

Jason D. Bellows Elected VACo President for 2022-2023



The membership of the Virginia Association of Counties elected Lancaster County Supervisor Jason D. Bellows as 2022-2023 President during VACo's 88th Annual Conference, which was held in Richmond. Bellows and other newly elected officers started their terms at VACo's Annual Business Meeting on November 15.

Bellows succeeds Stafford County Supervisor Meg Bohmke, and becomes the first-ever President from Lancaster County since VACo was established in 1934. Bellows is the first President from the Northern Neck since W.D. "Berry" Gray of Richmond County, who served in 1990-1991.

"I am excited and honored to be selected your next leader and first president from Lancaster County," Bellows said. "I look forward to being your advocate as we continue the work on behalf of our localities across the Commonwealth. Together as one voice we will weather whatever lies ahead while also building resiliency for our collective futures."

When Bellows was first elected to the Lancaster County Board of Supervisors in November 2011 to represent District 3, he became the youngest to serve on the board. Bellows is the 5th generation of his family to call District 3 home. He has served as Chairman in 2015, 2019 and again in 2020.

Education has always been Bellows' passion. He graduated from Radford University with a biology degree and taught as a science teacher at Lancaster High School, where he graduated in 1995. He also holds a master's degree in school administration from Old Dominion University and is a 2014 graduate of the VACo certified supervisor program.

“Jason is a thoughtful leader who brings civility and respect to county governments,” VACo Executive Director Dean Lynch said. “His background in education, energy and other legislative issues will serve our association well. We’re excited that Jason will serve as our next President.”

Bellows also served on the Lancaster County Community Partners Foundation Board, which built and managed workforce housing for local teachers.

As the current chairman of the Rappahannock River Basin Commission, Jason is also passionate about protecting the local natural environment and water quality across the basin and state.

In his spare time, he can be spotted working on one of his many home-improvement building projects, gardening, boating, or spending time with his partner and their two Great Danes Sascha and Nero.

“As your President for the upcoming year, I pledge to work tirelessly on your behalf in support of our combined futures and will serve as a model for civility in our political landscape,” Bellows said. “I look forward to continuing our strong advocacy on behalf of our local governments, but also see VACo and local leaders as uniquely positioned to model civility in our communities and in the work we do as an association. As the government closest to the people, we have a duty to ensure that the great American experiment in self-governance, *of the people, by the people, for the people* continues to thrive and endure.”

VACo 2022-23 Executive Committee

President: [Jason D. Bellows](#) | Lancaster County

President-Elect: [Ann H. Mallek](#) | Albemarle County

First Vice President: [Ruth Larson](#) | James City County

Second Vice President: [William M. McCarty, Sr.](#) | Isle of Wight County

Secretary-Treasurer: [Donald L. Hart, Jr.](#) | Accomack County

Immediate Past President: [Meg Bohmke](#) | Stafford County

VACo 2022-23 Board Directors

In addition to the VACo Executive Committee and Past Presidents, the Board of Directors consists of supervisors representing 13 regions of the state, and a NACo Delegate. The terms are on a two-year cycle and the number of directors, per region, is based on the population.

This year, representatives were selected in regions 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12

VACo 2022-23 new board members

Region 1: Open

Region 3: [Patricia S. O'Bannon](#) | Henrico County

Region 5: [John \(Mike\) Sheridan](#) | Fluvanna County

Region 6: [Terri T. Catlett](#) | Clarke County

Region 7: [Cathy Binder](#) | King George County

Region 7: [James P. Crozier](#) | Orange County

Region 8: [Matt de Ferranti](#) | Arlington County

Region 8: [Margaret Franklin](#) | Prince William County

Region 8: [Penelope A. Gross](#) | Fairfax County

Region 8: [Phyllis J. Randall](#) | Loudoun County

Region 8: [Daniel G. Storck](#) | Fairfax County

Region 8: Open

Region 10: [Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch](#) | Floyd County

Region 11: [Billy W. Martin, Sr.](#) | Botetourt County

Region 11: [April DeMotts](#) | Montgomery County

Region 12: [Adam Kidd](#) | Bland County

Past President: [Jeffrey C. McKay](#) | Fairfax County

Past President: [Stephen W. Bowen](#) | Nottoway County

Past President: [Sherrin C. Alsop](#) | King and Queen County



WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AGAIN SOON

Thank you for participating in the 88th Annual Conference. Below is a link to the VACo Annual Conference recap webpage.

[VACo 88th Annual Conference Recap Webpage](#)

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

[VACo 88th 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 2023 schedule planned so be on the look out for more info.

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

VACo Launches New Website



The Virginia Association of Counties is proud to announce the launch of the new www.vaco.org.

VACo used data and analytics to improve navigation and functionality. The pages people often visit are prominent and easily accessible such as an interactive map with county demographics and information.

Thank you [Whittington Consulting](#) for their outstanding work in the design and development of the new www.vaco.org! This is the second website Whittington Consulting has developed for VACo.

We look forward to unleashing the power of the new website as a tool that helps VACo provide high-level communications and services to our members.



Visit Charlotte County and the Charlotte County Historic Courthouse

Location: 125 David Bruce Avenue / Legrande Avenue

Built: 1821 – 1823

Style: Greek-Roman Revival

Architect: Thomas Jefferson

Contractor: John Percival

Description: The building faces north and is a two story red colored brick and wood structure. The north front of the rectangular building has a large portico with four whitewashed stuccoed columns rising to a wide pediment at the roof line. There is a bell hanging from the pediment. The floor of the portico has decorative tiles. The windows have green colored shutters. The courtroom is located on the first story.

Note: The plans were drawn by Thomas Jefferson for the 1822 Buckingham County courthouse. The cost of construction of the courthouse was \$5,362.61.

SOURCE: [American Courthouses](http://AmericanCourthouses.com) | Courthouses.co

SAVE THE DATES!

Rural Caucus Reception

Wednesday, January 18, 2023 | Richmond

VACo/VML/VAPDC

Local Government Day

Thursday, January 19, 2023 | Richmond

VACo/VML Legislative Reception

Thursday, January 19, 2023 | Richmond

VACo Chairpersons' Institute

Friday, January 20, 2023 and

Saturday, January 21, 2023

Join us for these important events.

Call VACo at 804.788.6652 for more information





Annual Virginia Water and Wastewater Rate Report Released

How do you compare? That's a common question many public utilities face when considering how to set rates and fees for water and wastewater services. Virginia boasts more than 250 public providers of water and wastewater across every size and type of community, which can make benchmarking a challenge. Understanding water and wastewater trends across the Commonwealth is crucial for public utilities and municipalities, especially when they consider rate changes and evaluate capital recovery charges. This information is a primary reason the annual Virginia Water and Wastewater Rate Report is so highly anticipated.

Draper Aden Associates produced the report for more than three decades as it has become an essential resource for public utilities. That's why the team remained

[More on Next Page](#)

committed to delivering this crucial information when Draper Aden was acquired by [TRC Companies](#), a global professional services firm providing environmentally focused and digitally powered solutions that address local needs, in May. The [2022 edition](#) of the report was released publicly by TRC Companies in October 2022.

Even as public utilities continue to face a challenging and uncertain environment, these results provide valuable intel for planning and strategy.

The two most significant findings from the 2022 survey are related to rate changes. First, the average water rate across the Commonwealth increased by 2.1 percent in 2022 and the average sewer rate increased by 2.5 percent. Both the water rate and wastewater rate increases were slightly lower than the previous year. Since 2012, the average water rate increased by 3.4 percent per year and the average wastewater rate increased by 3.8 percent per year. These increases occurred across a control group of representative utilities that allows the report to extrapolate trends across the state.

Second, 43 percent of respondents reported a water rate increase in 2022 and 53 percent of respondents increased wastewater rates in 2022. Thus, slightly more than half of all providers that participated in the survey raised rates.

In addition to water and wastewater rates, the 2022 report also shares data for connection fees and capital recovery charges.

Looking ahead, water and wastewater providers continue to face a number of challenges. Yet, a significant opportunity for increased resources and funding will come from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, also known as the [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#). This federal funding will provide billions for fiscal years 2022 through 2026, including for water infrastructure.

The [34th Annual Virginia Water and Wastewater Rate Report](#) was produced by TRC Companies. The 2022 Virginia Water and Wastewater Report and previous reports are [available for download](#) online. For questions about the Water and Wastewater Report, please contact water@trccompanies.com.

Public Information Office

5204 Bernard Drive
Roanoke, Virginia 24018
(540) 772-2010



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact: Amy Whittaker
Public Information Officer
Cell: (540) 589-3089
Awhittaker@roanokecountyva.gov

Roanoke County Names Assistant Economic Development Director

November 21, 2022 –Roanoke County Administrator Richard L. Caywood, P.E. is delighted to announce the appointment of Danielle Poe as Assistant Director of Economic Development. Poe will assume her new position on November 28.

"We are fortunate to gain a leader within the Roanoke Valley who has expertise not just on the Valley and innovative strategies for economic development, but is respected for her leadership," said Caywood. "I know she will complement the department well."



Poe is coming from the Roanoke Regional Airport Commission where she has been the business manager for nearly three years, managing the day-to-day operations within the organization and overseeing risk management strategies in various projects. She has gained over 15 years of experience in various additional roles including as the Economic Development specialist for Downtown Roanoke, Inc.

"I am excited for the opportunity to work with the Roanoke County Economic Development team," said Poe. "Roanoke County has a vision, momentum, and support by leadership making it an exciting time to make this transition. I think the best is yet to come, and I can't wait to get to work!"

Poe earned a Bachelor of Science in Exercise, Sport, And Health Education with a Concentration in Sports Administration from Radford University. She has a number of affiliations, most notably a Chair of Leadership Roanoke Valley, with additional involvement in the Roanoke Boosters Club and Wasena Elementary PTA.

Poe is a native of the Roanoke Valley.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

VACo 2023 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

For the 2023 General Assembly Session



ADOPTED BY VACo
MEMBERSHIP ON
NOVEMBER 15, 2022



VACo Membership Adopts Legislative Program

Thank you for your participation in the development and adoption of the [VACo 2023 Legislative Program](#).

Please take a moment to review the adopted program.

[VACo 2023 Legislative Program](#)

“Money Committees” Hold Annual Pre-Session Retreats, Signal Budget Priorities for 2023



BUDGET

The General Assembly’s “money committees” – the House Appropriations, House Finance, and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees – held their annual retreats earlier this month, with the House Appropriations and House Finance Committees meeting November 14 in Richmond and the Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee convening November 17-18 in Farmville. These meetings traditionally provide an overview of state and national economic conditions and briefings on key issues that will shape budget deliberations in the upcoming legislative session, as well as staff’s revenue projections and assessments of major budget pressures and priority spending items. Common themes of the two retreats included the uncertainty of revenue forecasts and the importance of preserving structural balance in the state budget. Committee staff in both chambers encouraged members to consider one-time spending items rather than ongoing commitments.

October revenues

Secretary of Finance Stephen Cummings presented [an update on state General Fund revenues](#) to the House retreat on November 14. State revenues continued to perform well in October, although the Secretary’s [November 15 memorandum](#) strikes a note of caution regarding the potential effects of inflation and actions by the Federal Reserve’s Open Market Committee to bring it under control. In October, General Fund (GF) revenues increased by 3 percent. On a fiscal year-to-date basis, GF revenues declined by 3.1 percent, outperforming the 14 percent decrease incorporated in the current biennium budget; revenues are exceeding projections by \$840 million. Individual income tax withholding continues to reflect a robust labor market, with growth of 8.2 percent on a fiscal year-to-date basis (ahead of a projected 0.1 percent decline). However, the Secretary’s memorandum points out that sales and use tax and individual income tax nonwithholding collections may suffer as the economy cools in response to actions by the Federal Reserve. The Secretary writes, “[y]ear-over-year increases in sales tax collections primarily reflect the impact of heightened inflation. With inflation continuing to exceed wage growth, this negative impact on real wages is not sustainable.” There is similar concern that nonwithholding revenues (the bulk of which are collected in the final quarter of the fiscal year) will not continue their current robust performance; the memorandum notes, “because filers generally make nonwithholding payments at this time of year based on prior year tax liability, current collections do not reflect the volatility in the stock market and its weakness compared to a year ago.”

House Appropriations and House Finance

In addition to the Secretary’s presentation, members received a [briefing on the state’s reserves](#); an [update on the capital outlay pool](#); an [update on the state’s debt capacity](#); a [report on the effects of inflation and supply chain disruptions on the Virginia Department of Transportation and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation](#); an [update on the Virginia Business Ready Sites program](#); and staff’s [revenue projections](#) (including the [Medicaid forecast](#)).

Similar to the Secretary's assessment, House Appropriations staff indicated that nonwithholding collections represent the "greatest risk to the FY 2023 forecast," noting the historical volatility of this revenue source and the difficulty of determining the degree to which September and January payments are "safe harbor" payments. Staff forecast a total GF decline of 7.4 percent in FY 2023 (rather than the 14 percent decline incorporated in the current budget), and growth of 5.1 percent in FY 2024 (down from the 9.6 percent growth included in the current budget), resulting in a projected \$1.96 billion in FY 2023 and \$930 million in FY 2024 above levels in the adopted budget (for a total of \$2.89 billion over the biennium above levels in the adopted budget).

Staff identified \$9.5 million in mandatory spending in FY 2023 and \$119.6 million in FY 2024. In addition, state agencies submitted a total of \$875 million in non-technical operating budget requests. Committee staff identified high-priority spending items totaling \$7.8 million in FY 2023 and \$152.7-\$257 million in FY 2024, including funding for a portion of unfunded or underfunded positions in Constitutional offices, bonuses for Community Services Board staff and funding for the state's crisis services system, salary and rent increases for local health departments, and funding to address recommendations to improve Child Protective Services. Staff also suggested that the legislature may wish to increase compensation for state employees, state-supported local employees, and SOQ-funded positions in FY 2024 given continued high inflation and staffing issues (or provide one-time bonuses to offset inflation).

Committee staff encouraged a continued focus on one-time expenditures rather than using excess FY 2023 revenues to support ongoing expenditures (noting also that simply maintaining current service levels may require increasing expenditures). Such one-time spending could include cash infusions into VRS, using cash for capital outlay, addressing cost increases in already-authorized projects, providing employee bonuses, making economic development investments, or upgrading outdated IT systems.

Senate Finance and Appropriations

Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee members received a [briefing on economic conditions](#) from a representative of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond; [an analysis of demographic changes in Virginia and their effect on school enrollment](#); a [related presentation](#) on the funding implications of these projected changes in school enrollment; and presentations on key topics in [public safety](#), [workforce development](#) (including the Administration's proposal to consolidate workforce programs under a new Virginia Department of Workforce Development and Advancement), [transportation](#), and [human services](#).

Similar to their House counterparts, Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee staff [forecast](#) an upward adjustment to revenues in FY 2023, with slower growth in FY 2024; likewise, Senate staff express significant concern about the volatility of nonwithholding collections and the risk nonwithholding poses to the forecast. Senate staff assume a decline of 6.7 percent in GF revenues in FY 2023 and growth of 3.4 percent in FY 2024, translating into \$2.2 billion in FY 2023 and \$682.8 million in FY 2024 above the amounts included in the adopted budget (or approximately \$2.9 billion in additional resources over the biennium).

Committee staff compiled a list of major budget pressures totaling \$215.9 million in FY 2023 and \$697.9 million in FY 2024, including expected requirements for capital outlay project supplements to address inflation; economic development projects; compensation increases; crisis system funding; and K-12 enrollment and technical updates. Staff also stressed the importance of structural balance in considering ongoing spending commitments, citing the uncertainty of the economic outlook, and suggested use of additional revenues for one-time expenditures.

Next steps

The Governor's Advisory Council on Revenue Estimates met November 21, and the Governor will release a revised revenue forecast, along with his proposed amendments to the biennium budget, on December 15.

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PUBLIC HEARINGS NOTICE

**GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE 2022-2024 BIENNIAL
STATE BUDGET**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS AND SENATE FINANCE AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEES OF THE VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY WILL HOLD **VIRTUAL** REGIONAL PUBLIC HEARINGS ON THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE 2022-2024 BIENNIAL STATE BUDGET, AS FOLLOWS:

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2023

(Hearings begin at 10:00 a.m.)

All public hearings will be held virtually. There will be four separate virtual hearings with legislators from each region participating as follows:

Northern Virginia Western Virginia Hampton Roads Central Virginia (Richmond)

Public registration to speak at one of the public hearings will occur on Wednesday, January 4, 2023. Please check either of the following websites for more information:

Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee Website (sfac.virginia.gov)

House Appropriations Committee Website (hac.virginia.gov)

Public Hearings will be livestreamed on the Virginia General Assembly [Website](https://virginiageneralassembly.gov/membersAndSession.php?secid=1&activesec=0#!hb=1&mainContentTabs=0)

<https://virginiageneralassembly.gov/membersAndSession.php?secid=1&activesec=0#!hb=1&mainContentTabs=0>

The purpose of the hearings is to receive comments on the Governor's proposed amendments to the 2022-24 biennial state budget. Those persons wishing to speak may register to speak the **day before** each virtual hearing.

Speakers will be taken in the order of registration. Each person may register only one speaker at a time and only sign-up to speak at one of the hearings. Speakers are asked to limit their comments to three minutes or less. Speakers representing groups and organizations should consolidate remarks to reduce duplication. Persons unable to attend may submit their comments electronically at https://hodspeak.house.virginia.gov/upcoming_meetings

People with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations by calling (804) 698-7480. All requests for reasonable accommodations must be received by 5:00 p.m., Tuesday December 27, 2022. Requested arrangements for sign language interpreters, received by December 27th, will be provided via video format.

VACo/VML/VAPDC Virginia Rural Center Local Government Day

Thursday, January 19, 2023 | [Omni Richmond Hotel](#)
[REGISTRATION FORM](#) | [REGISTER ONLINE](#)

Local Government Day

It's a day for all of us. Counties. Cities. Towns. Planning Districts. It's a day for us to learn how the decisions being made by the General Assembly might affect us. And it's a day to make our voices heard. Attend Local Government Day. Then visit the Capitol to meet with your legislators and observe committee meetings. Later join us for a reception.

Registration Fee

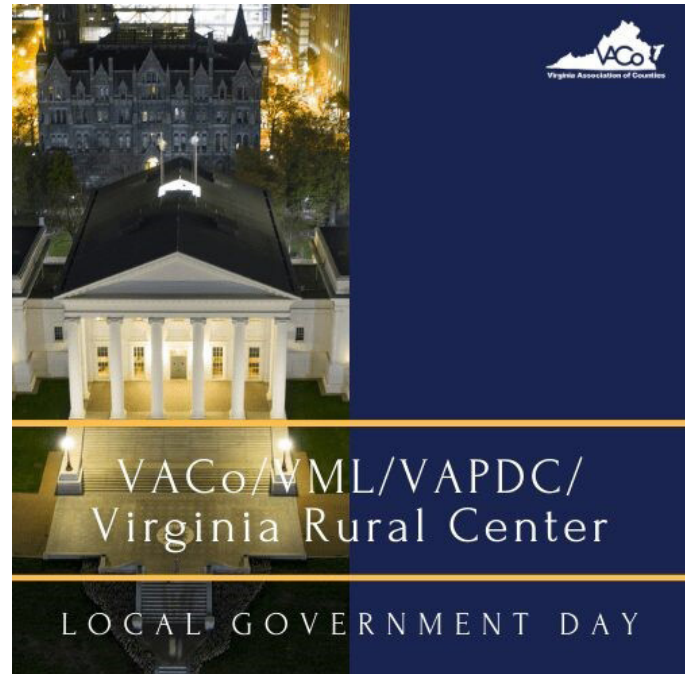
\$100 Day Briefing only (Noon – 2pm)
\$100 Reception only (530pm)
\$150 for both | \$175 late registration

Agenda

9 am – VACo Board of Directors Meeting
11 am – Registration/Check In
11:30am – Lunch
Noon – Local Government Day
Afternoon – Visit the Capitol to speak with legislators
5:30pm – Reception

Hotel Reservation Details

Lodging costs are not covered in the registration fee. Local Government Day is held at the Omni Richmond Hotel, 100 South 12th Street, Richmond, VA 23219. Room rates start at \$165 (single room occupancy). To reserve a hotel room, call 804.344.7000 by January 3, 2023, with this code: Government Legislative Day 2023 Group or reserve a room at this [Omni Richmond Hotel link](#).



[REGISTRATION FORM](#) | [REGISTER ONLINE](#)

RURAL CAUCUS RECEPTION

January 18, 2023 | 530pm – 8pm
Omni Richmond Hotel

[REGISTRATION FORM](#) | [REGISTER ONLINE](#)
[OMNI HOTEL ROOM FORM](#)



Join us on Wednesday, January 18 for the Rural Reception hosted by VACo and the Virginia Rural Center. Discuss issues that impact rural Virginia with colleagues and legislators while making personal connections with folks from across the Commonwealth. Register today [online](#) or fax the [Registration Form](#) to 804.788.0083.

Cost – \$150 per person

Hotel Reservation Details

Lodging costs are not covered in the registration fee. The Chairpersons' Institute is held at the Omni Richmond Hotel, 100 South 12th Street, Richmond, VA 23219. Room rates start at \$165 (single room occupancy). To reserve a hotel room, call 804.344.7000 by January 3, 2023, with this code: **Government Legislative Day 2023 Group** or reserve a room at this [Omni Richmond Hotel link](#).

We look forward to seeing you at these two exciting events during the 2023 General Assembly Session.

VACo Contact: [Valerie Russell](#)

CHAIRPERSONS' INSTITUTE

Friday, January 20, 2023 | Saturday, January 21, 2023

Omni Richmond Hotel

[REGISTRATION FORM](#) | [REGISTER ONLINE](#)
[OMNI HOTEL ROOM FORM](#)



Virginia Association of Counties offers the County Board Chairpersons' Institute to Board Chairs to focus on the specific roles of that position, including meeting management, communications, work relationships, leadership, and goal setting. An overview of county government and the work of county supervisors are also covered.

Dates: Friday, January 20, 2023 and Saturday, January 21, 2023

Location: [Omni Richmond Hotel](#)

Who should attend: New and incumbent County Board Chairs and Vice Chairs will come away with information they need to guide their Board through their leadership cycle. But ALL County Supervisors are encouraged to register and attend.

Registration Fee: \$350

Hotel Reservation Details: Lodging costs are not covered in the registration fee. The Chairpersons' Institute is held at the Omni Richmond Hotel, 100 South 12th Street, Richmond, VA 23219. Room rates start at \$165 (single room occupancy). To reserve a hotel room, call 804.344.7000 by January 3, 2023, with this code: **Government Legislative Day 2023 Group** or reserve a room at this [Omni Richmond Hotel link](#).

[REGISTRATION FORM](#)

[REGISTER ONLINE](#)

Cratering Newspapers Leave County Stories Untold

by Charlie Ban
NACo County News Senior Writer

The *Herald-Progress* made Faye Prichard's career in public service possible.

As an Ashland, Va. resident who got into community organizing in the early 2000s, before the dawn of social media, she didn't have much public visibility until she met with the paper's longtime editor and publisher, Jay Pace.

"Jay would make endorsements, but everyone had to come in and meet with him and talk about the issues," she said. "He endorsed me and said, 'She does her work.' It really changed everything for me."

Prichard won election to the town council and a decade later, joined the Hanover County Board of Supervisors. About the same time, though, she saw her hometown paper change hands when it was bought by investors in a neighboring county, then a neighboring state, with investment in the newsroom decreasing along the way.

The frequency of published news decreased, the paper's staff photographer position was eliminated and reporters showed up less and less to town council and Board of Supervisor meetings. The news coverage became more superficial and the paper retreated as a public forum, even as it established operations near the center of town. It stopped publication in 2018.

"In my mind, the greatest downfall of local newspapers is that we don't have reporters who know their localities and follow up on things," Prichard said. "Part of it is that there are no reporters to call people anymore and nobody who's invested enough in the stories to know who to call or what things are all about. You can tell what happens from the minutes, but you have no idea what any of that means."

During the same timeframe, Hanover County lost another weekly newspaper, the *Mechanicsville Local*, and has seen scant attention from the nearby *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, which has shed staff while its owner fended off an acquisition by a hedge fund in 2021. If the county is lucky, the local Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist will turn his eye to the north from Richmond, but that's far from consistent coverage.

Hanover County isn't an aberration. At the end of May 2022, the United States had 6,380 newspapers — 1,230 that publish daily and 5,150 that publish weekly, according to a Northwestern University study. Since 2005, more than 2,500 newspapers have folded, accounting for more than a quarter of the papers at the start of that period, and the country is on track to lose a third of the pre-2005 papers by 2025.

The study found that 200 counties don't have a newspaper, representing 70 million people, and 1,630 counties have only one newspaper, typically a weekly. Those communities that lose their papers don't tend to have alternative news sources, leaving most residents to get their news from social media.

Retaining newspapers doesn't mean things are great, either. As large chains consolidate ownership, their newspaper staffs are exposed to layoffs and job cuts, with a recent 400-person layoff at newspaper giant Gannett, with more on the horizon in December, serving as just the most recent in a decades-long reduction in journalists across the industry. Lee Enterprises, which owns the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* near Hanover County, has cut nearly 400 positions in 2022, also, though its holdings are smaller than Gannett's.

Photo by Leon
Lawrence III



Story and photo reprinted with permission from NACo County News.

Story County, Iowa Supervisor Latifah Faisal speaks during the 2022 County Leadership Institute.

Consolidations preserve some newspapers in theory, but ultimately can deteriorate the identity of local papers in a pyrrhic victory, such as when the weeklies the *Humboldt Sun*, *Battle Mountain Bugle* and *Lovelock Review-Miner*, representing three Nevada counties, combined print editions as the *Great Basin Sun* in June 2022.

At first glance, Story County, Iowa seems like a thriving media ecosystem, with three weeklies and a daily. But the weekly *Nevada Journal*, *Tri-County Times* and *Story City Herald* are all owned by the daily *Ames Tribune*, which was recently bought by Gannett. What appeared to be four different perspectives is all one, and there's no chance that competition will drive newspapers to step up their coverage. And the staffing situation at many papers has spread reporters thin and contributed mightily to burnout. The industry is chronically underpaid and relies heavily on entry-level writers who don't have the tenure to develop institutional knowledge.

"We have one reporter who came to a couple of meetings and she does reach out to us every once in a while, but there's too much ground she's got to cover by herself," said Story County Supervisor Chair Latifah Faisal. "I think she does a pretty good job of attending the Ames City Council meetings, but I don't believe she makes it to every single meeting."

Though the county is developing an in-house media plan, recent years have lacked a third-party scrutiny that Faisal said would not only push the county to do better, but also give the county some outside credibility while supervisors debate and discuss important issues, like allocation of American Rescue Plan Act funding. The county tries to show its work, but nobody is watching.

"We were pushing out information on our Facebook and social media and we were talking to people about it when we were at different events, but there were very few articles in the paper about ARPA when we opened up applications for grant funding opportunities," she said. "I think there was an article about when we finally decided to award some of the funds," but the lack of coverage made the county's process seem less transparent.

Karl Anton Neff, an Owen County councilmember in Indiana, understands the balance newspapers have to strike, but worries that paywalls, such as those locking stories in his hometown, at Gannett-owned *Spencer Evening World*, discourages residents from reading the news.

"There's a lot of the public that expects that information to be accessible all the time," he said.

Like Faisal, he looks to social media as an asset, particularly for small counties like his, and takes on the leadership for his council, disseminating information to his Facebook followers.

"If there is a big issue, like we're increasing the tax rate, I'll publish how it impacts people's bottom lines, usually with a chart showing where the money goes and often the local paper will ask if they can use the chart and integrate it into an article.

"Local officials should step up to the plate, they can help the local news situation, if they put themselves out there and provide valuable information," Neff said. "That could be a way to make up for when a newspaper can't do it."

But he said newspapers have to add their own value and make an honest effort to cover issues.

"Sending a reporter to see what's going on and writing about it is a lot different than sending a reporter the next day to read the minutes or listen to the tape," he said. "You don't get the three dimensions, the commissions, the public, the counsel interplay. Is there a confrontation? Is there body language? The reporter is picking that up, you can't do that after the fact."

Social media is at a crossroads, with Facebook reexamining its relationships with publications that populate its dedicated news section, the Wall Street Journal reports, with deals that paid publishers tens of millions of dollars expiring this year. At the same time, Twitter's revised verification standards are prompting soul-searching about what is reliable.

"I wonder if this isn't the moment in history for the resurgence of the newspaper," Prichard said.

The problem is capturing people's attention versus, covering what is important.

"The 'least sexy' but most important thing we do is land use," she noted.

"It is where you and your children will live in 20 years, how your community will develop, the safety of your home and how your schools will develop."

But when Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin (R) suggested making it harder for counties and independent cities in Virginia to block dense development, Prichard saw Youngkin's proposal to interfere with local land use authority barely make a splash in local news.

"A real reporter would have been picking it apart and reporting that the governor is trying to take control over local zoning," she said.

"That's a front-page story."



Top 10 Attributes of a Well Run Treasury Department



Watch later



Share



Watch on YouTube

Top 10 Attributes Of A Well-Run Treasury Department

three+one® vice president, Mike Ablowich has worked in public financial management for nearly 30 years as a State Treasurer, State Budget Director, and technical advisor to numerous national treasuries in developing and transition countries on behalf of the United States Treasury Department. He shares his wealth of knowledge with 10 attributes for you to focus on that will improve your operations and internal controls while delivering important benefits to your stakeholders and staff.

Emphasizing innovation in the marketplace is necessary, Mike notes, “There’s a big difference between working in your business and working on your business.” Being open to innovation and “working on your business” is the first step to improving your operations. His presentation will provide you with some ideas to consider as you plan for strategic initiatives to improve your finance office.

[WATCH NOW](#) to discover some new ideas for improving your operations and innovative ways to harness the power of your own financial transaction data.

<https://threeplusone.us/2022/11/01/top-10-attributes-of-a-well-run-treasury-department/>



TRUEBLUETM

SPEED ENFORCEMENT | SCHOOL ZONE



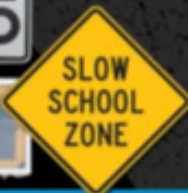
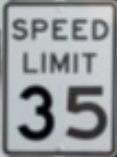
TrueBlue School
Zone Enforcement
Programs average a

92%

reduction of
speeding vehicles
within the first
90 days.

WE PROVIDE THE TOOLS

TO MAKE YOUR SCHOOLS A SAFER PLACE TO WALK, PLAY, AND LEARN.



LIDAR Vs RADAR

BLS utilizes LIDAR to identify vehicles and calculate their speed, not radar like most other companies. LIDAR is 100% accurate in determining exactly which vehicle it is capturing. In our stationary cameras, a LIDAR (laser) beam is aimed into a single lane and vehicles drive through it. The LIDAR captures several hundred data points determining the speed as the vehicle travels through the beam.

WE ALSO OFFER FREE ALPR CAMERAS



PRECISE, EFFECTIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT

TrueBlue ALPR is your agency's most formidable ally. Our software-assisted plate-reading units are the most powerful license plate recognition program available anywhere today, leveraging a sleeker, self-contained design that can run completely on solar energy.



TRIPLE-THREAT TECHNOLOGY

We can enforce speeds, capture crimes or events through video management. So we're not just reducing speeds; we're also providing criminal investigation resources at zero cost.



IN MORE PLACES AT ONCE

Adding TrueBlue ALPR to mobile surveillance cameras reinvents how an agency combats crime. Now a trailer can be moved according to an agency's changing needs, streaming video in real time, identifying individuals and generating customized data.

Why Choose Us ?

Most companies want to "put up cameras and cash checks". That's exactly how the automated industry has received such a bad name. Blue Line Solutions (BLS) believes there should be a high level of responsibility regarding educational elements as well as enforcement. Following standards set by the National Highway Safety Administration and the FHWA, our program consists of three elements:

PUBLIC INFORMATION
EDUCATION
ENFORCEMENT



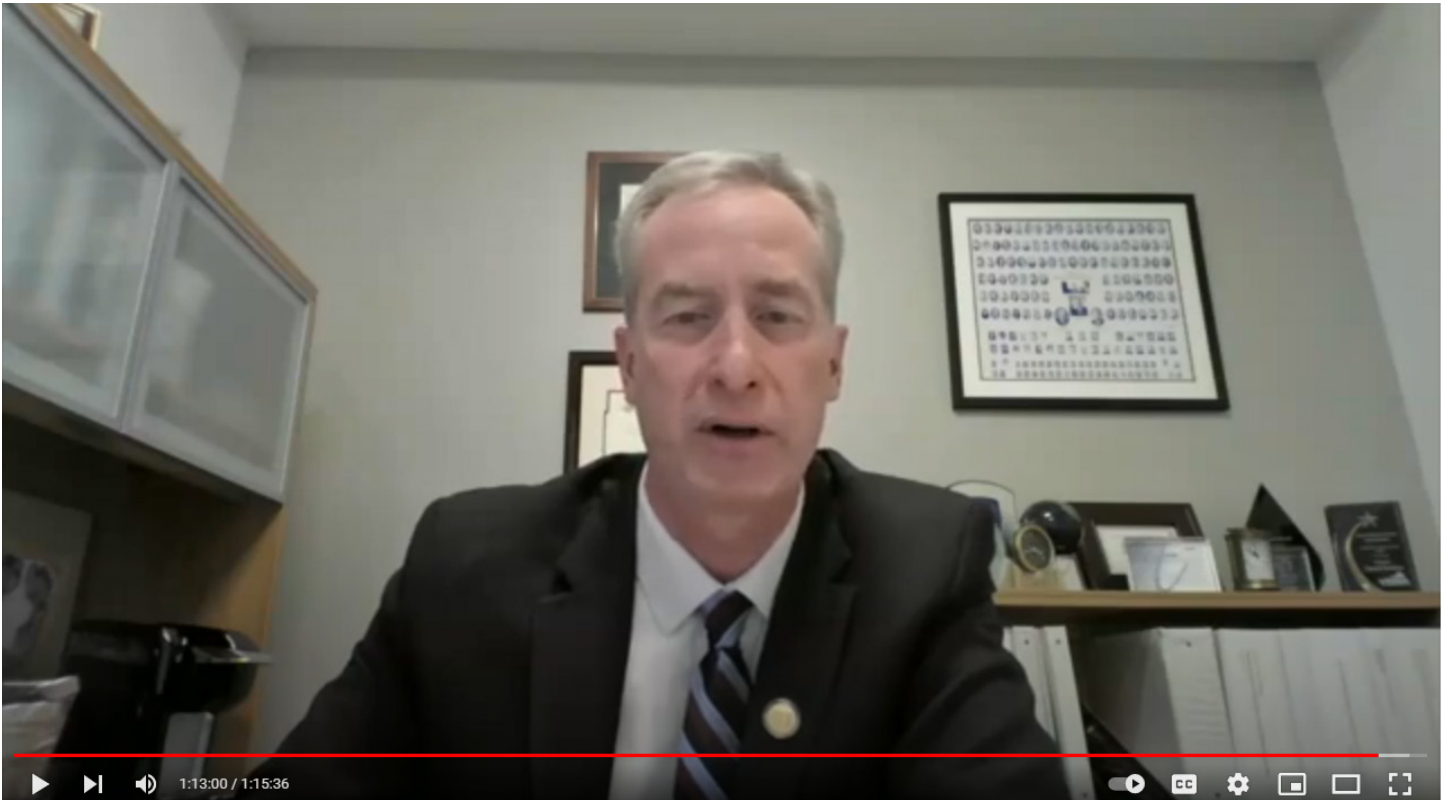
1-423-541-9316



www.bluelinesolutions.com



3903 Volunteer Drive
Chattanooga, TN 37416



New Approaches to Building Resilience in Counties

A variety of expert panelists describe new tools and approaches that counties can use to increase their resilience to flooding impacts.

Dr. Molly Mitchell from the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) will discuss tools that can help localities determine the predicted level of flooding in their area, and VIMS' recent work to map predicted flooding of wells, septic systems and transportation networks.

Lewie Lawrence, Executive Director of the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission, will describe the PDC's innovative Fight the Flood Program and how it connects residents to potential funding and contractors to assist them with resilience efforts.

And Delegate **David Bulova** will provide an overview of legislative efforts to address resilience, including the new Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund.

Moderator **Elizabeth Andrews**, Director of the Coastal Policy Center at William & Mary Law School, will also provide a summary of some other resilience tools and initiatives in the Commonwealth.

Watch the Video – <https://youtu.be/B6SdTCbbzXY>

Dr. Molly Mitchell Presentation – https://www.vaco.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/SeaLevelRiseFlooding_VACo.pdf

Elizabeth Andrews Presentation – <https://www.vaco.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/VACoNewApproachesBuildingResilienceCounties.pdf>

Inflation Reduction Act: Clean Energy Investment Tax Credits

Until Dec 31, 2024	Highlights	Deadlines to Consider	Additional Details
Extension of Energy Investment Tax Credit (Section 48)	Extends the existing energy investment tax credit for applicable energy projects. This tech-specific ITC ends in 2024 for most technologies and is replaced by the new tech-neutral Clean Electricity ITC (48D), which begins in 2025.	Extends date of construction in most cases to 2024 and maintains a 10% or 30% credit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains 30% credit for solar energy property, geothermal property, fiber-optic solar property, fuel cell property, microturbine property, small wind property, offshore wind property, combined heat and power property, and waste energy recovery property constructed before January 1, 2025. Creates 30% credit for energy storage technology biogas property, microgrid controllers, dynamic glass, and linear generators constructed before January 1, 2025. This credit can be up to 40% if in Opportunity Zones and designated rural areas. More later in this presentation Extends 10% credit for microturbine projects constructed before January 1, 2025. 30% credit for geothermal heat pump projects constructed before January 1, 2033. Credit reduces to 26% in 2033 and 22% in 2034.

ICG BILTgroup
GreeneHurlocker Bryan International Law & Tax

Greg Bryant

Next slide

Inflation Reduction Act: Clean Energy Investment Tax Credits

New in 2025	Highlights	Deadlines to Consider	Additional Details
New Clean Electricity Investment Tax Credit (48D)	This newly established, tech-neutral ITC (48D) replaces the above energy ITC since it phases out at the end of 2024. 48D is an emissions-based incentive that is neutral and flexible between clean electricity technologies. Taxpayers choose between a PTC (48V) and an ITC (48D).	Credits are set to phase out the later of 2032 or when emission targets are achieved (i.e., the electric power sector emits 75% less carbon than 2022 levels).	Creates an ITC credit of 50% of the investment in the year the facility is placed in service. Clean electricity projects smaller than 3 MW can include the costs of interconnection under the ITC. The Treasury Department is directed to publish emission rates for similar technologies each year for taxpayers to use for purposes of determining their eligibility. Facilities will be able to claim a credit at 50% value in the first year, then 75%, then 50%, and then 0%.

ICG BILTgroup
GreeneHurlocker Bryan International Law & Tax

No Notes.

18:21 / 59:23 Slide 6 of 22

Opportunities in Energy Investment under Inflation Reduction Act

A significant component of the recently passed IRA seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40 percent below 2005 levels by 2030. It does so by making significant investments in climate and environment programs and providing tax incentives to boost the development and deployment of clean energy. These investments include multiple direct funding opportunities for counties to save money while reducing emissions.

This webinar provides VACo members with a summary and explanation of how Virginia counties can take advantage of these investments. The panel of experts walk through the basics of the IRA regarding eligible funding opportunities in regard to deployment of technology, and how federal energy tax credits have been significantly modified and increased so that counties can utilize them to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

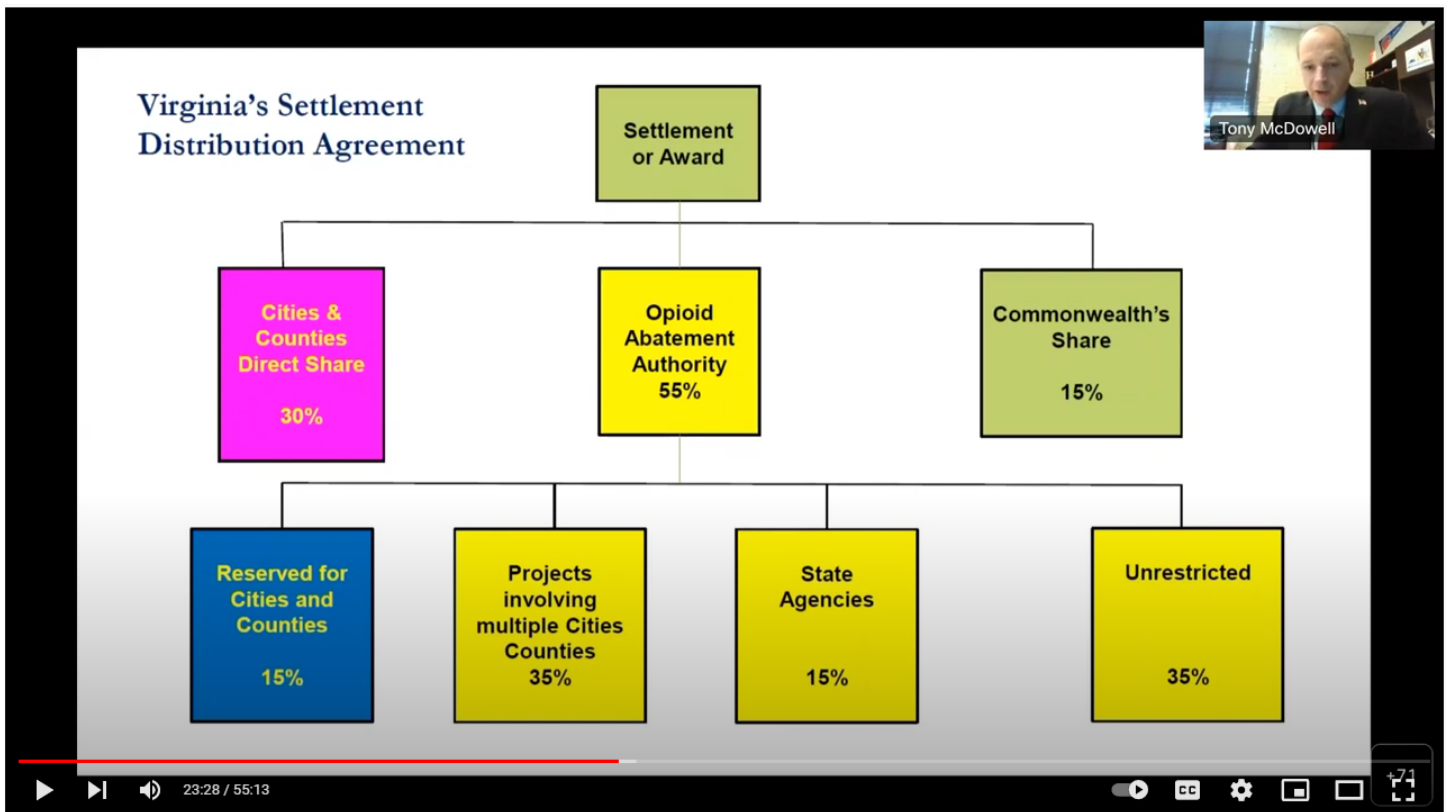
Attorney Eric Hurlocker, co-founder of GreeneHurlocker, PLC, which provides a broad range of administrative law, business and corporate law, commercial real estate law, employment law, energy law, mergers and acquisition counsel, regulatory law, and litigation legal services throughout the Mid-Atlantic.

CPA and Attorney Gregory Bryant, founder and managing partner of the BILTgroup, which provides clients expertise on understanding the nuances of federal tax and accounting law including the IRA.

Larry Cummings is a Regional Comprehensive Energy Leader for Trane and manages 5 states for them. Larry has been the Chair of VT's Sustainability Institute and President of VCU's College of Engineering Foundation, as well as being on various Boards for industry groups.

Watch the Video – <https://youtu.be/rS8socSfWC8>

Gregory Bryant (BILTgroup) and Erick Hurlocker (GreeneHurlocker, PLC) PRESENTATION – <https://www.vaco.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/EnergyInvestmentsIRAWebinarSlides22.pdf>



Briefing on Opioid Abatement Authority

Tony McDowell, Executive Director of the Opioid Abatement Authority, provided a briefing for VACo members on the Authority's plans for the distribution of funding being provided to the state from recent settlements of opioid-related litigation. A portion of these funds will be provided to localities, in addition to the direct distributions localities are receiving from the settlements.

Link to Video

<https://youtu.be/LhAy0UGqgsI>

PowerPoint Presentation

<https://www.vaco.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/OAA-presentation-to-VACo-10.12.22.pdf>

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



Premier Partner Spotlight The Berkley Group



The Berkley Group | Part 1

Join Dean Lynch and Drew Williams, CEO, as they discuss the history of the Berkley Group and where they are today. The Berkley Group is the go-to consultant for Virginia counties and their communities. For more information, please visit www.bgllic.net.

What doors can we open for you?

Watch the [Premier Partner Video](#)

2023 EXCELLENCE IN VIRGINIA GOVERNMENT AWARDS

**VCU**L. Douglas Wilder School of
Government and Public Affairs

Excellence in Virginia Government Awards Nominations Open

The L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs at Virginia Commonwealth University is pleased to announce the 16th annual Excellence in Virginia Government Awards (EVGA) on **April 11, 2023** at Noon. EVGA celebrates people and organizations in the public and private sectors who have made significant contributions to the practice of government and the well-being of our communities and citizens.

“These awards recognize outstanding work at all levels of government in Virginia and honor dedicated public service, innovative approaches and commitment to excellence,” said Susan T. Gooden, Ph.D., dean of the Wilder School.

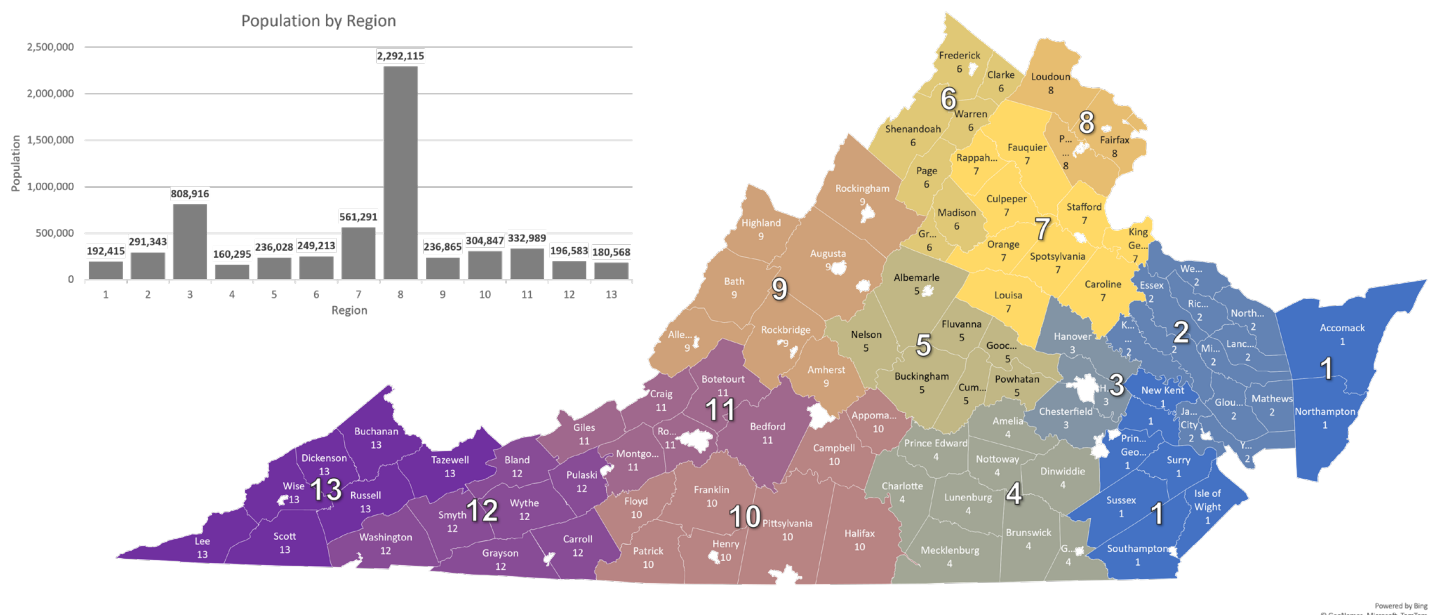
Nominations for the 2023 Awards will be accepted through November 1, 2022. Nominations are being accepted in seven categories: Community Enhancement, Grace E. Harris Leadership Award, Hill-Robinson Expansion of Freedom, Innovation in Government, Lifetime Achievement, Public-Private Partnerships, and Unsung Hero.

To make a nomination, learn more details about the Excellence in Virginia Government Awards, including criteria and past winners, go to <https://bit.ly/evgavcu> or contact Paula Otto, piotto@vcu.edu.

Reapportionment and Bylaw Amendment

The VACo Bylaws provide for reapportionment every ten years beginning in 1991. The VACo President named a reapportionment committee in 2021 and the committee began the process when the census data was available. The committee presented its recommendations to the VACo Board of Directors at its meeting on June 4, 2022. The Board of Directors accepted the recommendation of the committee, which would add three seats to the VACo Board of Directors consisting of one rural, one suburban and one urban area seat. The specific changes to the existing VACo regions are as follows. New Kent County and Charles City County would be moved from Region 3 to Region 1. Montgomery County would be moved from Region 10 to Region 11. Region 11 would receive an additional seat. Region 8 would gain an additional seat based on population increases. The Board also endorsed a proposed Bylaw amendment, which would remove the 24-seat cap on Regional Director positions and would allow the additional seats to be added to the VACo Board of Directors.

The Membership of the association passed the Bylaw amendment at its Annual meeting on November 15, 2022. The reapportioned map of regions and the Bylaw are below.



Article IX entitled *Board of Directors*, shall be amended in Section 2 by adding the words **Regional Directors** and deleting the words **twenty-four members** as indicated below.

ARTICLE IX

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Authority and Responsibility. The governing body of this Association shall be the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall have supervision, control, and direction of the affairs of the Association, its committees, and its publications; shall determine its policies or changes therein; and shall actively prosecute its objectives.

Section 2. Composition and Election. The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, The President-Elect, the First Vice-President, the Second Vice-President, the Secretary-Treasurer, the Immediate Past-President, the three next most recent Virginia Association of Counties past-presidents who currently hold office as elected Virginia county supervisors who may serve only for 3 more years after their term as immediate past president, and **Regional Directors** ~~twenty-four members~~ elected on a “one person - one vote” basis from compact and contiguous Regions into which the State shall be divided for purposes of representation. Such regional directors shall be selected at the annual meeting by the member counties located within the region which the director will represent. The Board of Directors shall designate at least one member of the Board to represent the Association on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Counties. Any county supervisor who serves on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Counties shall also serve as an ex-officio member of the VACo Board of Directors.

Section 3. Qualification. Only elected county supervisors representing Virginia counties in good standing shall be eligible to stand for election to the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Term. Regional Directors shall be elected for two-year staggered terms with approximately fifty percent of its members elected and installed at each Annual Business Meeting. No Regional Directors shall serve more than four full consecutive terms. Any tenure as an officer of the Association shall not be included as any part of the tenure of the aforementioned four consecutive terms. The Regional Directors elected and installed at the Annual Business Meeting shall assume office immediately after the close of such meeting. Such Directors shall hold office until their successors are elected and installed. No Director shall continue to hold office after formally leaving office as an elected Virginia county supervisor. Past presidents may serve in that capacity for only three more years after their service as Immediate Past President.

Section 5. Reapportionment. Beginning in 1991, and every ten years thereafter, regional representation on the Board of Directors shall be reapportioned.

Section 6. Meetings. The Board of Directors shall hold quarterly regular meetings at such time and such place as the Board may prescribe. Notice of all such meetings shall be given to the members not less than thirty days before the meeting is held. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President or at the request of any three Directors elected from separate Regions of the Association. Meetings of the Board of Directors may be held by conference call or other electronic means and votes may be taken.

Section 7. Quorum. At any meeting of the Board of Directors, the members present, and voting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the Association. Any such business thus transacted shall be valid providing it is affirmatively passed by upon by a majority of those members present and voting.

Section 8. Vacancies. Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors between Annual Business Meetings shall be filled by the Board. A Director so elected to fill a vacancy shall serve the unexpired term of the predecessor.

Congratulations!

We love presenting Achievement Awards
at Board of Supervisors Meetings



**Congratulations Northern Virginia Partnership
(Submitted by Prince William County)!**



Congratulations Sussex County!



Happy 20th Anniversary VACo Achievement Awards!

Great to see so many friends in this video. The VACo Achievement Awards truly does bring us together in pursuit of improving our communities.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the VACo Achievement Awards during the past 20 years.

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)



Take Your Leadership Skills to the Next Level Through the NACo High Performance Leadership Academy

The [NACo High Performance Leadership Academy](#) is an online 12-week program that empowers frontline county government professionals with the most fundamental leadership skills to deliver results for counties and communities.

NACo and the Professional Development Academy created the interactive program in collaboration with the late General Colin Powell, Dr. Marshall Goldsmith, private sector executives, and local government officials—all to enable your existing and emerging county leaders to achieve their highest potentials.

More than 5,000 participants have enrolled from counties across the country since the launch of the program, with incredible feedback and results. In fact, the positive feedback and demand for this NACo program has been truly unprecedented: to the point that NACo now has four scheduled opportunities to attend each year.



5,000+ Participants to Date



1,600+ Counties & Associations



5.5 Million+ In Scholarship Savings

The Academy has proven relevant and non-disruptive for self-paced and collaborative learning. Participants have the opportunity to engage with peers from other counties and receive expert guidance from program facilitators throughout the 12 weeks of course materials, all with a flexible 4-5 hour per week time commitment.

The cost per enrollee begins at \$1,645. Additional discounts may apply. Contact us for more details for your state.

To enroll, visit the [NACo High Performance Leadership Academy](#) webpage at NACo.org/Skills.

For questions and assistance in enrolling, please contact Treina Smith-Slatt at treinas@pdaleadership.com



"This is a transformational leadership program that has proven to be the most scalable, cost effective, and efficient way to make your leaders better."

- General Colin Powell

Top 10 Participating Counties & Associations:

Hennepin County, MN
Fairfield County, OH
Texas Association of Counties
Montgomery County, MD
Douglas County, NE
Riverside County, CA
Tulare County, CA
Maricopa County, AZ
Sutter County, CA
Hamilton County, OH



Premier Partner Spotlight

Blue Line Solutions



Blue Line Solutions

VACo Premier Partner Blue Line Solutions offers a TrueBlue Highway Safety Program that can be implemented in School Zones and Construction Zones, where data has shown that drivers are unaware that their driving behavior is not in alignment with public safety. A key element of this program - drivers are first educated through several media outlets, that their driving patterns through these zones need to change to keep their communities safe. The education has had a profound and positive effect on driving behavior.

Please contact Greg Hogston for more information: ghogston@bluelinesolutions.org or 276.759.8064 or visit <https://bluelinesolutions.org>.

Watch the [Blue Line Solutions Video Part 1](#)

Watch the [Blue Line Solutions Video Part 2](#)

Watch the [Blue Line Solutions Video Part 3](#)

Watch the [Blue Line Solutions Video Part 4](#)

#InvestinChildCareVA

We are proud to be a member of the Virginia Promise Partnership, a coalition of 30+ leading organizations committed to quality, affordable child care for all Virginia families.

Please watch and share this video to show your support for child care!

[#VaPromise](#)

[#ChildCareIsEssential](#)

[#MoreChildrenMoreChoices](#)

[#WeNeedChildCareVA](#)

[#InvestinChildCareVA](#)



[Virginia Promise in Action - Video Campaign Compilation - YouTube](#)

A graphic titled 'MEMBER SPOTLIGHT' in yellow, hand-drawn style letters. In the top left corner is the Virginia Promise Partnership logo. On the left side is a portrait of Jeremy Bennett, a man in a dark suit and patterned tie. To the right of the portrait is a quote in dark teal text: "Access to safe and affordable childcare is an essential component to allow local businesses and county economies to thrive." Below the quote, the name 'JEREMY BENNETT' is written in yellow, hand-drawn style letters, followed by his title 'DIRECTOR OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS' and 'VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES' in the same yellow style. In the bottom right corner is the Virginia Association of Counties logo, which includes a map of Virginia and the text 'VACo Virginia Association of Counties'.

VIRGINIA COUNTY SUPERVISORS' MANUAL

EIGHTH EDITION



ORDER YOURS TODAY
\$75 EACH

(SHIPPING IS INCLUDED)



Virginia County Supervisors' Manual 8th Edition



The Eighth Edition 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.

ORDER YOUR ALL-NEW VOLUME NOW

ORDER FORM

NAME: _____ TITLE: _____

COUNTY (OR ORGANIZATION): _____

SHIPPING ADDRESS: _____

CITY / STATE / ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Manuals are \$75 per copy. Number of Copies _____.

☐ Check enclosed for \$_____ Make payable to **VACo Services, Inc.**

CREDIT CARD AUTHORIZATION:

Charge Options: _____ American Express _____ MasterCard _____ VISA

Card No: _____ Exp. Date _____

Cardholder Name: _____

Authorized Signature: _____

Email for credit card receipt: _____

Mail completed form to:

Virginia Association of Counties
1207 East Main Street, Suite 300
Richmond, VA 23219-3627

Or FAX credit card purchases to 804.788.0083

Questions? Call 804.788.6652.



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 \$100 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](#).

[**DIRECTOR OF MAINTENANCE**](#) | Grayson County | Posted November 28 |

[**RECREATION ASSISTANT \(PT\)**](#) | Montgomery County | Posted November 28

[**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**](#) | Spotsylvania County | Posted November 28

[**GROUNDKEEPER**](#) | Montgomery County | Posted November 28

[**DEPUTY EMERGENCY SERVICES COORDINATOR**](#) | Wythe County | Posted November 28

[**DSS DIRECTOR**](#) | Durham County, NC | Posted November 28

[**FABRICATION & PRODUCTION SPECIALIST/SIGN INSTALLER**](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted November 23

[**FRONT LINE TRANSIT SUPERVISOR \(NIGHT SHIFT\)**](#) | City of Harrisonburg | Posted November 23

[**INSPECTOR I or II or COMBINATION INSPECTOR – FT**](#) | Gloucester County | Posted November 23

[**FINANCE DIRECTOR**](#) | Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission | Posted November 21

[**LIBRARY DIRECTOR**](#) | Amelia County | Posted November 21

[**CIRCULATION MANAGER**](#) | Amelia County | Posted November 21

[**ENTERPRISE ARCHITECT**](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted November 21

[**INTERN/PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE \(SPRING SEMESTER\)**](#) | Montgomery County | Posted November 17

[**PERMIT TECHNICIAN \(I OR II\)**](#) | City of Alexandria | Posted November 17

[**PROPERTY MAINTENANCE \(CODE INSPECTOR I, II, OR III\)**](#) | City of Alexandria | Posted November 17

[**CHIEF OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**](#) | Northumberland County | Posted November 17

[**PRINCIPAL ENGINEER**](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted November 17

[**UTILITY WORKER**](#) | Prince George County | Posted November 17

[**PLANNING & ZONING TECHNICIAN**](#) | Prince George County | Posted November 17

[**FIRE MEDIC**](#) | Prince George County | Posted November 17

[**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM SPECIALIST**](#) | Prince George County | Posted November 17

[**DEPUTY COURT CLERK I**](#) | Prince George County | Posted November 17

[**COMMUNICATION'S OFFICER**](#) | Prince George County | Posted November 17

[**BUSINESS MANAGER – PARKS & RECREATION**](#) | Hanover County | Posted November 17

[**ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER/TOWN CLERK**](#) | Town of Vinton | Posted November 17

[**SEASONAL MAINTENANCE WORKER**](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted November 17

[**SENIOR SCHOOL BUS TECHNICIAN**](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted November 17

[**SCHOOL BUS TECHNICIAN**](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted November 17

[**LEAD DEVELOPER ADMINISTRATOR**](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted November 17

[**EMERGENCY VEHICLE TECHNICIAN**](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted November 17

[**MAINTENANCE MECHANIC II**](#) | Albemarle County | Posted November 16

[**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER**](#) | Albemarle County | Posted November 16

[**OPERATIONS MANAGER – ECC**](#) | Albemarle County | Posted November 16

[**DEPUTY CLERK I**](#) | Albemarle County | Posted November 16

[**PUBLIC SAFETY APPLICATIONS ANALYST**](#) | Albemarle County | Posted November 16

[**SENIOR APPLICATIONS DEVELOPER**](#) | Albemarle County | Posted November 16

[**ACCOUNTANT IV-TAX REVENUE**](#) | Albemarle County | Posted November 16

[**ACCOUNTANT IV**](#) | Albemarle County | Posted November 16

[**SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER**](#) | Albemarle County | Posted November 16

[**COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS MANAGER**](#) | Botetourt County | Posted November 16

[**UTILITY SUPERVISOR**](#) | Hanover County | Posted November 16

[**CIVIL ENGINEER**](#) | Hanover County | Posted November 16

[**REVENUE SPECIALIST DEPUTY COMMISSIONER**](#) | New Kent County | Posted November 16

[ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR](#) | New Kent County
| Posted November 16

[TOWN MANAGER](#) | Town of Buchanan
| Posted November 16

[SENIOR MENTAL HEALTH CLINICIAN](#) | Chesterfield County
| Posted November 16

[DEPUTY CLERK](#) | Madison County
| Posted November 16

[HUMAN RESOURCE ANALYST](#) | Hanover County
| Posted November 16

[CLERK TO THE SCHOOL BOARD](#) | Fairfax County
| Posted November 10

[ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER](#) | City of Staunton
| Posted November 9

[ZONING PERMITS MANAGER](#) | Loudoun County
| Posted November 9

[UTILITY TECHNICIAN – CONSTRUCTION](#) | Hanover County
| Posted November 9

[UTILITY TECHNICIAN – COLLECTIONS](#) | Hanover County
| Posted November 9

[CIVIL ENGINEER](#) | August County
| Posted November 9

[CLINICIAN – ADULT OUTPATIENT MHSUD](#) | Hanover County
| Posted November 9

[UTILITY ENGINEER](#) | Hanover County
| Posted November 9

[FAMILY SERVICES SPECIALIST](#) | Hanover County
| Posted November 9

[FISCAL ASSISTANT FULL TIME](#) | Town of Amherst
| Posted November 9

[UTILITIES ENGINEER](#) | Chesterfield County
| Posted November 7

[CAPITAL PROJECTS MANAGER](#) | City of Fredericksburg
| Posted November 7

[CREW SUPERVISOR – GROUNDS](#) | City of Harrisonburg
| Posted November 7

[PRINCIPAL PLANNER – ZONING TEAM](#) | Chesterfield County
| Posted November 7

[STAFF AUDITOR](#) | Chesterfield County
| Posted November 7

[SENIOR AUDITOR](#) | Chesterfield County
| Posted November 7

[COUNTY ATTORNEY](#) | Culpeper County
| Posted November 7

[SENIOR PLANNER](#) | Augusta County
| Posted November 7

[GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR](#) | City of Manassas Park
| Posted November 3

[COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR](#) | Greene County
| Posted November 3

[FAMILY SERVICES SPECIALIST](#) | Montgomery County
| Posted November 3

[SENIOR SQL SERVER DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR](#) | Chesterfield County
| Posted November 3

[DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM](#) | Page County
| Posted November 3

[TRANSPORTATION SPECIALIST](#) | Hanover County
| Posted November 3

[SENIOR PROPERTY APPRAISAL CONSULTANT](#) | Virginia Department of Taxation
| Posted November 3

[DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS](#) | City of Fredericksburg
| Posted November 2

[FINANCE DIRECTOR](#) | Warren County
| Posted November 2

[BUSINESS MANAGER](#) | Albemarle County
| Posted November 2

[REVENUE MANAGER – COLLECTIONS](#) | Albemarle County
| Posted November 2

[RESIDENTIAL COMBINATION INSPECTOR II](#) | Albemarle County
| Posted November 2

[COMBINATION COMMERCIAL INSPECTOR II](#) | Albemarle County
| Posted November 2

[CHIEF INSPECTOR](#) | Albemarle County
| Posted November 2

[HOUSING SPECIALIST](#) | Albemarle County
| Posted November 2

[PRINCIPAL PLANNER](#) | Albemarle County
| Posted November 2

[SENIOR PLANNER II](#) | Albemarle County
| Posted November 2

[HUMAN RESOURCES ASSISTANT](#) | Albemarle County
| Posted November 2

[SENIOR SYSTEMS ANALYST](#) | Albemarle County
| Posted November 2

[ADDORDABLE HOUSEING OMBUSMAN](#) | Loudoun County
| Posted November 2

[FUNCTIONAL ANALYST II](#) | Loudoun County
| Posted November 2

[JUDICIAL LAW CLERK](#) | Montgomery County
| Posted November 2

[UTILITY OPERATOR – DOSWELL WATSTEWAER PLANT](#) | Hanover County
| Posted November 1

[ZONING ADMINISTRATOR & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE OFFICIAL](#) | Town of Bluefield
| Posted November 1

[DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES](#) | Rockingham County
| Posted November 1

[COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR](#) | Greene County
| Posted October 31

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.

VACo LEADERSHIP



President
Jason D. Bellows
Lancaster County



President-Elect
Ann H. Mallek
Albemarle County



First Vice President
Ruth Larson
James City County



Second Vice President
William M. McCarty
Isle of Wight County



Secretary-Treasurer
Donald L. Hart, Jr.
Accomack County



Immediate Past President
Meg Bohmke
Stafford County

VACo STAFF

Executive Director | Dean A. Lynch, CAE
Director of Intergovernmental Affairs | Jeremy R. Bennett
Director of Government Affairs | Katie Boyle
General Counsel | Phyllis A. Errico, Esq., CAE
Director of Communications | Anh Gage Harter
Government Relations Associate | James Hutzler
Director of Technical Services | John N. Kandris, A+, ACT, CCA
Director of Local Government Policy | Joe Lerch, AICP
Administrative Secretary | Valerie M. Russell
Director of Administration and Finance | Vicky D. Steinruck, CPA
Coordinator of Programs and Development | Karie Walker

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

County Connections is a semimonthly publication.

