COUNTY CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of the Virginia Association of Counties

Friday, February 5, 2021





For many years, several hundred local leaders would convene in Richmond for Local Government Day. These past meetings would feature a speech from the current Governor and legislative reports from VACo and VML staff. Then the local leaders would make the walk to the Capitol to advocate on behalf of localities. They would meet with their legislators, observe the General Assembly in session, and make it their day – Local Government Day at the Capitol.

But this year was different. This year the General Assembly was brought to homes and offices as more than 225 local leaders met virtually for the VACo/VML/VAPDC/Virginia Rural Center Local Government Day on January 28.

Governor Ralph Northam spoke first and outlined his legislative priorities and the state's efforts during the pandemic.

"One of the things that we've really committed to is to do the best we can communicating with localities," Northam said in his opening remarks. "These are very challenging times for Virginia, for this country, and the more that we can work together – and I would emphasize that as well, togetherness – is very important."

On the pandemic, Governor Northam said, "We want to make sure we take care of all Virginians during these challenging times. As you know, there have been businesses been lost, there have been jobs that are lost, people worried about roofs over their heads because of evictions, food insecurity is an issue. A lot of our legislative agenda will be taking care of these individuals and trying to recover the best we can from COVID-19."

The Governor also spoke about the state economy and it's overall good health.

"I did want to tell you that overall, our economy in Virginia, our revenue coming into the state is actually fairly good, surprisingly good to the point where Virginia is really an anomaly compared to other states," Northam said. "To give you an example, our revenue at the end of December was up about 10 percent from last December despite COVID. So we know there are a lot of businesses hurting, especially in the hospitality industry. But there are also businesses doing well."

Delegate Roslyn Tyler and Delegate Sally Hudson joined the conversation next. Delegate Tyler spoke about K-12 education and broadband legislation currently in the General Assembly. Delegate Hudson engaged in a comprehensive discussion on affordable housing with attendees.

The final segment featured Dr. Daniel Carey, MD, MHCM, Virginia Secretary of Health and Human Resources, and Dr. Danny Avula, MD, MPH, State COVID-19 Vaccine Coordinator, who gave a briefing on the vaccination efforts. Both doctors were gracious with their time and answered many questions from local leaders.

Though Local Government Day was not like it was in years past, the event still maintained its spirit of advocacy for localities. Thank you to all who participated.

Legislation to assist in Marcus Alert implementation moves forward

SB 1302 (McPike) would provide additional funding for the crisis call center that will support implementation of last year's Marcus Alert legislation and designate the call center as the 9-8-8 Crisis Hotline Center for purposes of participating in the national suicide prevention network. In July 2020, the Federal Communications Commission designated 988 as the new nationwide phone number to call to be connected with suicide prevention and mental health crisis counselors; this new number is planned to be effective July 2022 (the current hotline number is 1-800-273-TALK). The bill requires Virginia's crisis call center to provide crisis intervention and crisis care coordination 24/7 to individuals who call the 988 hotline, and generally requires the crisis call center to meet requirements and standards set out by the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Network. The bill requires the call center to collaborate with local community services boards on the ongoing care needs of individuals who contact the call center.

The bill would increase the current post-paid wireless E-911 surcharge from \$0.75 per month to \$0.94 and the pre-paid wireless E-911 fee from \$0.50 to \$0.63. Twelve cents of the increase to the post-paid wireless surcharge and eight cents of the increase to the pre-paid wireless charge would be used to support the crisis call center. The remainder would be deposited into the Wireless E-911 Fund and distributed to Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) by the 9-1-1 Services Board. Existing law requires 60 percent of this fund to be distributed via formula based on population and call load, and 40 percent to be distributed via grants. The bill adds language to the provisions dealing with grant funding to stipulate that the Board must give highest priority to grants that support the regional or multijurisdictional deployment and maintenance of Next-Generation 911 (NG-911), with secondary priority to be given to grants that support the deployment and sustainment of NG-911 in a single jurisdiction and in-building repeaters that improve public safety radio coverage within buildings.

The legislation also provides some additional requirements for the mobile crisis and community care teams that will be established as part of the Marcus Alert system, directing the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to ensure that teams are designed in partnership with community members and staffed by personnel who reflect the demographics of the community that they serve. Teams are required to collect customer service data from individuals served and to collaborate with local law-enforcement agencies in use of the crisis call center.

The bill has passed the Senate and has been referred to House Health, Welfare, and Institutions.

The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and the Department of Criminal Justice Services are working to develop the implementation plan for the Marcus Alert system that was directed by the 2020 special session legislation. A statewide stakeholder group has been convened (VACo is serving in an ex-officio capacity) to assist in the development of the plan, which is due July 1, 2021.

VACo Contact: Katie Boyle

In-Person and Virtual Learning Requirement Bill Graduates Senate



SB 1303 (Dunnavant) would require that each local school division in the Commonwealth make virtual and in-person learning available to all students by choice of the student's parent or guardian. This is meant to address the concerns of some parents that virtual or hybrid learning is not as effective as in-person instruction and also the concerns of some parents who would prefer virtual instruction for their children out of safety or other concerns. Currently, whether or not a school division continues to hold in-person, virtual, or hybrid learning is under the purview and authority of each local school board. As previously reported, the pandemic has caused issues such as student and staff safety, effectiveness of instruction, and equity to factor into these often difficult decisions. On January 14, the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) provided updated guidance on the reopening of school divisions. VDOE also maintains a map of school divisions which tracks the various stages of their reopening.

The bill originally contained an emergency clause that would have allowed the provisions of the bill to take immediate effect if enacted, however that would have also required approval by a four fifth's vote by the General Assembly. The emergency clause was stripped from the bill and after a lengthy discussion, the Senate passed the bill, 26-13. The legislation now faces consideration in the House.

VACo Contact: Jeremy R. Bennett





Congratulations to the LATEST NACo LEADERSHIP ACADEMY VIRGINIA GRADUATES

2 February 2021

57 Virginia County staff members have participated in the NACo Leadership Academy, a 12-week online program that empowers front-line county government employees with fundamental leadership skills. Across the country 3,175 county employees participated.

Virginia County staff to complete the 2020 August and September Cohorts are:

Daniel Justice

Application Specialist II Accomack County

James Lilliston

Treasurer Accomack County

Shawn Malone

Captain Accomack County

Holly Steele

County Planner Amelia County

Brian Thacker

Public Works Director Amherst County

Jeremy Bryant

Community Development Director Amherst County

Stacey Wilkes

Finance Director Amherst County

Ashton Harrison

County Administrator Bath County

Gary Underwood

IT Operations Head Bedford County

James Johnson

Fire and Rescue Director Charles City County

Mindy Bradby

Treasurer Charles City County

Harry French

Director, Information Technology Charles City County

Brandon Stidham

Director of Planning Clarke County

Elaine Johnson

Director Human Resources Gloucester County

Charles Gore

IT Security Manager Loudoun County

Rodney Newton

Town Manager Lunenburg County

Tracy Gee

County Administrator Lunenburg County

Tony Matthews

Town Manager Lunenburg County

Chuck Huntley

IT Director Mathews County

Kevin Gentry

Director of Information Technology Middlesex County

Andrew Crane

Information System Specialist Nelson County

Geri Hazelwood

Interim County Administrator Patrick County

William Early

Chief of Police Prince George County

Hope Mothershead

Director of Planning & Zoning Richmond County

Katie Bailey

Professional & Organizational Development Administrator Stafford County

Dean Lynch

Executive Director
Virginia Association of Counties

Congratulations to all of these individuals who completed the program. To learn more about the Academy, visit the NACo website here.





For additional information, read the Nomination Form PDF
Virginia Landmarks Register Listing - Date 04/19/1977
National Register of Historic Places Listing - Date 01/26/1978
NRHP Reference Number 78003047

During the late 18th century, German settlers were concentrated near the present town of Wytheville. In 1798, St. John's Church, recently organized, adopted a common "Order of Agreement" with three other Wythe County German congregations under the leadership of German Reformed minister Bernard Willy. In 1799, Lutheran minister George Daniel Flohr became the congregation's first pastor. Flohr's 1826 gravestone in St. John's cemetery was executed by Lawrence Krone, perhaps the most accomplished of the region's German stone carvers. The marker is one of some thirty early 19th-century German-style stones remaining here.

At the cemetery is the 1854 weatherboarded church, a massive, austere structure. Its heavy roof framing, now exposed, draws upon Continental framing systems practiced by German settlers in Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia. The church, the mother church of the Wytheville-area Lutherans, replaced the original building of ca. 1800.

SOURCE: Virginia Department of Historic Resources



Become a Certified Supervisor

The Virginia Association of Counties offers the Virginia Certified County Supervisors' Program: an opportunity for county supervisors to learn how to more effectively and efficiently lead in their communities.

Since its inception in 2005, more than 80 supervisors representing more than 40 counties have completed this training program, earning credentials as a certified county supervisor. Of greater importance, each supervisor has gained the insight, perspective, and confidence needed to address the challenges and opportunities of the local governance experience.

The Virginia Certified County Supervisors' Program features a five-course curriculum, designed to maximize engagement and enhance scholarship. Each course begins with a six-hour topically driven, classroom session, followed by seven weeks of relevant reading assignments and 90-minute virtual sessions to discuss situation-based exercises. The final component of each eight-week course is a concluding six-hour classroom session, which includes a review of the reading and assignment material.

VACo Contact: <u>Karie Walker</u>

<u>The Role of Purpose Driven Policy</u>: Deliberations & Decision Making

Registration Form | Register Online

Opening Session | March 12 Location Virtual Webex

> Closing Session | May 7 Location TBA

Registration Deadline | February 17

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

Registration Form | Register Online

Opening Session | May 28 Location TBA

Closing Session | August 6 Location TBA

Registration Deadline | May 10

Governance in the 21st Century:
The Role of Leadership

Registration Form | Register Online

Opening Session | September 10 Location TBA

Closing Session | October 29 Location TBA

Registration Deadline | August 13

Virginia Association of Counties Associate Member Business Cards

VACo's Associate Membership Program is the most efficient and cost-effective way to showcase your company to decision makers from Virginia's 95 counties. This access can play a major role in your marketing efforts, and it benefits counties by identifying potential suppliers in a broad range of services. See how these four VACo Associate Members can help your county.



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At **HydroGeo**, we know that all Virginia counties have underground problems you can't detect from the surface. We're talking big problems that could compromise your citizens' water supply and lead to enormous financial losses. HydroGeo Environmental uses earth science and technology to illuminate what's going on underground. We simplify and clarify seemingly complex problems, making sure everybody has a sustainable source of clean drinking water.

OUR AREAS OF EXPERTISE INCLUDE:



Groundwater supply development (hydrogeology)

We map the geology of an area to see if there's groundwater available for your project and help create a groundwater supply development plan, perfectly tailored to your site and project-specific needs. We run geophysical surveys which image the underground and find the best spots to drill for water. We also have the ability to set up a pumping test to meet the VDH Office of Drinking Water's public supply well permitting requirements.



LEAKY UNDERGROUND

Leaky underground storage tanks (USTs)

We help our clients access state funding to clean up leaks from petroleum USTs to protect everybody's property and well water. We are up-to-speed on DEQ regulations and routinely navigate through the Virginia Petroleum Storage Tank Fund claim process on behalf of our clients.



Environmental Consulting

We provide top-notch environmental consulting services for property acquisitions and development projects. We'll take the client all the way from the due diligence phase to mitigation, if needed.



Geophysical Imaging

We have an in-house arsenal of geophysical tools to image underground conditions for various applications including: soil and geologic mapping, groundwater prospecting, depth-to-rock studies, void detection, and several other applications.

Email team@HydroGeoEnvironmental.com if you need assistance solving an underground problem. We are here to help!





As demand and need grows for quality early education services for at-risk children, important opportunities exist for communities to access Mixed Delivery preschool for at-risk 3-and 4-year-old children. Mixed Delivery preschool provides public funding to serve young children in high-quality, private, community-based (non-school-based) preschool classrooms.

We are pleased to share details about the process for communities to express interest and intent to apply for the next round of VECF's Mixed Delivery Grants (MDG). Successful applicants will be eligible for annual contract renewals, based on successful performance. All interested applicants must complete a Letter of Intent (LOI) by March 15, 2021, at 5 pm through VECF's online grant system.

An informational webinar about the LOI and application process will be offered on **February 8 at 10 am** Register Here.

Please mark your calendars with the following important dates for MDG applications:

- February 1, 2021: Release request for LOIs
- February 8, 2021: MDG Opportunity Introduction Webinar—10 am Register Here
- February 11, 2021 March 10, 2021: One-on-One Technical Assistance Calls Available by Request
- February 22, 2021: LOI Technical Assistance Call—10 am Register Here
- March 8, 2021: LOI Technical Assistance Call—10 am Register Here
- March 15, 2021: LOIs due by 5 pm
- March 16, 2021 March 31, 2021: LOI Review
- April 1, 2021: RFP for Full Applications selected communities invited to submit full applications
- April 5, 2021 May 10, 2021: Weekly RFP Technical Assistance Call, Mondays at 10 am
- May 14, 2021: Full Applications due by 5 pm
- May 15, 2021 May 31, 2021: Application Review
- June 1, 2021: Awards Announced
- July 1, 2021: Grant Period Begins

Throughout the application period, VECF will post additional information and helpful resources for MDG on VECF's "Opportunities Ahead" webpage. It is important for interested communities to begin thoughtful consideration of this opportunity now.

For comments and questions, please send inquiries to <u>info@vecf.org</u>. Individual questions will not receive responses, but they will inform regularly updated FAQs.



Governor Northam recently announced \$29.6 million in VATI awards to 5 projects, connecting 11,743 Virginia homes and businesses. Congratulations to the winning projects and we look forward to seeing more of Virginia get connected. These awards are for the first round of the FY21 Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) and the list of winning projects are below.

Remaining VATI applications are still under consideration and may be eligible to re-scope if there is overlap with the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF). The re-scope deadline is February 8 and applicants can reach out to vati@dhcd.virginia.gov for questions or application assistance. The second round of awards are expected to be announced in the weeks after the February 8 deadline.

Round One FY2021 VATI grants

Botetourt County and Lumos \$1,364,337

Botetourt County, through a partnership with internet service provider Lumos, will extend its broadband network in the county. The project will bring broadband access to 548 serviceable units, including 30 businesses, through the construction of 59 miles of fiber-optic cable.

Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission and Point Broadband \$16,285,217

Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission will construct 1,312 miles of fiber through a partnership with Point Broadband. The project includes the counties of Buchanan, Dickenson, Russell, and Tazewell and will provide access to 8,335 serviceable units, including 82 businesses.

LENOWISCO Planning District Commission and Scott County Telephone Cooperative \$1 230 563

LENOWISCO Planning District Commission, in partnership with Scott County Telephone Cooperative, will construct 73 miles of fiber at gigabit speeds in Lee County, and provide access to 679 total serviceable units.

Mecklenburg County and EMPOWER Broadband \$449,381

Mecklenburg County will construct over 22 miles of fiber in partnership with EMPOWER Broadband. The project will connect 414 serviceable units to broadband at gigabit speeds, including 12 businesses.

Northern Neck Planning District Commission and All Points Broadband \$10,288,069.82

Northern Neck Planning District Commission, in partnership with All Points Broadband, will construct a regional network that will provide gigabit-capable, fiber-to-the-home broadband to unserved locations in the counties of King George, Northumberland, Richmond, and Westmoreland. The project will provide access to 1,767 total serviceable units, including 31 businesses.

February 17 Educational Webinar for County Officials on New Online Tool to Compare Revenue Options for Solar Projects



The Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME) in partnership with the Energy Transition Initiative (ETI) has developed a new online tool for local governments to compare the choice between applying the current Machinery and Tools (M&T) tax on utility-scale solar energy equipment versus the recently adopted option to apply an energy tax (aka Revenue Share) on the rated generating capacity of the installation. Specifically, a locality may choose to replace the M&T tax with a \$1,400 per Megawatt (MW) energy tax.

<u>The Virginia SolTax Model</u> is a web-based, computational tool that enables a locality to run customized, hypothetical scenarios to better understand the financial implications of adopting one solar tax model over another.

ETI and DMME will be hosting an educational webinar on the Virginia SolTax Model for local government staff and officials on Wednesday, February 17, 2021 from 8:30-10:00am EST. The event is free, but registration is required. To register, click HERE and then follow the link to register. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Marshall at emm2t@virginia.edu.

VACo Contact: Joe Lerch, AICP

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 2021 General Assembly session began last week as legislators deliberated on many issues of critical importance to local government, including the state budget, broadband, education funding, economic development, public safety, taxes and other policy matters.

VACo will continually provide updates during the session through <u>Capitol Contact</u>. VACo Members - To ensure that you are receiving Capitol Contact, please send <u>Gage Harter</u> your best email address.

JANUARY 2021

- January 12, 2021: Virginia General Assembly Convenes Tomorrow
- January 14, 2021: <u>Virginia General Assembly Convenes</u>
- January 19, 2021: Legislation and Budget Amendments Seek to Implement Recommendations of JLARC's CSA Report
- January 21, 2021: Budget Amendments Introduced to Support County Priorities
- January 26, 2021: Workers' compensation presumption legislation for EMS personnel amended, <u>COVID-19 presumption bills advance</u>
- January 28, 2021: VACo Local Government Day Bulletin
- January 29, 2021: Capitol Contact ALERT Oppose SB 1440: Erosion of Governmental Immunity for Law Enforcement

FEBRUARY 2021

- February 2, 2021: VACo Members Encourage Your House of Delegates Members to Pass Helpful Public Notice Bill
- **February 4, 2021: Capitol Contact ALERT** <u>Cigarette Taxing Authority Being Compromised: Call </u>Senators to Oppose
- February 4, 2021: Cigarette Taxing Authority Being Compromised: Call Senators to Oppose

CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE



If you are interest in being on the VACo 2021 Conference Planning Committee, please submit your interest to Valerie Russell at vrussell@vaco.org by February 19th.



TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENT

Substantial Damage Estimator Training with Crisis Track

Co-hosted by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management and the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation

Following a flood event there are two distinct processes that happen to assess damage. One is to assess the level of damage to a residential or commercial structure to be affected, minor, major, or destroyed for the purpose of seeking a presidential disaster declaration which turns on federal grants and resources. The other process known as the substantial damage estimation process, has to do with the local government's requirement to determine if damages of a structure within the FEMA mapped floodplain met or exceeded 50% of the fair market value of the structure. This 50% threshold determines whether or not the property owner will be required by the local government to bring the structure up to all current codes, which includes floodplain compliance. There will also be discussion on implications of this requirement with regard to equity in recovery and mitigation.

Crisis Track is a web-based tool that VDEM has purchased for local use statewide that provides a solution for both assessments and has an interface with FEMA's substantial damage estimator tool. This is a resource to make both processes more streamline and to reduce the administrative burden of assessing damages.

Course Length: 90 Minutes

Target Audience: Local Floodplain Managers, Emergency Managers, Planning/Permitting Officers, and Building Officials

Registration Instructions: Registration will be done electronically via the Commonwealth of Virginia Learning Center at: https://covlc.virginia.gov.

Please register for your region as indicated below, no later than the day before the class. If you need help or have questions, please contact the Help Desk at: <u>LMSHelp@vdem.virginia.gov</u>.

Region 1: February 24, 2021, 2-3:30pm

Region 2: February 25, 2021, 2-2:30pm

Region 3: February 23, 2021, 1:30-3pm **Region 4:** February 23, 2021, 10-11:30am

Region 5: February 17, 2021, 2-3:30pm

Region 6: February 24, 2021, 10-11:30am

Region 7: March 2, 2021, 2-3:30pm

VDEM Regional Maps can be found at https://www.vaemergency.gov/agency/regions.



VML/VACo Finance is the financial services arm of the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) and Virginia Municipal League (VML). We provide high quality financial services at low cost, a goal achieved through cost-sharing. We offer services in the following areas: Financing & Municipal Advisory, Investments, and Accounting. Our investment programs comprise the VACo/VML Pooled OPEB Trust and the Virginia Investment Pool.

Financing & Municipal Advisory: Since 2003, VML/VACo Finance has assisted Virginia local governments and authorities in financing more than \$1 billion in capital projects and equipment. As an MSRB-registered Municipal Advisor, we help you select the lowest-cost source of financing best suited for your unique requirements. We assist local officials with municipal bonds, bank loans, state loan programs, equipment leasing, and two low-cost programs, exclusive to VML/VACo Finance, with no program closing costs. Additional Municipal Advisory services include preparing a credit benchmark and debt capacity analysis, developing a plan of finance, and developing financial policies tailored to meet your needs.

<u>VACo/VML Pooled OPEB Trust:</u> The VACo/VML Pooled OPEB Trust Fund is the largest OPEB investment pool in the U.S. With more than \$1.3 billion in assets, we're the #1 choice of Virginia localities and authorities looking to invest in a professionally-managed, high earning trust to offset liabilities related to post-employment benefits other than pension (OPEB). The Pooled OPEB Trust offers two investment portfolios with unique target rates of return to accommodate participants with different return objectives and risk tolerances. We also provide actuarial studies prepared by Milliman at discounted fee levels to calculate your OPEB liabilities.

Virginia Investment Pool: The Virginia Investment Pool (VIP) was established to provide political subdivisions of the Commonwealth of Virginia an investment vehicle to pool their funds and to invest under the direction and daily supervision of a professional fund manager. VIP was developed in 2013 by local Treasurers and investment officers through the sponsorship of VACo and VML. VIP consists of two portfolios: the VIP Stable NAV Liquidity Pool and the VIP 1-3 Year High Quality Bond Fund. The VIP Stable NAV Liquidity Pool is rated AAAm by Standard & Poor's (S&P) and offers a stable net asset value, daily liquidity and a competitive yield. The VIP 1-3 Year High Quality Bond Fund is rated AA+f/S1 by S&P and is designed for funds that can be invested generally for one year or longer. An online interface enables participants to connect their VIP accounts to external bank accounts for convenient access.

Accounting Services: VML/VACo Finance provides quality, affordable, accounting services to Virginia localities and authorities. By serving many local government entities, we are able to bring to you the services of top accounting professionals for less cost than hiring additional staff or outside contractors. We are a cost-efficient way to supplement your staff at year-end or year-round.

All of our programs are designed to benefit a wide range of localities, including counties of all sizes and credit strengths. For more information, contact Steve Mulroy at 804.648.0635 or info@valocalfinance.org. Visit our Web site at www.valocalfinance.org.

CONDUENT



VACo discusses how Conduent Transportation has helped and supported localities with their transportation needs.



Advancing the transportation landscape

Conduent Transportation has been helping transform the way the world travels for more than 50 years. We've built a rich tradition of partnership and collaboration by customizing and delivering the industry's most innovative technology to customers around the globe.

Our Commitment

While a lot has changed at Conduent Transportation over the years — new brands, new leadership, new ways to adapt to the ever-changing needs of the market and its end-users — one thing has always remained the same: our commitment to our customers.

To make good on that commitment, we're redefining our voice in this industry and revitalizing our efforts to design the cutting-edge technology needed to keep up with a rapidly evolving future to better help you and your constituents. More than ever, we're transforming to take our partnerships to a new level.

Our Mission

We deliver mission-critical photo enforcement, violations processing, and data analytic solutions that reduce and prevent dangerous motorist behavior, improve automation, and provide data to support critical decision-making to streamline operations and encourage change in driver behavior while creating safer communities.

CONTACT

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PREMIER PARTNERS

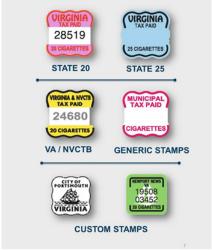
Protect Tax Revenue with SICPA Excise Tax Stamps

For nearly 100 years, SICPA has been a global leader in the security, traceability, and management of regulated products.

Today, <u>SICPA-Meyercord Revenue</u> provides secure tax stamps to 44 states and more than 160 local jurisdictions, including the current tax stamps used by:

- Virginia Department of Taxation
- The Northern Virginia Cigarette Tax Board (NVCTB)
- 100+ Virginia municipal entities

SICPA Product Security LLC is proud to maintain its U.S. headquarters in Springfield, Virginia. As a Commonwealth-based entity, SICPA works closely with the Department of Taxation, the Virginia Wholesale Distributors Association and local jurisdictions to ensure tax stamps are fully compliant with Code of Virginia Section § 58.1-3832.



Sample SICPA-Meyercord tax stamps

We know how important tax revenue is to county budgets. SICPA-Meyercord is excited to join the Virginia Association of Counties as a Premier Partner and we look forward to working alongside you to implement robust tax stamping systems that meet the unique needs of the Commonwealth's counties.

Please contact Alex Spelman at <u>alex.spelman@sicpa.com</u> or 571.492.1308 for more information.

SICPA will present an educational webinar in early February that will explain how the tax stamp process works in localities and regional bodies.





VACORP

Virginia Association of Counties Group Self-Insurance Risk Pool (VACORP) is the number one coverage provider of property, liability, and workers' compensation coverages and related risk management services for counties, county-related agencies, and school divisions in Virginia.

VACORP is a member-owned program governed by a seven member supervisory board, which is elected from the general membership of the Pool. The primary objective is to provide equitable rates allowing for stable pricing for long-term budgeting purposes. Public entities and school divisions throughout Virginia count on VACORP for their coverage and risk management needs.

Contact **Chris Carey**, Administrator, <u>CCarey@riskprograms.com</u>, for additional information.

1819 Electric Road, Suite C Roanoke, VA 24018 www.vacorp.org



Nationwide

Nationwide Retirement Solutions is a pioneer in the industry as it played a vital role in the creation of IRC Section 457 three decades ago, and today is considered a market leader in providing public sector deferred compensation services. In addition, they are celebrating their 25th year of partnership with the National Association of Counties (NACo). Known in the industry as The Education Company, Nationwide specializes in educating employees on retirement and the benefits of deferred compensation. The focus on education extends to the plan sponsor as they offer a comprehensive education program that includes quarterly legislative updates, a legal staff dedicated to assisting public sector entities, and a plan sponsor handbook defining the responsibilities of a fiduciary.

Plan Highlights

- Unique retirement education
- Broad range of investment options from numerous investment managers
- Professionally managed asset allocation funds available for various investor types
- Competitive fixed interest rate
- Award-winning Web site with retirement planning tools at www.nrsforu.com
- Morningstar ClearFuture® investment guidance and education tool
- Access to more than 50 NASD Series 6 and 63, Life, Health and Variable Annuity licensed "Reps-on Call" via toll-free phone lines during extended business hours (8 a.m. 9 p.m.)
- Retirement planning specialists available to assist in developing distribution strategies
- Local retirement specialists who are Registered Representatives of Nationwide Investment Services Corporation, member NASD.

Please contact Debbie Turner at 704.258.5084 or at <u>turned11@nationwide.com</u>, if you have any questions. The unregistered group variable annuity (TSP-556) and group fixed annuity (TSP-557) are issued by Nationwide Life Insurance Company, Columbus, Ohio.



Avaya is a global leader in digital communications software, services and devices for businesses of all sizes. We enable the mission critical, real-time communication applications of the world's most important operations.

Our open, intelligent and customizable solutions for contact centers and unified communications offer the flexibility of Cloud, on-premises and hybrid deployments. Our professional planning, support and management services teams help optimize solutions, for highly reliable and efficient deployments.

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PARTNERS

OMNIA Partners, Public Sector is the nation's largest and most experienced cooperative purchasing organization dedicated to public sector procurement. Our immense purchasing power and world-class suppliers have produced a comprehensive portfolio of cooperative contracts and partnerships, making OMNIA Partners the most valued and trusted resource for organizations nationwide.

Through the economies of scale created by OMNIA Partners, our participants now have access to an extensive portfolio of competitively solicited and publicly awarded agreements. The lead agency contracting process continues to be the foundation on which we are founded. OMNIA Partners is proud to offer more value and resources to state and local government, higher education, K-12 education and non-profits.

For more information, visit omniapartners.com/publicsector.

LATEST NEWS

New Cooperative Contracts Available

OMNIA Partners is excited to announce these new competitively-solicited contracts providing access to even more powerful opportunities to better manage your spend and resources. Take advantage of these contracts or contact your Regional Manager for more information. READ MORE

New Cooperative Contract Available

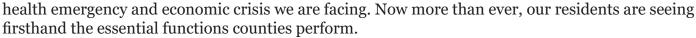
Mythics New Award Announcement – Region 4 Education Service Center has enjoyed a long-standing relationship with Mythics since their initial award in 2015. Through the years, Mythics has proven to be the best partner for Oracle products and services which is why they were selected as the sole provider in a competitive solicitation process completed by Region 4 ESC. OMNIA Partners is proud to offer this newly enhanced program and provide even more value-added services to participants nationwide! READ MORE



Celebrate National County Government Month this April

Join the National Association of Counties (NACo) in celebrating National County Government Month (NCGM). Held each April, NCGM is an annual celebration of county government and an excellent opportunity for counties, parishes and boroughs to highlight effective county programs and raise public awareness about services provided to the community.







This April, we have an opportunity to reinforce the message that counties provide indispensable services and help our communities stay healthy, safe and vibrant.

NCGM TOOLKIT



Celebrate Your County's Most Innovative Programs 2021 NACo Achievement Awards

Applications are now open for the National Association of Counties (NACo) 2021 Achievement Awards. Please join us in celebrating 51 years of county innovation by applying today.

Since 1970, the NACo Achievement Awards have recognized outstanding county government programs and services. Through a non-competitive application process, noteworthy programs receive awards in 18 categories that cover a vast range of county responsibilities. By participating, your county can earn national recognition.

NACo will highlight the 18 "best of category" winners, as well as feature all winners in NACo materials and online. We also provide a customizable press release for you to share the good news with the media and residents.

We encourage all counties, parishes and boroughs to apply.

EARLY BIRD APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 8, 2021 (save \$25 off the application fee)

REGULAR APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 31, 2021

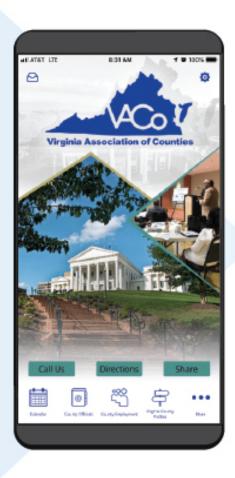
For more information, please review the Achievement Awards online brochure, or email awards@naco.org with any questions.

APPLY TODAY

DOWNLOAD our new app







The Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) mobile application is a valuable tool for County officials and staff to better serve their communities. With the VACo mobile app, users can easily stay informed about issues important to Counties with many features, including:

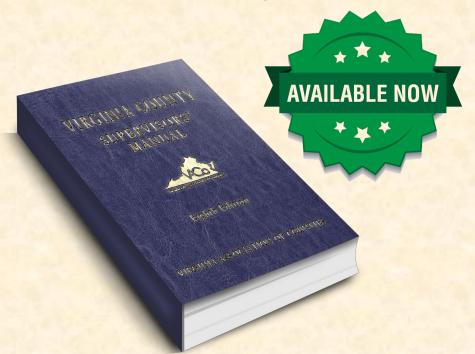
- * VACo Events Registration and Info
- * VACo Member Directory
- * Legislative News and Alerts | Capitol Contact
- * VACo Chat
- * County Pulse Podcast
- * Employment Opportunities

Downloading the app is easy...

- Scan the QR Code or search "Virginia Assn of Counties" from the iTunes or Google Play Store
- Opt-in for VACo Push Notifications to receive important VACo alerts
- For access to the most features, request an account with your email and a password
- Once your account is approved, members will have access to all the features.

VIRGINIA COUNTY SUPERVISORS' MANUAL

EIGHTH EDITION, 2019



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Virginia County Supervisors' Manual 8th Edition - NEW FOR 2019





The Eighth Edition (2019) of VACo's *Virginia County Supervisors' Manual*, is now in stock. The Supervisors' Manual is the number one resource on the framework of county government and the responsibilities of the county board.

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Or FAX credit card purchases to 804.788.0083

Questions? Call 804.788.6652.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

County Connections | Page 27

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.



POLICE CHIEF | City

of Portsmouth | Posted February 2



TAX TECHNICIAN I

| **Montgomery County** | Posted February 2



MANAGER OF FACILITIES

MAINTENANCE | Stafford County | Posted February 2



ASSISTANT MANAGER

-3R PUBLIC WORKS | **Stafford County** | Posted February 2



RECREATION

COORDINATOR | **Carroll County** | Posted February 1

Chesapeake
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
OF FINANCE FOR DEBT & STRATEGIC
PLANNING | City of Chesapeake
| Posted February 1



DETENTION
SUPERINTENDENT | City of
Lynchburg | Posted January 28



ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

| **City of Harrisonburg** | Posted January 28



INFORMATION SECURITY
OFFICER | City of Fredericksburg

Posted January 28



ECONOMIC

DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT (PT)

Montgomery County | Posted January 27



IT SUPPORT TECHNICIAN

| **City of Fredericksburg** | Posted January 27



PERMIT TECHNICIAN |

Albemarle County | Posted January 27



MAINTENANCE WORKER

PSA | Montgomery County | Posted January 26



6 bakertilly <u>CHIEF</u>

FINANCIAL OFFICER | Stafford County

| Posted January 26



6 bakertilly

CENTRAL PROCUREMENT DIVISION
DIRECTOR | Stafford County | Posted January 26

New Kent

SENIOR TECHNOLOGY
SUPPORT SPECIALIST | New Kent

County | Posted January 26



CODE COMPLIANCE

OFICER I | Albemarle County | Posted January 25



COMMUNICATION

SPECIALIST | **Albemarle County** | Posted January 22



RENTAL ASSISTANCE

COORDINATOR | **Albemarle County** | Posted January 22



DEPUTY TREASURER I

Gloucester County | Posted January 22





TOWN

MANAGER | Town of Rocky Mount | Posted January 20



ENVIRONMENTAL

PLANNER | **Berkley Group** | Posted January 20

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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PLANNER

| Sussex County Berkley Group | Posted January 20



OFFICE TECHNICIAN – SCREENER | Montgomery County

| Posted January 20



REAL ESTATE

DEVELOPMENT MANAGER | **Chesterfield County** | Posted January 18



ENVIRONMENTAL

SPECIALIST | **Amelia County** | Posted January 15



DEPUTY

ADMINISTRATOR - ED/HR | Amelia **County** | Posted January 15



COMMUNICATION

OFFICER | NRV Emergency **Communications Regional Authority** | Posted January 15



DEPUTY

DIRECTOR OF UTILITIES, FISCAL ADMINISTRATION & CUSTOMER RELATIONS | Town of Leesburg | Posted January 15



POLICE CHIEF | City of

Hampton | Posted; January 15



OFFICE ASSOCIATE III

DSS | New Kent County | Posted January 15



COMMUNITY

DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR Accomack-Northampton PDC | Posted Ianuary 14



REGIONAL PLANNER |

Accomack-Northampton PDC | Posted January 14



PORTSMOUTH CITY ATTORNEY | City

of Portsmouth | Posted January 14



Winchester

| Administration | Jugenita | PARKS & RECREATION |

DIRECTOR BROCHURE | City of Winchester | Posted January 14



A-V SPECIALIST

(TEMPORARY) | Albemarle County | Posted January 14



FINANCIAL SERVICES

DIVISION CHIEF | Fauquier County | Posted January 14



UTILITY PROIECT

ENGINEER | Prince George County

| Posted January 13



ACCOUNTING MANAGER |

Madison County | Posted January 13



VICTIM WITNESS

DIRECTOR | Westmoreland County

| Posted January 13



PT CUSTODIAN |

Westmoreland County | Posted January 13



DIRECTOR OF

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY | City of Colonial Heights | Posted January 12



TOWN MANAGER | Town

of Buchanan | Posted January 11



ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Apply | King William County | Posted January 11



ENVIRONMENTAL

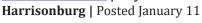
COMPLIANCE/ZONING OFFICER Apply | King William County | Posted





911 EMERGENCY

COMMUNICATOR | City of





PLANNING DIRECTOR |

VALUE OF VACo



ADVOCACY

VACo's lobbying efforts have helped stem the tide of unfunded mandates and have saved Counties millions of dollars every year.



EDUCATION

Our educational programs offer County leaders and staff opportunities to become more effective in their communities.



MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

Some of VACo's best moments are when members convene and work to improve communities all over the Commonwealth.



BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Our business development opportunities offer savings and innovative approaches to delivering services at the County level.

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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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