

Virginia Association of Counties

2022 Annual Conference Agenda

Saturday, November 12

- 2 p.m. Tour of Regional Projects
- 4 p.m. VACo Budget Committee Meeting | Room B16
- 5 p.m. VAcorp Board of Directors | Room B15a

Sunday, November 13

7:30 a.m. Nondenominational Worship Service | Room B16

8 a.m. – 2 p.m. Exhibitor Setup | Grand Ballroom BC

9 a.m. VACo Board of Directors | Room B15a

Sponsor: Blue Line Solutions, LLC

Sponsor: National Association of Counties



10 a.m. VAcorp Business Meeting | Room B17

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Annual Conference Registration | Grand Ballroom B21B
Foyer



Name Badge Lanyards Sponsor & Wi-Fi Sponsor: Aetna

Conference Tote Bags Sponsor: Moseley Architects

Marriott Hotel Key Cards Sponsor: Pierce Group Benefits

Hilton Hotel Key Cards Sponsor: Truist

Artesian Spring Water Bottles Sponsor: Waypoint360



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Marriott Elevator Wrap: TSI – Your Technology Partner

Marriott Elevator Wrap: ABM Building Services

Marriott Hotel Welcome Sign: Energix Renewables

Greater Richmond Convention Center Welcome Sign:

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Floor Directional Decals to Breakout Sessions: A. Morton Thomas and Associates, Inc.

1 – 4:15 p.m.

Sunday Afternoon Coffee Break | *Grand Ballroom BC*

Sponsor: Virginia American Water



AMERICAN WATER

1 – 2:30 p.m.

Steering Committee Meetings

- Education | *Room B15a*
- Economic Development & Planning | *Room B15b*
- Environment & Agriculture | *Room B17*
- Finance | *Room B15c*

2 – 5 p.m.

Sunday Afternoon Social – Beverages & Refreshments | *Grand Ballroom BC*

Sponsor: Moseley Architects **MOSELEYARCHITECTS**

2 – 5:30 p.m.

Exhibit Hall Opens | *Grand Ballroom BC*

Lounge Sponsor: EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc., PBC



Lounge Sponsor: OneDigital **ONEDIGITAL**



2:45 – 4:15 p.m.

Steering Committee Meetings

- Energy | *Room B15b*
- General Government | *Room B15a*
- Health & Human Resources | *Room B15c*
- Transportation | *Room B17*

4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Regional Caucuses to Nominate Representatives on VACo Board of Directors

- Region 1 | *Room B15c*
- Region 3 | *Room B15b*
- Region 5 | *Room B11*
- Region 6 | *Room B12*

- Region 7 | Room B14
- Region 8 | Room B15a
- Region 10 | Room B16
- Region 11 | Room B13
- Region 12 | Room B17

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Sunday Evening Opening Reception

Marriott Capital Ballroom

Sponsor: Dominion Energy



6:30 p.m.

Banquet | *Marriott Grand Ballroom*

Sponsor: PMA Architecture

Sponsor: ColonialWebb

Sponsor: OneDigital



8 p.m.

Sponsors Hospitality Suites

Monday, November 14

7 a.m.

Resolutions Committee | *Room B15a*

7:30 a.m.

Exhibit Hall Opens | *Grand Ballroom BC*

7:30 a.m.

Breakfast | *Grand Ballroom BC*

8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Annual Conference Registration | *Grand Ballroom B21B Foyer*

8:15 a.m.

Monday Morning Coffee Break | *Grand Ballroom BC*

Sponsor: Aqua Virginia Inc.

Sponsor: Draper Aden, Now TRC



8:30 a.m.

OPENING GENERAL SESSION

Grand Ballroom B21A

Sponsor: ALL POINTS BROADBAND



- **Chesterfield County Sheriff's Honor Guard Presentation**
- **U.S. Senator Mark Warner (INVITED)**
- **Top 3 Achievement Awards Recognitions**
- **3 Stories of How Local Programs Impacted the Lives of 3 Leaders**

MODERATOR: Dean Lynch, Executive Director, Virginia Association of Counties

SPEAKERS PANEL: The Honorable **Mike Sturgill**, Supervisor, Smyth County; **Bryan Hill**, County Executive, Fairfax County; **James A. Smith Jr.**, Director of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, Louisa County



There are countless stories of how local programs have improved and positively altered the lives of many of our youth and residents. These are 3 such stories. Each member of the panel benefitted from local programs that helped propel them to the successes they earned along the way. Those early lessons, the people who taught them, and the love and support they provided, steered our panel members to a life of local government service. They returned to give back.

- **NACo President Denise Winfrey**

10 – 11:15 a.m. **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

AV Sponsors: Trane/GreeneHurlocker/BILT Group and The Teneo Group



STATE BUDGET PREVIEW: NAVIGATING A CHANGING ECONOMIC LANDSCAPE | *Grand Ballroom B21A*

MODERATOR: The Honorable **Jim Icenhour**, Supervisor, James City County

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

What should counties expect in the revisions to the biennium budget that will be under discussion next session? This session offers a preview of the key elements under consideration, as well as an analysis of the economic factors that will underpin state revenue forecasts and spending decisions.

TRANSFORMATIONS IN AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY | *Room B20*

MODERATOR: The Honorable **Terri T. Catlett**, Vice Chair, Clarke County

SPEAKERS: **Joseph Guthrie**, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; and **Rob Farrell**, State Forester, Virginia Department of Forestry

Virginia agriculture and forestry have a combined annual economic impact of over \$91 billion and provides more 334,000 jobs, comprising 9.5 percent of the state's total gross domestic product. This session will explore how Virginia's number one industry is positioning itself to keep these sectors vibrant through initiatives to expand both infrastructure and markets. Additionally, speakers will address how the state can accommodate competing demands for new development, including large-scale solar facilities,

without compromising the ability of Virginia's landscape to provide food and fiber products.

TRANSPORTATION IN THE COMMONWEALTH | Room B15b

MODERATOR AND SPEAKER: The Honorable **Phil C. North**, Supervisor, Roanoke County

SPEAKERS: **W. Sheppard (Shep) Miller III**, Secretary of Transportation, Commonwealth of Virginia, and Chair, Commonwealth Transportation Board; The Honorable **Kevin P. Carroll**, Supervisor, Chesterfield County, and Member, Central Virginia Transportation Authority

Connection is everything in today's world. Connection with friends, family, and things we love to do. What is transportation if not connection? As Virginia grows and continues to be the best place to visit, live and raise a family, our transportation needs are constantly changing. Please join us in a discussion highlighting the local, regional and Commonwealth wide view of transportation. The discussion focuses on where transportation stands today, and where it may be going.

MEDIATORS, FACILITATORS, AND OTHER CONSULTANTS – WHY DO I NEED THEM? | Room B15c

MODERATOR: **Dean Lynch**, Executive Director, Virginia Association of Counties

SPEAKERS: **Suzette Denslow**, Consultant and Mediator; **Cynthia E. Hudson**, Esquire, Sands Anderson PC; and **Charles Hartgrove**, Director, University of Virginia Institute of Government

In the normal course of running a government, there are many situations that come up that you don't have the expertise to handle. How do you know when you should gather the best minds in the government building or the community to tackle the situation, and when you should look to outside experts to help? Why would you hire a mediator? When would you ask for

help from a neighboring jurisdiction? Would a state University be able to help? Listen to our three panelists discuss the pros and cons of hiring “outside experts” as they offer some practical advice and guidance.

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

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

TAX POLICY, THE STATE BUDGET, AND THE STATE-LOCAL PARTNERSHIP: LEGISLATIVE PERSPECTIVES | *Grand*

Ballroom B21A

MODERATOR: The Honorable **Dan Storck**, Supervisor, Fairfax County

SPEAKERS: The Honorable **George L. Barker**, 39th Senate District; The Honorable **Emmett W. Hanger, Jr.**, 24th Senate District; The Honorable **Terry G. Kilgore**, 1st House District and House Majority Leader; The Honorable **Roxann L. Robinson** (invited), 27th House District

Tax policy is expected to remain a topic of major focus during the 2023 legislative session. This session will feature legislative leaders who will shape these conversations, as well as decisions about spending priorities in crafting amendments to the biennium budget.

MEETING THE NEED FOR HOUSING | *Room B20*

MODERATOR: The Honorable **Libby Garvey**, Member, Arlington County

SPEAKERS: The Honorable **Barbara A. Favola**, 31st Senate District; and **Susan Dewey**, Chief Executive Officer, Virginia Housing

Prior to the current crunch in housing supply, Virginia has been investing and employing strategies to meet a range of housing needs in terms of affordability and livability for various groups, including low-income, workforce, and special needs communities. Inflation, material shortages, and lack of skilled labor has contributed to a situation that now affects all Virginians

in the ability to attain and sustain living space. This session will explore the policy and strategy options for addressing these needs, and the role the counties can play in partnering with federal, state, and private sector partners in meeting them.

SPORTS TOURISM BOOMS IN VIRGINIA | Room B15b

MODERATOR AND SPEAKER: The Honorable **Christopher M. Winslow**, Chair, Chesterfield County

SPEAKERS: **Dennis Bickmeier**, Executive Director, Henrico County Sports and Entertainment Authority; and **Michael Rojas**, Sports Tourism Manager, Prince William County, and Member, SportsNOVA

It doesn't matter whether it's summer or winter or spring or fall – it's always sports season in Virginia. Sporting events are driving tourism in the Commonwealth and some counties are investing in that trend. See what counties are doing to bring sports excitement – and dollars to their community.

EMERGING CHALLENGES IN CYBERSECURITY | Room B15c

MODERATOR: The Honorable **Victor S. Angry**, Supervisor, Prince William County

SPEAKERS: **Aliscia Andrews**, Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security, Commonwealth Virginia; **Chris Carey**, Administrator, VAcorp; **John Harrison** Director of Information Technology, Franklin County, and President, VaLGITE

In the past three years, there has been a 100% increase in cybersecurity incident claims. In 2021 alone, risk insurers paid out claims on more than 8,100 incidents. Legislation enacted during the 2022 session of the General Assembly now requires public bodies to report cybersecurity incidents to the Virginia Fusion Center within 24 hours from when the incident was discovered. This panel will discuss emerging trends in cybersecurity and the challenges facing local

governments and ways in which they can protect themselves.

12:45 p.m.



Deli Lunch | *Grand Ballroom BC*

Sponsor: AES

Sponsor: Amazon Web Services

Sponsor: Energix Renewables

Sponsor: Strata Clean Energy



12:45 p.m.

VLGMA Luncheon | *Room B15a*

Speaker: **Todd Weinstein**, Chief Deputy Director,
Department of Housing and Community Development

1 p.m.

Credentials Committee | *Room B16*

1 p.m.



Monday Afternoon Break | *Grand Ballroom BC*

Sponsor: Rx 'n Go

Sponsor: Nationwide Retirement Solutions



1:45 p.m.

Exhibitor Drawing | *Grand Ballroom BC*

2:45 - 4 p.m.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

K-12 EDUCATION FUNDING AND INITIATIVES | *Grand Ballroom B21A*

MODERATOR: The Honorable **Kathy Smith**, Supervisor,
Fairfax County

SPEAKERS: The Honorable **Jennifer L. McClellan**, 9th
Senate District; The Honorable **Terry Kilgore**, Majority
Leader, House of Delegates, and 1st House District; The
Honorable **Carrie E. Coyner**, 62nd House District.

Funding for k-12 education often constitutes the plurality, if not the majority of a county government's budget. Issues like school construction and modernization, teacher and school staff salaries, funding for support positions, and early childcare options are all important in ensuring that students

across the Commonwealth have access to a quality public education. Join this panel of state legislators as they discuss recent education related actions by the General Assembly and preview the 2023 session.

THE NEW ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE | Room B20

MODERATOR: The Honorable **Billy W. Martin**, Supervisor, Botetourt County

SPEAKERS: The Honorable **Richard C. (Rip) Sullivan, Jr.**, 48th House District; **William L. “Bill” Murray**, Senior Vice President–Corporate Affairs & Communications, Dominion Energy

The electric grid, from power to transmission and distribution, will undergo an historic transformation in the decades ahead. Large scale solar and wind installations, as well distributed sources of renewable such as rooftop solar, will necessitate significant investments and upgrades to electric lines, switching stations, and substations. Additionally, this new infrastructure must accommodate the expected rise in electric vehicles (EVs), with the need to provide ubiquitous charging stations and increased power demands during traditionally off-peak hours when EVs will be charging. This session will provide an overview of these changes along with expected impacts, challenges, and opportunities.

KEY ISSUES IN SOCIAL SERVICES: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES | Room B15b

MODERATOR: The Honorable **Pamela Carter**, Supervisor, Augusta County

SPEAKERS: **Dr. Danny TK Avula**, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Social Services; **Carl Ayers**, Deputy Commissioner for Human Services, Virginia Department of Social Services; **Mira Signer**, Special Advisor, Safe and Sound Task Force; **Rebecca J. Morgan**, M.Ed.,

Director, Middlesex Department of Social Services and President, Virginia League of Social Services Executives

Important efforts are underway to improve how Virginia meets the needs of some of its most vulnerable residents, including significant work to ensure that children in foster care are placed with families. At the same time, local departments of social services are struggling with staff recruitment and retention. Join state and local leaders for a discussion of the challenges facing local departments as well as potential solutions under discussion to support local staff and enhance service delivery.

VACo/VSBA COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP IN EDUCATION | Room B15c

MODERATOR: The Honorable **Ruth Larson**, Second Vice President, Virginia Association of Counties, and Supervisor, James City County

SPEAKERS: The Honorable **Meg Bohmke**, President, Virginia Association of Counties, and Supervisor, Stafford County; The Honorable **Teddy D. Martin II**, President, Virginia School Boards Association, and Vice Chairman, Henry County School Board; **Jeremy R. Bennett**, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Virginia Association of Counties; **J.T. Kessler**, Director of Legislative Services, Virginia School Boards Association

Local Government and Elected officials are responsible for managing and funding K-12 education throughout Virginia. This panel discussion will focus on the unique relationship between local governing bodies and school boards, as well as the partnership and collaboration between the Virginia Association of Counties and Virginia School Boards Association as they advocate on behalf of their members to improve the quality of education across the Commonwealth.

4 p.m. **Nominating Committee** | *Room B17*

5:45 – 7 p.m. **President's Reception** | *Marriott Grand E*
Sponsor: Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates



8 p.m. **Sponsors Hospitality Suites**

Tuesday, November 15

7:30 a.m. **Breakfast** | *Grand Ballroom B21A*

8:45 a.m. **Tuesday Morning Coffee Break** | *Grand Ballroom B21A Foyer*

Sponsor: VAcorp

Sponsor: VML/VACo Finance



9 a.m. **CLOSING GENERAL SESSION**
Grand Ballroom B21A

- **Bob Holsworth, DecideSmart**

10 a.m. **ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**
Grand Ballroom B21A

NOON **ADJOURNMENT**