for their hard work and will continue to support and promote the LWCF to the rest of the Virginia Congressional Delegation.

VACo Contact: [Chris McDonald, Esq.](#)

DEQ releases its Notice of Intended Regulatory Action for Consolidation of stormwater management programs



The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has published its [Notice of Intended Regulatory Action \(NOIRA\)](#) stemming from 2016 legislation that attempts to consolidate Virginia Erosion Control and Stormwater Management Programs. Chapters 758 and 68 of the 2016 Acts of Assembly (House Bill 1250 and Senate Bill 673) combine the existing Virginia Stormwater Management Act (VSMA) and Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Law (VESCL) to create the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Act (VESMA) and directs the State Water Control Board (the Board) to permit, regulate, and control both erosion and stormwater runoff.

For this legislation to become effective, the Board is required to initiate a regulatory action to consolidate and clarify program requirements, eliminate redundancies, and correct inconsistencies between the erosion and sediment control and stormwater management program regulations. Affected regulations may include [9 VAC 25-830 – Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area Designation and Management Regulations](#), [9 VAC 25-840 – Erosion and Sediment Control Regulations](#), [9 VAC 25-850 – Erosion and Sediment Control and Stormwater Management Certification Regulations](#), [9 VAC 25-870 – Virginia Stormwater Management Program Regulation](#), [9 VAC 25-880 – General VPDES Permit for Discharges of Stormwater from Construction Activities](#), and [9 VAC 25-890 – General VPDES Permit for Discharges of Stormwater from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer \(MS4\) Systems](#).

DEQ is seeking comments on this regulation, including but not limited to: ideas to be considered in the development of this regulation, the costs and benefits of the alternatives stated in this background document or other alternatives, and the potential impacts of the regulation. Additionally, a Regulatory Advisory Panel (RAP) will be appointed, so those interested in a possibly appointment should indicate so in their comment.

Comments may be submitted via the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall website until 11:59pm on March 6, 2019. For more information, please see the [online posting of the Notice](#).

VACo Contact: [Chris McDonald, Esq.](#)

Charles City County Honors Pioneer



Iona W. Adkins was remembered on February 17 when Charles City County renamed its Courthouse in her honor. Adkins was the first African American to be elected as a Circuit Court Clerk in the United States since the Reconstruction Era. Judge Adkins served with distinction from 1967-1988.

“Iona provided an opportunity for others to know that America is a great place to be in,” her son Byron Adkins Sr. said and also added, “We need leaders with integrity that stand up and represent the people and she stood for that.”

Former Governor Terry McAuliffe joined other elected officials to honor the trailblazer. “In many southern states there were a lot of issues and for an African American woman to step up to the plate and say, ‘I’m running for office,’” McAuliffe said. “Folks, it took a tremendous amount of courage if you think what she went through.”

Photo Source: Charles City County Administrator Michelle Johnson | [Facebook](#)

Surry County appoints new administrator



The Surry Board on February 7, 2019 hired **Jonathan H. Lynn** from Powder Springs, GA, as its next Chief Administrative Officer effective March 1, 2019.

Lynn has 14 years experience in public management at state, regional and local level. Recently served as Town Manager of Tyrone, GA. He holds a BA and MPA from Georgia Southern University and certificates from ICMA, APA, and ICMA Emerging Leader Development Program, and the Georgia City County Management Association.

Interim County Administrator Sandy Wanner will assist during the 30-day transition period.

42nd Annual Virginia Municipal Clerks Association Conference



**The 42nd Annual VMCA Conference will be held
April 17-19 at the Hotel Roanoke**

[Important Conference Information](#) | [VMCA Website](#)
[Hotel Reservations can be made by clicking here](#)

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

[Conference Information Packet](#) | [Click here for Conference Registration](#) |
[Conference Registration Form](#)

Virginia Association of Counties

PREMIER PARTNER

SPOTLIGHT SERIES

VACo Members - Learn about VACo's Partners and how they can help Counties save money and become more efficient. Contact Executive Director Dean Lynch at dlynch@vaco.org for more information.

VACo Premier Partner Spotlight Podcast

The Berkley Group

Host Dean Lynch speaks with The Berkley Group's Darren Coffey, CEO, and Drew Williams, COO, about the firm's array of services for Counties. Lynch also talks with Executive Manager Kimball Payne and Executive Manager Jay Stegmaier about the Executive Transition Assistance Program and how it can help Counties with a smooth leadership transition.

Capitol Contact

Virginia General Assembly

Virginia Association of Counties • 1207 E. Main Street, Suite 300 • Richmond, VA 23219
www.vaco.org • 804.788.6652



The 2019 General Assembly session will span from January 9 to February 23, and legislators will deliberate on many issues critical to local government, including taxes, the state budget, education funding, economic development, public safety, and other policy matters.

VACo will continually provide updates during the session through [Capitol Contact](#). To ensure that you are receiving our legislative bulletin, please send [Gage Harter](#) your best email address. Below are recent Capitol Contacts.

February 19, 2019: [Items under discussion in Budget Conference](#)

February 14, 2019: [Bill to Rewrite Local Ordinance Regulating Airbnb Fails](#)

February 14, 2019: **Capitol Contact ALERT** – [Contact Budget Conferencees on Machinery and Tools Tax Language](#)

February 12, 2019: [Oppose Home Instruction JROTC Bill](#)

February 8, 2019: [Key Elements of House and Senate Budgets](#)

February 7, 2019: [Casino bill takes on the House](#)

February 5, 2019: [Problematic machinery and tools legislation fails](#)

February 4, 2019: [Money Committees Report Budgets](#)

February 1, 2019: **Capitol Contact ALERT** – [Oppose Bill that Adds ‘Weddings’ to definition of ‘Agritourism Activity’ and Thwarts Local Regulation](#)

January 31, 2019: [Governor Northam speaks at VACo County Government Day](#)

January 29, 2019: [Speaker Cox and House Appropriations leadership come out in support of 5 percent teacher salary increase as Virginia teachers march on Richmond](#)

January 28, 2019: **Capitol Contact ALERT** – [Legislation Affecting Valuation of Machinery and Tools Headed to House Floor; Calls Needed](#)

January 25, 2019: [Legislation Affecting Valuation of Machinery and Tools Advances from Subcommittee](#)

January 24, 2019: [VACo opposes stripping counties of authority to address impacts of massive solar projects](#)

ORDER NOW:
Virginia County
Supervisors' Manual
Eighth Edition 2019



Pre-orders are being taken now for the updated Virginia County Supervisors' Manual, Eighth Edition 2019. We hope to have them in by the late January/early February 2019 time frame.



ORDER FORM



VACo Rural Caucus Interest Form

VACo seeks county supervisors and executive staff for the VACo Rural Caucus.

Members of the Caucus will benefit from resources such as articles, podcasts, and program ideas, as well as from opportunities to meet with colleagues from around the Commonwealth.

Don't miss this chance to join with other rural community leaders in taking advantage of unique engagement and educational resources.

Join the Caucus by returning this completed form to
Angela Inglett at ainglett@vaco.org by January 31, 2019.

Please add my name as a member of the VACo Rural Caucus:

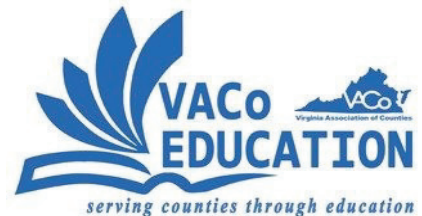
name: _____

title: _____

county: _____

address: _____

phone: _____ email: _____



2019 NACo Achievement Awards

Celebrating 49 Years of Innovation



What is the NACo Achievement Awards Program?

The Achievement Awards Program is a non-competitive awards program that seeks to recognize innovative county government programs. One outstanding program from each category will be selected as the “Best of Category.”

How to Apply

To begin the application process, [click here](#). In order to submit a 2019 Achievement Award, you must have NACo log-in information. If you do not have a NACo log-in, you may create one by clicking “Create an Account.”

Important Dates

Submissions Deadline: March 25, 2019 at 11:59 p.m. EDT

Notifications of Achievement Awards: Week of April 22, 2019

NACo Annual Conference and Exposition: July 11 – 15, 2019 | Clark County/Las Vegas, Nevada

[Click here to apply](#)

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@vacounty.org).



DELINQUENT COLLECTIONS SUPERVISOR | James City County | Posted February 18



ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, OPERATING BUDGET, PLANNING & POLICY | Loudoun County | Posted February 15



ZONING OFFICER | James City County | Posted February 15



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR | Isle of Wight County | Posted February 15



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR | Patrick County | Posted February 15



POLICE OFFICER | James City County | Posted February 15



COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER | Montgomery County | Posted February 15



SYSTEM/SOFTWARE ARCHITECT | Montgomery County | Posted February 14



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM COORDINATOR | Shenandoah County | Posted February 13



ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEYS | Rockingham County | Posted February 13



PARK MAINTENANCE | Frederick County | Posted February 12



LIFEGUARD/SWIM INSTRUCTOR | Frederick County | Posted February 12



LANDFILL TECHNICIAN | Frederick County | Posted February 12



ASSISTANT REGISTRAR | Frederick County | Posted February 12



DATA ENTRY CLERK | Frederick County | Posted February 12



FINANCE OFFICER | Camden County, NC | Posted February 12



DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF FINANCE | Albemarle County | Posted February 11



ASSESSOR | Gloucester County | Posted February 11



VICTIM WITNESS ADVOCATE | Gloucester County | Posted February 11



RECREATION AIDE | Gloucester County | Posted February 11



HISTORIC PROPERTIES & TOURISM MANAGER | Gloucester County | Posted February 11



UTILITIES ENGINEER | Chesterfield County | Posted February 11



SENIOR PLANNER | Orange County | Posted February 11



ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER | James City County | Posted February 8



CIVIL ENGINEER I/II/III | James City County | Posted February 8



ZONING ADMINISTRATOR | Northampton County | Posted February 8



FAMILY SERVICES SPECIALIST | Montgomery County | Posted February 8



PLANNER - DEVELOPMENT REVIEW | Hanover County | Posted February 7



DEPUTY SHERIFF | Montgomery County | Posted February 7



PROGRAM MANAGER | City of Winchester | Posted February 7



WASTEWATER COLLECTION APPRENTICE/SPECIALIST I/SPECIALIST II | James City County | Posted February 7



ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER PART-TIME | James City County | Posted February 6



DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT | Surry County | Posted February 6



NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR | Surry County | Posted February 5



PLANNER I | Surry County | Posted February 5



DEPUTY POLICE CHIEF | City of Hopewell | Posted February 5



PLAN REVIEW SERVICES DIVISION CHIEF | City of Alexandria | Posted February 5



TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT SPECIALIST II | Montgomery County | Posted February 4



REVENUE SPECIALIST | New Kent County | Posted February 4



PROGRAMMER/ANALYST | Stafford County | Posted February 4



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | Warren County | Posted February 4



PARK ATTENDANT | James City County | Posted February 1



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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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