

Meg Bohmke Elected VACo President for 2021-2022



RICHMOND (November 16, 2021)— The membership of the Virginia Association of Counties elected Stafford County Supervisor Meg Bohmke as 2021-2022 President during VACo's 87th Annual Conference, which was held in Norfolk. Bohmke and other newly elected officers started their terms at VACo's Annual Business Meeting on November 16.

Bohmke succeeds Fairfax County Chairman Jeffrey C. McKay, and becomes the second President from Stafford County since 1935. Stafford County Supervisor Ferris M. Belman, Sr., led the association in 1999-2000.

"I'm honored to be elected by my colleagues to serve as President of VACo," Bohmke said. "I cannot wait to get started in advocating for our localities, and I look forward to continuing to work with leaders across the Commonwealth to improve our communities."

Bohmke was first elected to the Stafford County Board of Supervisors in November 2013 to represent the Falmouth District. She was elected Chairman by her fellow Board members for 2018 and again for 2020.

Bohmke previously served on the Stafford County School Board for four years starting in November of 2009. She and her family have lived in the Falmouth District for 16 years. Bohmke worked in public finance for 13 years, most recently for Prudential Bache Securities and Sutro & Company, where she structured short- and long-term municipal bond issues that were sold in the capital markets.

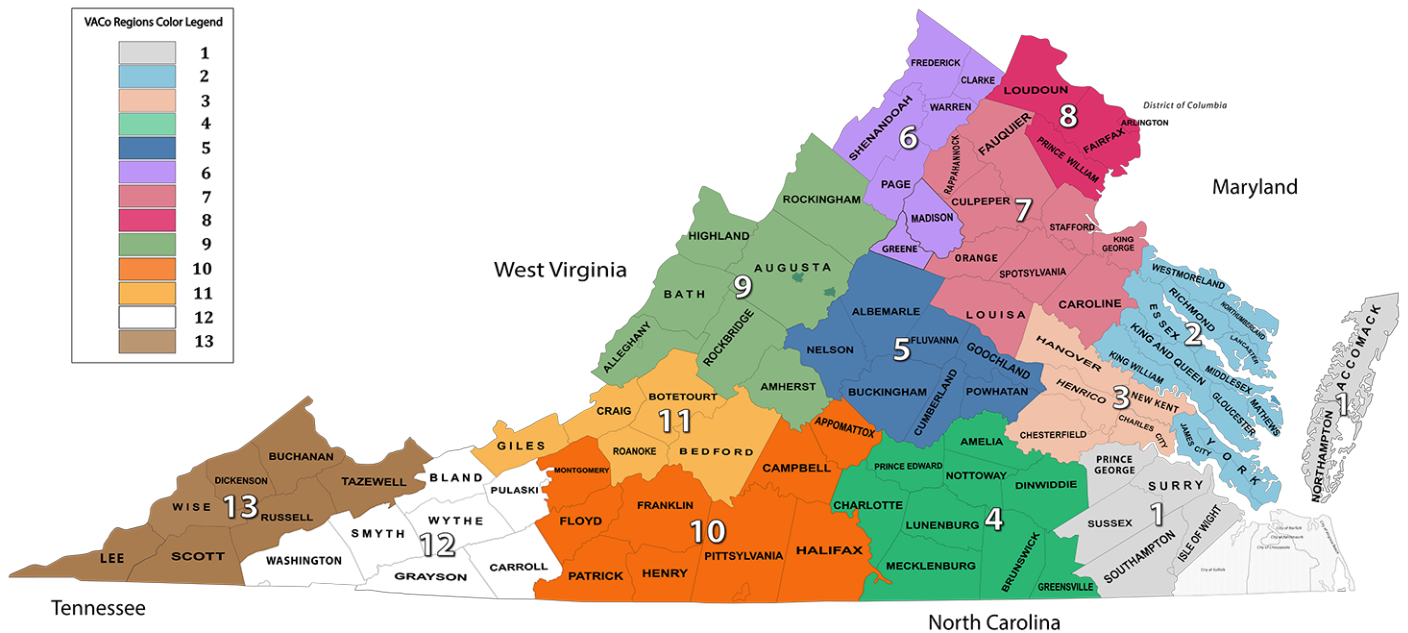
"Meg is a thoughtful leader who brings civility and respect to county governments," VACo Executive Director Dean Lynch said. "Meg's background in education, finance and other legislative issues will serve our association well. We are excited to have her as our next President."

Bohmke received her Bachelor of Science degree from Florida State University in 1981. She is a past elder in the Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church where she currently teaches Sunday School. Bohmke and her husband Dave have three children, Matt, Greg, and Natalie.

"I'm excited for this opportunity to serve localities and to work with my VACo colleagues," Bohmke said. "There is so much we have accomplished and can accomplish together. I know VACo well, and can confidently express that we are well-represented at the local level with outstanding leaders."

[READ THE ENTIRE PRESS RELEASE HERE](#)

Virginia Association of Counties Regions



Revised 3/15/17

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Share your thoughts to the VACo Region Reapportionment Committee

VACo's reapportionment committee has been formed under the leadership of Chair Steve Bowen and Vice Chair Penny Gross and is in the process of collecting information to assist in the reapportionment process. The committee seeks your input on regional representation on the VACo Board of Directors.

Please share your thoughts by [clicking on this link](#) and filling out the form.

VACo Recognizes Graduates of the Virginia Certified County Supervisors' Program

RICHMOND (November 16, 2021)—The Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) recognized the 16th graduating class of the Virginia Certified County Supervisors' Program during VACo's 87th Annual Conference.

The Virginia Certified County Supervisors' Program provides training to enhance the leadership and decision-making skills of county supervisors in the Commonwealth.

The 18 graduates of the 18-month certification program are:

- **Belinda D. Astrop** | Greensville County
- **Leslie E. Ayers** | Rockbridge County | [Photo](#)
- **Juli E. Briskman** | Loudoun County
- **James R. Brown** | Greensville County
- **William B. Cain** | Greensville County
- **Pam L. Carter** | Augusta County
- **Tony M. Conwell** | Greensville County
- **Cheryl L. Cullers** | Warren County | [Photo](#)
- **Clyde M. DeLoach** | Patrick County
- **Debbie P. Donehey** | Rappahannock County
- **Joseph H. Easter** | Amelia County
- **Mickey Johnson** | Bedford County | [Photo](#)
- **Ruth M. Larson** | James City County
- **Dr. Melissa Mason** | Mathews County | [Photo](#)
- **Delores R. Oates** | Warren County | [Photo](#)
- **Roger A. Scott** | Amelia County
- **Karie A. Walker** | Virginia Association of Counties
- **Keir A. Whitson** | Rappahannock County



The Virginia Certified County Supervisors' Program was created to provide VACo members with an opportunity to learn how to lead their communities more effectively.

“Congratulations to our newest graduates for completing one of VACo’s premier educational programs,” VACo Executive Director Dean Lynch said. “The Class of 2021 is the biggest we’ve had since the program’s first class in 2006. This shows me that this master’s degree level program is thriving and making an impact on Supervisors all across the Commonwealth. We’re honored to have the graduates of the Class of 2021 join their peers as a Certified Supervisor.”

The Virginia Certified County Supervisors' Program provides an overview of the issues, expectations, and practices associated with serving as a county supervisor as well as detailed information about local government. The program consists of five core courses that span 65 hours of classroom instruction and 35 hours of home study. The program focuses on leadership development, duties and responsibilities of public officials, community planning, local government finance, and collaborative governance.

For more information about the County Supervisor Certification Program, contact Karie Walker at kwalker@vaco.org or 804.343.2504.

[READ THE ENTIRE PRESS RELEASE HERE](#)



WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AGAIN SOON

Thank you for participating in the 87th Annual Conference. Below is a link to the recap webpage that includes session videos, recordings, and presentations.

[VACo 87th Annual Conference Recap Webpage](#)

Also, please take a moment to share your thoughts on your experience at the Annual Conference.

[VACo 87th Annual Conference Evaluation Form](#)

Please let us know if you have any questions by contacting Valerie Russell at vrussell@vaco.org. We have a busy 2022 schedule planned so be on the look out for more information.

Take care and thank you again for all you do for Virginia's counties.



Visit Charlotte County and the Charlotte State Forest

CHARLOTTE COUNTY—Governor Ralph Northam recently announced the dedication of the Charlotte State Forest, opening the first publicly-accessible state land in Charlotte County. The 5,004 acre state forest is Virginia's 26th state forest in the Commonwealth. The Virginia Department of Forestry will sustainably manage the forest under Sustainable Forestry Initiative and American Tree Farm Standards, conserving key habitat areas and providing new public access to outdoor recreation activities.

"Virginia's state forests are critical to preserving environmental sustainability and a strong economy across the Commonwealth," said Governor Northam. "Charlotte State Forest will conserve wildlife habitats, enhance water quality, provide recreational opportunities for the public and support local economies. We look forward to enjoying this new outdoor asset."

The forest was owned by Governor Thomas B. Stanley, who served from 1954 to 1958, and the Stanley Land and Lumber Corporation prior to The Conservation Fund's purchase in 2019. It was used to provide shortleaf and Virginia pine, as well as white oak and hickory, to local mills for furniture.

Virginia's forests contribute \$21 billion annually to the economy and employ more than 108,000 workers. Charlotte County is located within the state's highest timber producing region. The river, stream and wetland resources on these forests drain into Kerr Lake, which provides drinking water to nearly 500,000 residents in Virginia and North Carolina.

"As Virginia's third largest industry, forestry plays an essential role in Virginia's economy," said Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry Bettina Ring. "Close collaboration between the Virginia Department of Forestry, The Conservation Fund, the Stanley family, and other public and private partners made this important acquisition possible and will ensure that it is sustainably managed for current and future generations."

"This property is a very special place. Its legacy of sustainable management for both timber and wildlife habitat, combined with its important water resources have made it an important location here in Charlotte County," said State Forester Rob Farrell. "Today we celebrate the future of Charlotte State Forest, its continued sustainability, its contribution to Virginia's economy, and its importance to the many individuals and families who will have the opportunity to enjoy recreational activities here."

"Ensuring the integrity of large forested landscapes and keeping them in sustainable management is one of the most important conservation strategies today," said The Conservation Fund Virginia State Director Heather Richards. "By continuing the legacy of three generations of the Stanley family and the Stanley Land and Lumber Corporation and creating Virginia's newest State Forest, we are safeguarding the forest's ability to provide vital climate, economic and ecological benefits for generations to come. We are grateful to our partners in the Commonwealth and the U.S. Forest Service, support from Virginia's U.S. Congressional delegation, and funding from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Richard King Mellon Foundation. Together, we made this wonderful outcome possible."

To acquire the forestland from The Conservation Fund, the Virginia Department of Forestry leveraged federal, state and private funding through the USDA Forest Legacy Program, the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, agency mitigation funds, and additional Land and Water Conservation Fund Stateside grant funding.

"The United States Forest Service is pleased to support and partner with the Virginia Department of Forestry to protect this important and historic working forest that will provide wildlife habitat, abundant recreational opportunities, and timber resources through ongoing sustainable management," said Southern Regional Forester Ken Arney. "Forest Legacy projects can take several years to accomplish and require a high degree of commitment from partners and landowners. We applaud the amount of work that went into making this happen."

SAVE THE DATES!

**VACo/VML/VAPDC
Local Government Day
Thursday, February 3, 2022**

**VACo Chairpersons'
Institute
Friday, February 4, 2022 and
Saturday, February 5, 2022**

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Matt Eisman

State & Local Government
Account Executive
matt.eisman@ringcentral.com
(202) 499-2096



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For Immediate Release
November 19, 2021



VAcrop Releases Newly Designed Website and Logo

Contact: Stephanie Heintzleman, Member Services Director
540-986-2706

Over the past few months, VAcrop has been working to develop and launch a refreshed brand platform and website, www.vacorp.org, ahead of the November 2021 VACo Conference.

VAcrop has established itself as an industry innovator, and its fresh, new website and logo better reflect its forward-thinking approach to risk management. While the look has been updated, the daily operations and responsive staff remain unchanged. Members can expect the same consistent level of excellence in service that VAcrop has provided since its inception in 1993.

The updated website further illustrates VAcrop's unwavering commitment to its founding principles. Packed with useful information and easier than ever to navigate; the newly released version also introduces a new "schedule viewer" tool in the secure member portal which allows members to view covered property, vehicles, and equipment, as well as payroll information applicable to workers' compensation coverage. This complements other longstanding website features such as the "claim viewer" and "report generator" tools that empower members to view claim information and create loss runs without ever having to pick up the phone.

VAcrop was founded upon several fundamental principles:

- Providing the most comprehensive coverage possible tailored specifically to the public sector member entities
- Simplifying the process of safeguarding organizations holistically through specialized coverages and risk management services
- Remaining agile and proactive in protecting its member base through innovation
- Maintaining price stability and transparency

Today, VAcrop is the largest group self-insurance pool of its kind in Virginia with more members and more covered exposures than any other. Its continued success is a testament to the value it brings to hundreds of members across the Commonwealth. This updated website will be yet another valuable resource to help members address their risk management needs in the new year and beyond!

#

“Money Committees” Hold Annual Retreats



The “money committees” held their annual pre-session retreats last week, with the House Appropriations and House Finance Committees meeting in Richmond on November 16 and 17 and the Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee gathering in Roanoke on November 18 and 19. These meetings traditionally offer an overview of state and national economic conditions and staff’s revenue projections, as well as a preview of major budget pressures and key funding issues that will be considered during the upcoming legislative session. Common themes of the two retreats were the significant additional resources expected in the current fiscal year and over the biennium relative to the budget adopted in spring 2021, paired with notes of caution, as revenues are expected to return to more typical levels of growth in future years, and uncertainty remains regarding the future course of the coronavirus and macroeconomic forces such as labor shortages, supply chain disruptions, and inflation.

House Appropriations

In addition to the [staff presentation outlining revenue projections and key budget drivers for the upcoming session](#), the House Appropriations Committee and House Finance Committee heard [a presentation from the National Conference of State Legislatures](#) on revenue trends among states and use of federal relief funds; a [staff briefing on progress in meeting Chesapeake Bay water quality requirements](#); and [an update on several studies regarding compensation among state employees \(in particular the Virginia State Police and the Department of Corrections workforce\) and sheriffs’ deputies](#). Committee members also received a [presentation on a proposed National Slavery Museum in Richmond](#).

Given continued strong growth in state General Fund revenues, House Appropriations Committee staff are projecting 5.2 percent revenue growth in FY 2022, a significant upward revision to the current forecast of an 8 percent decline. However, staff cautioned that recent revenue growth is “atypical,” noting that growth since 2001 has averaged 4.2 percent, and reminding Committee members of the traditional volatility of nonwithholding collections, which represented nearly half of the FY 2021 surplus. Staff project General Fund revenue growth of 3.9 percent in FY 2023 and 3.6 percent in FY 2024 (these growth rates would be adding to the larger FY 2022 base, representing a projected increase of \$9.6 billion in available resources over the biennium above levels in the 2021 Appropriation Act). In addition to the significant expected increase in General Fund revenues, the state also retains \$1.1 billion in Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds from its American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) allocation.

Although Staff Director Anne Oman pointed out that the General Assembly could theoretically fund all requests submitted by state agencies for the biennium (packages totaling \$2.1 billion in FY 2023 and \$2.5 billion in FY 2024), there are also \$2.7 billion in expected cost increases over the biennium for current programs. These required or high-priority items include rebenchmarking of the Standards of Quality; inmate medical costs in the Department of Corrections; aid to localities with police departments (which is required to increase along with General Fund revenue growth); the Medicaid forecast; continued implementation of crisis services and the Marcus Alert initiative as well as STEP-VA; implementation of changes to federal funding for foster care; and costs of supply chain disruptions for state procurement, among other items.

Staff strongly encouraged members to dedicate one-time revenues to one-time spending items, providing a menu of such potential uses, including paying down unfunded liabilities in the Virginia Retirement System state employee and teacher plans; addressing capital outlay needs; eliminating the requirement for certain retailers to make an accelerated payment of sales and use taxes in June each year; providing a taxpayer relief payment; recapitalizing the Literary Fund; setting aside a deposit for the Major Headquarters Workforce Grant (which is anticipated to be required in 2028); supplementing programs such as the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative and the Housing Trust Fund; and funding the development of business-ready sites or industrial site revitalization.

Other possible funding priorities identified by staff include the Board of Education's revisions to the Standards of Quality (which total \$812.7 million over the biennium), additional funding for workforce credentialing or community college access, compensation for public safety and mental health staff, additional Medicaid waiver slots, and tax reform.

One aspect of the biennium budget that will likely draw particular interest is K-12 rebenchmarking, traditionally a technical process that updates the components of the school funding formula. Preliminary figures for 2022-2024 rebenchmarking (currently estimated at \$233 million for the biennium, pending additional data updates to be included in the Governor's budget in December) indicate a significantly smaller cost than in previous biennia, in part due to the use of FY 2020 data for certain cost elements that were affected by pandemic-related school closures and may not be reflective of costs moving forward, notably pupil transportation, substitute teachers, and utilities. Staff suggested that legislators may instead wish to use FY 2019 data with an inflation adjustment as a base year in order to provide a more accurate reflection of costs for the upcoming biennium. The preliminary rebenchmarking estimate does include FY 2022 "no-loss" funding for enrollment as a placeholder, noting that post-pandemic enrollment is difficult to project. The preliminary estimate also reflects savings in VRS employer contribution rates for the teacher plan, as the plan benefitted from strong stock market gains, as well as an infusion of \$61.3 million in FY 2021. In addition to possible use of more representative data, staff's list of policy considerations for members includes continuing to use current VRS rates (rather than factoring in the savings associated with lower rates) in order to reduce the unfunded liabilities, as well as a reminder that federal pandemic relief funding includes a maintenance of effort requirement for state K-12 spending.

Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee

Members received [a presentation on the state and national economic outlook from Sonya Ravindranath Waddell of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond](#), followed by [a panel discussion on workforce issues](#). In addition to the [staff overview of state revenues](#), members also received more detailed briefings on

[K-12 funding](#) and [major issues in health and human resources](#). Members also participated in breakout discussions of [rural economic development](#) and [issues in higher education](#).

Similar to the House Appropriations Committee staff, Senate Finance and Appropriations staff anticipate a “significant upward adjustment” to the FY 2022 forecast, with revenues returning to more normal growth in FY 2023 and FY 2024. Staff project revenue growth of 5.1 percent in FY 2022, 3.8 percent in FY 2023, and 4.2 percent in FY 2024. Although staff anticipate significant resources available beyond the levels assumed in the current biennium budget, Staff Director April Kees encouraged caution, noting that recent revenue growth is anomalous, and uncertainty remains with respect to a resurgence of the virus, supply chain disruptions, inflation, and a lagging recovery in certain industries, such as leisure and hospitality. She strongly encouraged consideration of one-time spending items, such as using cash for capital projects, as a strategy to manage this uncertainty.

A key decision facing legislators that will affect General Fund revenues is the extent to which Virginia will conform to the tax-related provisions of the American Rescue Plan Act - for example, excluding grants to businesses under the Restaurant Revitalization and the Economic Injury Disaster Loan Advance programs from income taxes. Staff noted that fully conforming to the ARPA tax provisions would have an estimated revenue impact of \$101.6 million in FY 2022. Legislators also must decide whether to continue the current state income tax exemption for Paycheck Protection Program loan forgiveness and the deductibility of a fixed amount of business expenses funded by forgiven Paycheck Protection Program loan proceeds, as well as the existing income tax subtraction for grants made through the state Rebuild Virginia program.

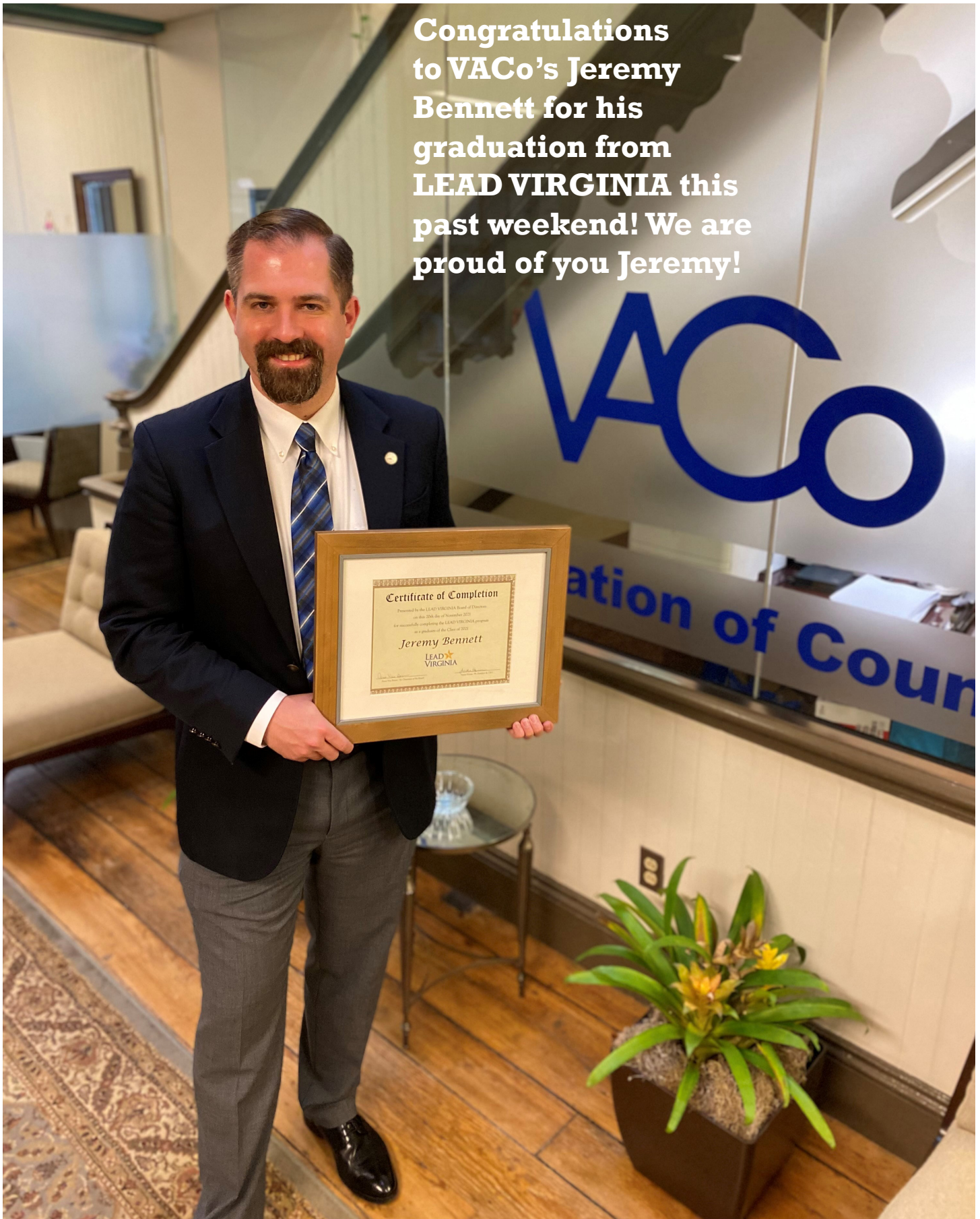
Major budget pressures – what Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee Chair Janet Howell termed “bills in the drawer”— identified by staff include SOQ rebenchmarking; the Medicaid forecast; water quality funding; capital outlay; enhancing Medicaid waiver rates and adding more waiver slots; compensation proposals developed by workgroups examining pay structures for the Virginia State Police, Department of Corrections, and sheriffs’ deputies; the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund; state hospital census reduction; the Housing Trust Fund; behavioral health facility compensation and staffing; reduction of VRS liabilities; and a one percent salary increase for state employees, state-supported local employees, and teachers, among other needs. Projected Medicaid spending in FY 2022 reflects a highly unusual reduction of \$653.7 million as a result of the enhanced federal match rate provided during the public health emergency, as well as decreased utilization and lower managed care rates. However, the forecast for the biennium reflects an expected return to more normal levels of spending growth, as the enhanced federal match rate expires; GF spending growth for the Medicaid program is projected at \$821.2 million over the biennium (reflecting annual growth of 18.5 percent in FY 2023 and 3.9 percent in FY 2024).

Next steps

The Governor’s Advisory Council on Revenue Estimates (GACRE) will meet on November 22 to review the economic outlook for the current fiscal year and the upcoming biennium, and the Governor will present his revised forecast and proposed amendments to the budget for the current fiscal year (the “caboose” bill), as well as his proposed budget for the 2022-2024 biennium (which will include a six-year revenue forecast), on December 16.

VACo Contacts: [Katie Boyle](#) and [Jeremy R. Bennett](#)

**Congratulations
to VACo's Jeremy
Bennett for his
graduation from
LEAD VIRGINIA this
past weekend! We are
proud of you Jeremy!**





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What is SurveyNavigator®?

- In partnership with VACo, Baker Tilly will be conducting annual online enrollment and training for SurveyNavigator®, the online salary and benefits data service available exclusively to county members that participate in the program, on Dec. 8 and 15, 2021
- SurveyNavigator® is a cooperative venture in which those who contribute their organization's compensation and benefits data can download the data that others put in, providing valuable salary comparison information
- Current participants will receive a refresher training on how to update the pay and benefits data for the current fiscal year so that information will be available in time for next year's budget preparations. Annual updates will keep the data fresh and renewal updates are planned in August of each year.
- We encourage all administrators and human resources professionals to investigate the system by joining one of our webinars to discover how easy the system is to use



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Jama McClung
Senior Consultant, Public Sector Advisory
jama.mcclung@bakertilly.com or e-solutions@bakertilly.com

Baker Tilly US, LLP, is a VACo Premier Partner and one of the nation's leading advisory CPA firms. Our specialized public sector practice offers a wide variety of local government consulting services, including compensation and classification studies, executive search, performance optimization and other areas of human capital management. Contact **Steve Miner** or **Anne Lewis** to learn more about how our organizational specialists can help you recruit, reward, deploy and manage employees to achieve your goals.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ATTORNEYS HONOR CYNTHIA E. HUDSON

2021 FINNEGAN WHITING AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE



Cynthia E. Hudson, recipient of the Local Government Attorneys of Virginia Edward J. Finnegan/Elizabeth D. Whiting Award for Distinguished Service.

The Local Government Attorneys of Virginia, Inc. (LGA) awarded its highest honor, the Edward J. Finnegan/Elizabeth D. Whiting Award for Distinguished Service, to Cynthia E. Hudson, currently an attorney with Sands Anderson PC and formerly Chief Deputy Attorney General of Virginia and City Attorney of Hampton, at its recently concluded fall conference in Richmond, Virginia.

The Finnegan Whiting Award recognizes Cynthia Hudson for her significant and sustained contributions to Virginia local government law and LGA. The Award noted that her “knowledge of local government law combined with her expertise in public policy, makes her one of the most accomplished and well-respected attorneys practicing in Virginia’s public sector today.” In addition to her distinguished employment history, Ms. Hudson has served the Commonwealth of Virginia as Chair of the Governor’s Commission to Examine Racial Inequity in Virginia Law, Co-Chair of the Governor’s Commission on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, and as a former President of LGA.

Just prior to her receiving the award, the President of LGA, Michelle R. Robl, announced that the LGA Board of Directors had added the name of Elizabeth D. Whiting to the title of the award. Ms. Whiting, who died in September, was an authority on local government law, a mentor to local government attorneys throughout the state, a former president of LGA, and a prior recipient of the Finnegan Award. The presenters of the Finnegan Whiting Award noted it was particularly appropriate that Ms. Hudson was the inaugural recipient of the renamed award as she, like Liz Whiting, “is beloved and deeply admired and respected for her remarkable career, her integrity and intellect, and her generous spirit.”

LGA promotes common interests and an exchange of information among its members on legal issues that are particularly relevant to Virginia’s counties, cities, and towns. The LGA’s member services include conferences, a legal handbook, a monthly newsletter, and other services intended to inform and enhance the practice of local government.



Registration is now open for the 2022 NACo Legislative Conference

February 12–16, 2022 | Washington Hilton | Washington, D.C.

The National Association of Counties (NACo) Legislative Conference brings together nearly 2,000 elected and appointed county officials to focus on federal policy issues that impact counties and our residents. Attendees have the opportunity to engage in second-to-none policy sessions, interact with federal officials and participate in congressional briefings and meetings.

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three+one® is pleased to announce the public entities and higherEd institutions that are the recipients of the 2021 prestigious 90+ cashvest® Award.

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See all the winners at <https://threeplusone.us/blog/90-cashvest-awards-2021/>



Dear VACo Members -

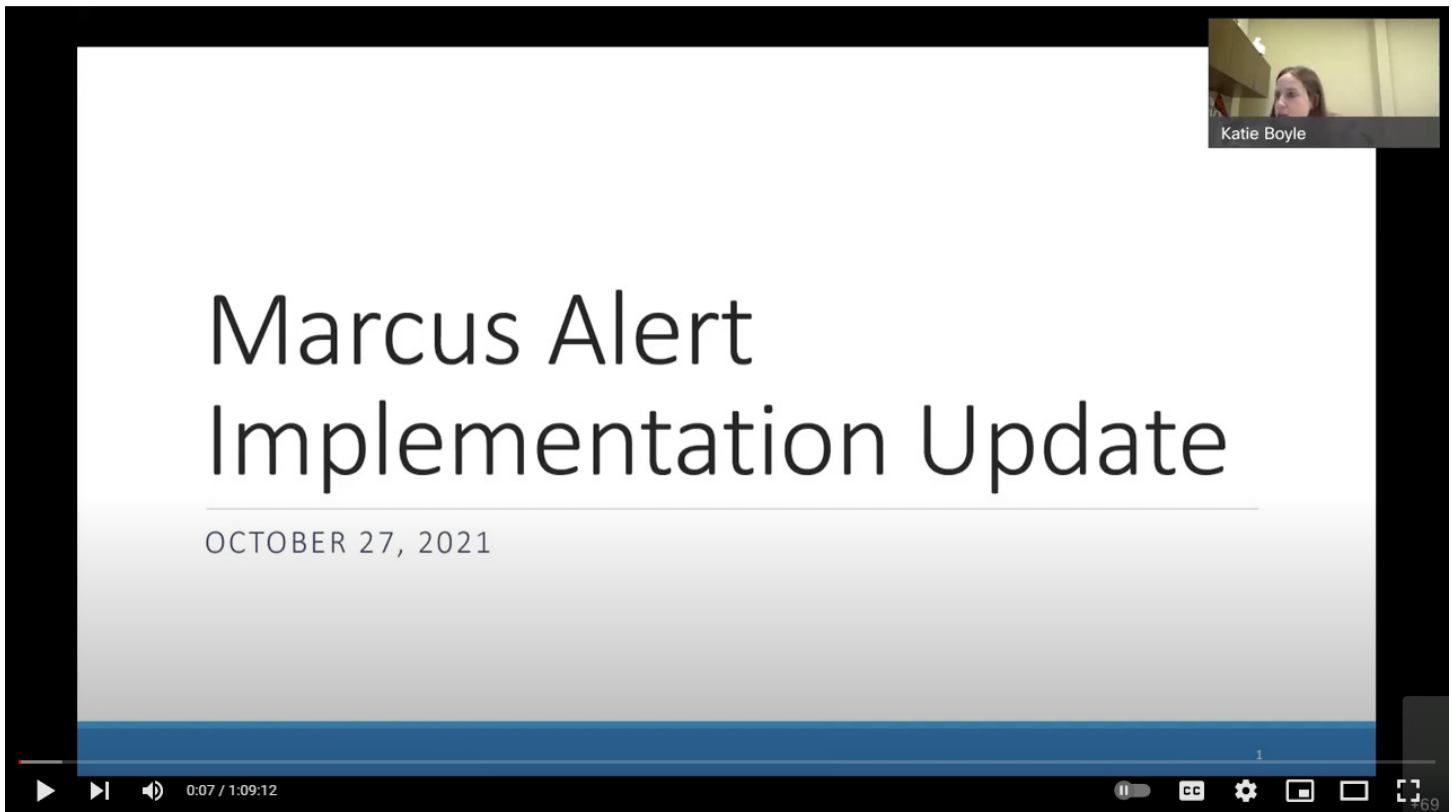
Please consider participating in the Virginia Tech Financial Health Check Case Study Partnership, which is a component of the Public and Nonprofit Financial Management Graduate Certificate Program in the School of Public and International Affairs. **We are seeking a locality partner for Spring 2022 and applications are requested by December 17, 2021 (email to baileysd@vt.edu).**

[Partnership Application](#) | [Partnership Information Brochure](#)

The Financial Health Check Case Study Partnership is a **win-win** for both the community partner and the graduate students. The locality partner will acquire a **customized Financial Health Check report** as the capstone semester project in the SPIA 5674 Financial Health of Public and Nonprofit Organizations course. And the graduate students will gain valuable, real world experience and deepen their understanding through integrating knowledge and practice.

In keeping with the Virginia Tech motto, *Ut Prosim* (That I May Serve), the field lab, service learning approach was instituted in SPIA 5674 in Spring 2021, with the City of Hampton as the first community partner. Hampton received a robust, Financial Health Check report as the capstone project that semester. Kindly see a video of this Hampton project at the attached link: https://video.vt.edu/media/Virginia+Tech+-+Hampton+Financial+Health+Check+Partnership+Video+Record/1_pz9ppod6

We sincerely look forward to partnering with another locality in Spring 2022! Please contact Dr. Sheryl Bailey at baileysd@vt.edu if you have any questions or additional suggestions.



VACo hosted a webinar on October 27 with representatives from Prince William County, Rappahannock-Rapidan Community Services, and Henrico County to discuss implementation of the Marcus Alert initiative.

VACo expresses its appreciation to the presenters for sharing their experiences developing their local plans and preparing for implementation at the local level.

[Click here to view video.](#)

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)

VACo and VML Host Webinar on Opioid Litigation Settlement and Opioid Abatement Fund



VACo along with VML hosted representatives from the Office of the Attorney General, local government attorneys, and law firms involved in litigation with opioid manufacturers and distributors for a webinar on October 25 to inform localities about participation in the \$26 billion national settlement with Janssen (a manufacturer of opioids) and several opioid distributors. Virginia stands to receive approximately \$530 million over the course of the settlement period, with the exact amount dependent on participation by local governments. Local governments must join the settlement by January 2, 2022, to receive funds; participation requires a locality to adopt resolutions approving a Memorandum of Understanding with the Commonwealth and entering into the settlement agreement.

Under the terms of the settlement, 15 percent of the funds will be distributed to participating localities and are not restricted in their use, 15 percent will be distributed to participating localities for abatement purposes, 15 percent will remain with the Commonwealth, and 55 percent will be deposited to the Opioid Abatement Fund, which was established in the 2021 legislative session.

The Opioid Abatement Fund, which will be administered by the Opioid Abatement Authority, will divide its funds as follows: 15 percent to participating localities, 35 percent to participating localities' regional partnerships, 15 percent to state agencies, and 35 percent for any of the preceding purposes or for administrative expenses. The statute creating the Authority states that its purpose is "to abate and remediate the opioid epidemic in the Commonwealth through financial support from the Fund, in the form of grants, donations, or other assistance, for efforts to treat, prevent, and reduce opioid use disorder and the misuse of opioids in the Commonwealth." The Honorable James Holland, Chair of the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors, serves on the Board of Directors of the Authority.

A recording of the October 25 webinar as well as the slide presentation and sample resolutions to approve the Memorandum of Understanding and participation in the settlement may be found on VACo's website at this link: <https://www.vaco.org/legislative/virginia-opioid-abatement-information/>.

VACo Contacts: [Katie Boyle](#) and [Phyllis A. Errico, Esq., CAE](#)

Congratulations!

We love presenting Achievement Awards
at Board of Supervisors Meetings



Congratulations Fairfax County!

Congratulations!

We love presenting Achievement Awards
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Congratulations Prince William County!



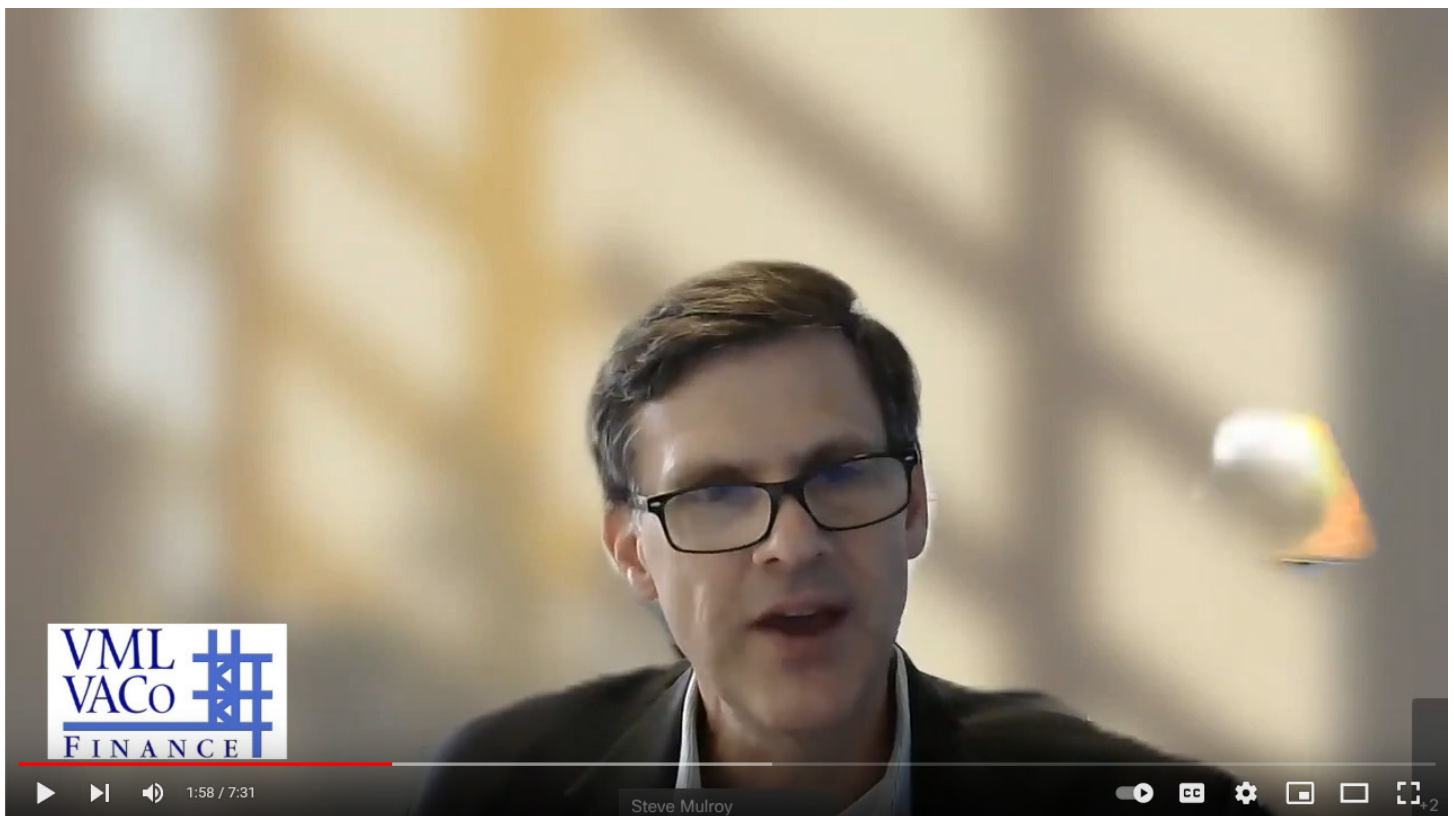
VACo Supervisors' Forum

Friday, April 29, 2022 and Saturday, April 30, 2022
Omni Richmond Hotel



Premier Partner Spotlight

VML/VACo Finance VIP Program



VIP Program

Manage Operating Funds

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- Over 1-3 years

The VIP Program through VML/VACo Finance is an investment pool to consider. Dean Lynch and Steve Mulroy explore this established, streamlined program for localities.

How can VML/VACo Finance help you? For more information, please visit www.valocalfinance.org.

Watch the [Premier Partner Video](#)



ADVANCING LEADERSHIP FOR NEWLY ELECTED COUNTY OFFICIALS

Can you imagine what would happen if General Colin Powell, Fortune 1000 CEOs and other executives came together with career coaches and professors from the most prestigious universities to mentor your frontline leaders? What if we could leverage such talent and expertise to advance excellence in county government?

Thanks to the [NACo High Performance Leadership Academy](#), we can.

A 12-week online program was designed — in partnership with the Professional Development Academy — to enable newly elected officials to achieve their fullest potential, making them smarter, more effective leaders.

Additionally, and importantly, the academy is designed to be non-disruptive to newly elected officials' busy schedules. It requires just a few hours of time each week, and there's no travel away from the county required.

The NACo High Performance Leadership Academy will help to retain rising stars in county government and enable them to be better leaders.

"You can't put into words the value of this course. Fantastic moderators and video viewpoints from amazing leaders. Highly recommended for all level of leaders."

– *Polk County Wisconsin Commissioner*

"This program has taught me new leadership tactics, reinforced 30 years of leadership training and experience, and created a nationwide network of leaders." – *Magoffin County Kentucky Judge*

"This program has connected me to others who share the same struggles that I am going through as a leader. This enables me to use them as a support system when needed." – *Wapello County Iowa County Recorder*

Take this opportunity to close the leadership gap. The next programs begin January 2022 and we would love to see you be a part of it.



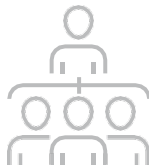
Counties affect the lives of residents every day. When our frontline staff are empowered as leaders, we deliver services more effectively. **The NACo Frontline IT Leadership Academy is a resource that connects your staff with practical leadership training.** FLIT uses an innovative, interactive online learning platform that combines real-time webinars, recorded sessions and small group discussions to deliver effective training without traveling away from the county – saving money and maximizing time.

THE ACADEMY FOCUSES ON FIVE ESSENTIAL SKILLS:



LEAD:

Engage teams and stakeholders to foster positive climates and exceed common expectations



ORGANIZE:

Plan, lead and execute organizational change more effectively and consistently



COLLABORATE:

Establish alignment and strong partnerships through building stronger relationships



DELIVER:

Measure projects and processes to deliver results aligned with county and community priorities



COMMUNICATE:

Create clarity, confidence and community

The NACo Frontline IT Leadership Academy empowers frontline county government professionals with fundamental, practical leadership skills to deliver results for counties and residents.

The Academy enrollment fee is \$2,495 per participant. NACo Member County cost per enrollee is \$1,350.

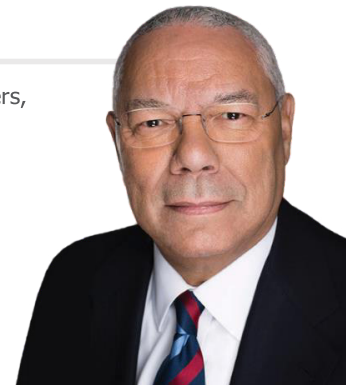
With a curriculum developed by *General Colin Powell* and public and private sector leaders, NACo Frontline IT Leadership Academy gives students the opportunity to learn from world-class faculty. All content is guided by an expert facilitator.

Find out more at [NACo.org/skills](https://nacoleadership.org/skills)

Or contact Luke Afeman

lukea@pdaleadership.com

503.908.5381



End To End Computing (EEC)
a vetted GSA HACS approved contract holder
has developed ...

A Tailored Cybersecurity Program for VACo members



Carlton Harris CTO of EEC will join Dean Lynch Executive Director of VACo in this month's premier partner spotlight to discuss how VACo members can take advantage of our tailored cybersecurity program to make cybersecurity services more accessible. This program will feature:

01

Cyber Hygiene Assessment

A complementary cyber hygiene assessment program for members to identify gaps in their cybersecurity program and strategize methods for closing those gaps.

02

Informative Training

A series of joint training sessions scheduled throughout the year to registered members. Sessions will also include training collateral for combating common threats and best practices.

03

Special Membership Pricing

A catalog of discounted pricing to VACo members.
(Ability to leverage GSA schedule for ease of procurement.)



Carlton Harris CTO of EEC

**View this VACo
Premier Partner
Spotlight Video**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RnmFDYlHKol>



www.eecomputing.com/events



www.eecomputing.com

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833-720-7770



With the release of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) funds, local governments have the opportunity to address the economic fallout and unequal impact of COVID-19. This is an incredible opportunity to increase trust in local government and tell your community's story of recovery. The Berkley Group can help your community develop a roadmap to maximize return on investment and take the pressure off of managing all aspects of the funds and projects by offering the following services:

- Community Engagement;
- Strategic Planning;
- Capital Improvement Planning;
- Project Management; and
- Program Administration.

Take this time to reimagine your community - building a strong and socially equitable foundation for the future.



Darren K. Coffey, AICP | Director of Strategic Partnerships
434-981-2026 | www.bgllc.net

REBOOTING EDUCATION WITH FURNITURE AND SANITATION

It's 2021 and schools are faced with the complex task of getting students, faculty, and staff back into classrooms safely. This task will require a variety of well thought out plans. Plans that address the logistics and scheduling of a greater number of smaller class sizes and plans that support keeping those spaces clean. With extensive experience, The Supply Room can help ease the stress of designing and executing these plans.

FURNITURE



Desk and table shields with mobile and multi-functional furniture is one key factor in making spaces both safe and flexible. Creative plans will include scenarios for how and when to turn a gymnasium, cafeteria, or common area into a classroom and back in minutes. Flip-top tables can be nested and moved aside quickly when not in use. These tables and shields can also create health checkpoints, sanitation stations, and help direct the flow of traffic at building entrances and in common areas. This combined with clear and consistent signage will ensure students and faculty have the time and space to keep safe.

SANITATION

Knowing the difference between cleaning, disinfecting and sanitizing and when to do each is the second key to developing your plan. To start, what is the difference?

- **Cleaning:** removes visible dirt, soil and debris – it does not disinfect.
- **Disinfecting:** eliminates bacteria, fungi and certain viruses – it does not remove dirt.
- **Sanitizing:** reduces the number of germs on surfaces or objects to a safe level, as judged by public health standards or requirements – it does not fully eliminate them.



Sanitizing and disinfecting products also vary in their dwell time (the length of time that a chemical must be in contact with the surface and remain wet, in order to achieve the product's advertised kill rate.) Dwell times can range from a matter of seconds to 10 minutes. Our janitorial and sanitation experts are here to help recommend the best products for your space and put your plan in place.



While the situation with the pandemic is rapidly evolving in every direction, it is important that the solutions you create are adaptable and resilient. Designing a creative plan to keep your faculty and students safe with the ability to flex will help reduce infection and create a stable learning environment. Let's start a conversation – visit our website or call to get help with your plans and implementation today.

VIRGINIA COUNTY SUPERVISORS' MANUAL

EIGHTH EDITION, 2019



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Virginia County Supervisors' Manual 8th Edition



The Eighth Edition (2019) of VACo's **Virginia County Supervisors' Manual** is 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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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).

 **FACILITY MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR** | City of Chesapeake | Posted November 22

 **PUBLIC UTILITIES DIRECTOR** | Gates County NC | Posted November 22

 **CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE** | Gates County NC | Posted November 22

 **LEAD REFUSE SITE ATTENDANT** | New Kent County | Posted November 22

  **COUNTY ATTORNEY** | Albemarle County | Posted November 22


 **SENIOR ACCOUNTANT** | Town of Culpeper | Posted November 22

 **HELP DESK TECHNICAL ADMINISTRATOR** | Town of Culpeper | Posted November 22

 **CIVIL ENGINEER I** | Gloucester County | Posted November 19


 **ENGAGEMENT LIAISON** | Campbell County | Posted November 19

 **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE** | Thomas Jefferson PDC | Posted November 19

 **REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNER III-IV** | Thomas Jefferson PDC | Posted November 19

 **FULL CHARGE BOOKKEEPER** | Thomas Jefferson PDC | Posted November 19


 **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE** | Hanover County | Posted November 18


 **ZONING ADMINISTRATOR** | Northampton County | Posted November 18

 **FIELD TRIP COORDINATOR (Program Support Specialist)** | City of Harrisonburg | Posted November 18

 **WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR** | King George County | Posted November 17

 **COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER** | Town of Front Royal | Posted November 17

 **RECREATION AIDE** | Montgomery County | Posted November 17

 **PARALEGAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT** | Campbell County | Posted November 17

 **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST** | Town of Front Royal | Posted November 17

 **PERMIT TECHNICIAN** | Town of Front Royal | Posted November 17



UTILITIES ENGINEER |

Chesterfield County | Posted November 17



TRANSPORTATION

MANAGER | Goochland County
| Posted November 17



ASSISTANT PLANNING

DIRECTOR/CODE COMPLIANCE OFFICER | Richmond County | Posted November 11



UTILITIES ENGINEER |

Chesterfield County | Posted November 10



PUBLIC INFORMATION

OFFICER | Bedford County | Posted November 9



COUNTY MANAGER |

Camden County NC | Posted November 9



TOURISM

COORDINATOR | Gloucester County
| Posted November 9



TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

SPECIALIST I | Montgomery County
| Posted November 9



PLANNER OR SENIOR

PLANNER | The Berkley Group
| Posted November 8



DEPUTY COURT CLERK |

Montgomery County | Posted November 8



PERFORMANCE

MANAGEMENT ANALYST | Albemarle County | Posted November 8



ACCOUNTANT II |

Albemarle County | Posted November 8



SHELTER ASSISTANT -

PART TIME | Montgomery County
| Posted November 5



FAMILY SERVICES

SPECIALIST | Montgomery County
| Posted November 5



ENVIRONMENTAL CODES

COMPLIANCE OFFICER/PERMIT TECHNICIAN | Lancaster County
| Posted November 4



OFFICE TECHNICIAN -

SCREENER | Montgomery County
| Posted November 4



POLICE CHIEF | City of

Hopewell | Posted November 4



MANAGER OF

PURCHASING/BUDGET ADMINISTRATOR | Town of Front Royal | Posted November 4



EMERGENCY MEDICAL

SERVICES SUPERVISOR | Greene County | Posted November 4



SENIOR BUILDING

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN | City of Manassas | Posted November 3



BUDGET ANALYST |

Henrico County | Posted November 3



AUTOMATION

SPECIALIST | Chesterfield County
| Posted November 1



OPERATIONS

SUPERVISOR, WASTE WATER TREATMENT FACILITY | Town of Christiansburg | Posted November 1

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.

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

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