



**Board of Supervisors
County of Louisa
Monday, March 3, 2025
Louisa County Public Meeting Room
5:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER - 5:00 P.M.

Mr. Adams called the March 3, 2025, meeting of the Louisa County Board of Supervisors to order at 5:00 p.m.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Tommy J. Barlow	Mountain Road District Supervisor	Present	5:00 PM
Fitzgerald A. Barnes	Patrick Henry District Supervisor	Present	5:00 PM
Christopher C. McCotter	Cuckoo District Supervisor	Present	5:00 PM
H. Manning Woodward, III	Louisa County Supervisor	Present	5:00 PM
R. T. Williams	Jackson District Supervisor	Present	5:00 PM
Duane A. Adams	Mineral District Supervisor	Present	5:00 PM
Rachel G. Jones	Green Springs District Supervisor	Present	5:00 PM

Others Present: Christian Goodwin, County Administrator; Patricia Smith, County Attorney; Chris Coon, Deputy County Administrator; Wanda Colvin, Deputy County Administration/Director of Finance; Griff Carmichael, Director of Human Resources; Linda Buckler, Director of Community Development; and Alexandra Stanley, Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk; and Scott Raettig, Director of Information Technology

CLOSED SESSION

On the motion of Mr. Barlow, seconded by Mr. Williams, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to enter Closed Session at 5:00 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the following:

1. In accordance with §2.2-3711(A)(5), discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry, in the Mountain Road District, where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community; and
2. In accordance with §2.2-3711(A)(7), consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body; and
3. In accordance with §2.2-3711(A)(8), consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

REGULAR SESSION

On the motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Barnes, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to return to Regular Session at 6:00 p.m.

RESOLUTION - CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

Voter	Role	Vote
Tommy J. Barlow	Voter	Yes/Aye
Fitzgerald A. Barnes	Seconder	Yes/Aye
R.T. Williams, Jr.	Mover	Yes/Aye
Christopher C. McCotter	Voter	Yes/Aye
Duane A. Adams	Voter	Yes/Aye
Rachel G. Jones	Voter	Yes/Aye
H. Manning Woodward, III	Voter	Yes/Aye

On the motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Barnes, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Louisa County Board of Supervisors has convened a Closed Meeting this 3rd day of March 2025, pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, §2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Louisa County Board of Supervisors that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with the Virginia Law.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED on this 3rd day of March 2025, that the Louisa County Board of Supervisors does hereby certify that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting was heard, discussed or considered by the Louisa County Board of Supervisors.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS - 6:00 P.M.

INVOCATION

Mr. Barnes led the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

On the motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Barnes, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to adopt the agenda, as presented, with no changes.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Board of Supervisors (BOS) Budget Worksession – February 3, 2025

On the motion of Mr. Barnes, seconded by Mr. McCotter, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2025, budget worksession.

Board of Supervisors (BOS) Budget Worksession – February 18, 2025

On the motion of Mr. Barnes, seconded by Mr. McCotter, which carried by a vote of 7-0 the Board voted to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2025, budget worksession.

Board of Supervisors (BOS) Regular meeting – February 18, 2025

On the motion of Mr. Barnes, seconded by Mr. McCotter, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2025, meeting.

BILLS APPROVAL

Resolution – To Approve the Bills for the Second Half of February 2025

On the motion of Mr. Barnes, seconded by Mr. McCotter, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board adopted a resolution approving the bills for the second half of February 2025.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

On the motion of Mr. Barnes, seconded by Mr. McCotter, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to adopt the Consent Agenda items for March 3, 2025, as follows:

1. Resolution – Approving an Easement Agreement Between the County of Louisa (“Grantor”) and Rappahannock Electric Cooperative (“Grantee”)
2. Resolution – Ratifying the Declaration of a Local State of Emergency
3. Resolution – To Terminate the Local State of Emergency Declared for Winter Storm Harlow

RECOGNITIONS

Recognition – VACo Achievement Award

Ms. Katie Boyle, VACo, recognized Louisa County’s Achievement Award for excellence in public communication and outreach. She praised the county’s innovative solutions for resident communication, including the Informed Citizen newsletter, which consolidates updates in a single email format.

Staff recognized Cindy King as a key contributor to the Informed Citizen initiative.

Recognition – March 2-8, 2025 As Women in Construction Week

Mr. Goodwin read the resolution recognizing contributions of women in construction and the role of the NAWIC (National Association of Women in Construction). Mr. McCotter represented a framed copy.

Recognition – Recognizing Captain Danny Bateman for His Years of Service to the Louisa County Sheriff’s Office

Mr. Goodwin read the resolution honoring Captain Bateman for nearly five decades in law enforcement, recognizing his leadership, mentorship, and contributions to community safety. Mr. Adams presented a framed copy to Mr. Bateman.

Recognition – Recognizing Major Ronnie Roberts for His Years of Service to Law Enforcement

Mr. Goodwin read the resolution honoring and acknowledging Major Ronnie Roberts for his service in the Charlottesville Police Department, Town of Louisa Police Department, and Louisa County Sheriff's Office.

Major Roberts' shared appreciation for the Board's support and the strong relationship between law enforcement and the community.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chairman Adams opened the public comment period. With no one wishing to speak, Chairman Adams closed the public comment period.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**Presentation – Piedmont Virginia Community College**

Dr. Jean Runyon, President of PVCC and Dr. Scott Jeffries, Vice President of Finance & Admin, provided an update on the college's new initiatives, affordability, and economic impact. The presentation began by acknowledging Louisa County's strong relationship with PVCC, including the work of local representatives on the college's Board of Directors.

Dr. Jeffries highlighted PVCC's new Bullock Center, which was recently completed as a 45,000 square-foot net-zero facility for student services and advanced manufacturing courses. This facility is designed to provide sustainable education and career pathways for students in fields like advanced manufacturing. It is also notable as the first net-zero facility within the Virginia Community College System.

Dr. Runyon continued by explaining the economic impact of the college in Louisa County and surrounding regions. She emphasized that tuition affordability remains a central pillar of PVCC's mission. The average tuition at PVCC is less than one-third of attending a public university in Virginia, making it a highly affordable option for local students.

A major focus was on the dual enrollment programs at PVCC, which allow high school students in Louisa County and the region to earn college credits before graduating from high school. In 2024, over 200 Louisa students participated in dual enrollment, saving families \$2.8 million in tuition. Dr. Runyon also introduced new legislation allowing qualified high school students to access free tuition for certain college courses starting fall 2025.

The Board expressed their appreciation for the affordable educational opportunities PVCC provides to Louisa County residents, particularly in workforce development fields.

Discussion – Subdivision Ordinance and Associated Input from the Virginia Department of Transportation

There was a concern about the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)'s involvement in the subdivision approval process. Historically, VDOT would sign plats (maps) for subdivisions

and make field visits to determine the best locations for driveways or roadways that meet state standards. However, VDOT has recently stopped making these site visits and has refused to sign plats for new subdivisions. Instead, they have redirected responsibility back to the county.

Supervisor Barlow proposed that VDOT's approval block be removed from the subdivision process since VDOT is no longer fulfilling its role. Instead, it was suggested that entrance approvals be handled separately at the time a permit is applied for by the developer or landowner. He also emphasized that the current system delays projects and holds up the approval process, as VDOT has a 45-day review period but is not conducting site visits or providing constructive feedback.

The Board discussed the efficiency of the current process and agreed that VDOT's minimal involvement should be reconsidered. There was consensus that the county could handle the approvals more efficiently by eliminating VDOT's required signatures from plats and addressing these issues directly at the permit application stage.

On the motion of Mr. Barlow, seconded by Mr. Williams, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to refer the issue to the Planning Commission to revise the subdivision ordinance and recommend changes that would remove VDOT's approval requirement from the subdivision process.

Discussion – Private Roads in Louisa County

The discussion centered around private roads in older subdivisions that were not fully developed or that had roads not up to state standards. The county holds road bonds for many of these subdivisions, and residents often expect the county to either complete the roadwork or bring the roads up to state standards. However, these roads are still technically private property, and the county is not legally responsible for their construction or upkeep.

A new policy was proposed to establish a clear process for dealing with such issues. The policy would involve the following steps:

1. Step 1: Is there a road bond for the subdivision?
2. Step 2: If yes, VDOT would be asked to perform an initial evaluation of the road and determine what needs to be done to bring it up to state specifications.
3. Step 3: If the bond is sufficient, the county would coordinate with the residents to hire a contractor to perform the necessary work.
4. Step 4: If the bond is not sufficient, the county would work with the property owners or the HOA (Homeowners' Association), if one exists, to determine if they want to take over responsibility for the roadwork.

The goal of this policy is to provide a fair and transparent process for addressing road construction issues in subdivisions without relying on the county to complete roadwork on private property.

The Board supported the policy, noting it removes ambiguity and helps residents understand their responsibilities when dealing with private roads.

The Board emphasized that it is important to communicate the policy clearly to residents so they

understand the requirements and process involved in maintaining or upgrading private roads.

On the motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Barnes, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to adopt the proposed policy for handling private road issues and road bond responsibilities.

Discussion – Workgroup and Committee Expectations

Mr. Coon explained the Workgroup and Committee Expectations document was presented to provide a clear set of guidelines for individuals serving on county committees or workgroups.

The document outlines the expectations for members, including their role in evaluating issues, making recommendations, and understanding the legal authority of their respective committees. It also refers to the statutory references that may apply to certain committees that have specific legal powers, such as the Board of Zoning Appeals or Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.

The idea behind the policy is to provide new committee members with a clear understanding of their responsibilities and the scope of their authority.

The Board agreed that the policy would help standardize committee functions and ensure that all committee members are aligned with the same expectations.

On the motion of Mr. Barnes, seconded by Mr. Williams, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to approve the policy and distribute it to all newly appointed committee members in which the expectations apply.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(None)

NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

(None)

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

Committee Reports

Revenue Workgroup Update – Committee is progressing on financial planning.

East End Radio Tower – Construction begins March 11, 2025.

Litter Advisory Board – Updated litter ordinances soon to be presented for Board approval.

Board Appointments

(None)

County Administrator's Report

Mr. Goodwin reported that there were several monthly reports and items of correspondence in the Board packet and reminded the Board of several upcoming events.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public Hearing – Dominion State of the Station Address

Ms. Lisa Hilbert, Vice President, North Anna Power Station, provided the annual report on plant performance, safety, and environmental impact.

North Anna Power Station has been in operation for over 40 years and remains an industry leader in safe, reliable, and low-cost nuclear energy production. In 2024, the plant had a 96.42% capacity factor, meaning it was operational and providing energy for over 330 days during the year. The plant supplies 15% of Virginia's total electricity needs, generating enough power for approximately 475,000 homes. Notably, in 2024, North Anna operated continuously without a single minute of downtime, ensuring a stable power supply for the region.

The plant successfully conducted a 36-day refueling outage on Unit 1, as well as a brief maintenance outage to repair a feed water heater. Unit 2 had a minor maintenance event to repair a turbine control valve. North Anna retains the highest rating (Category 1) from the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO). The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) rated North Anna in the "Green" (most favorable) category for regulatory compliance. The NRC did issue a minor white finding related to procedural documentation issues. However, this was quickly resolved, and North Anna was returned to the Green status.

Dominion Energy's top priority remains the safety of employees, the facility, and the surrounding community. In 2024, no emergency declarations were issued at North Anna Power Station. I-PAWS Alert System Implementation: Dominion has implemented the Integrated Public Alert & Warning System (I-PAWS) to notify residents in case of an emergency. This system sends alerts similar to AMBER Alerts via mobile devices and local media. Changes to Emergency Preparedness Outreach: The annual printed emergency calendar is being replaced by magnets and cards with QR codes for accessing emergency information online. Residents without internet access can request printed copies of emergency preparedness materials.

North Anna continues to closely monitor groundwater and environmental impact. In 2024, the plant self-reported one minor environmental event: A bulk chemical (biocide) was not initially reported within the required 90-day period. However, this chemical had been in use since 2021, and there was no negative environmental impact.

Lake Anna Monitoring & Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs): North Anna is actively engaged in studying and mitigating HABs. In 2024, no confirmed harmful algal blooms were recorded in the waste heat treatment facility (the warm side of the lake). Dominion continues to promote native vegetation and lake health initiatives.

North Anna remains a major employer in Louisa County: 800 full-time employees. 200 contractors daily. 1,000 additional workers during refueling outages. The plant provides significant economic benefits to local businesses and merchants. In 2024, Dominion Energy: Donated over \$96,000 to local community organizations, provided 1,820 volunteer hours, valued at over \$60,000, employees logged over 5,000 hours of community service, and supported local events, non-profits, and infrastructure projects.

The Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) permit was renewed for seven more years. Current spent fuel storage will last through 2038 (Unit 1) and 2040 (Unit 2). Dominion continues to advocate for a permanent federal storage solution for spent nuclear fuel.

Supervisor Adams asked for updates on the proposed SMR (Small Modular Reactor) project, a joint initiative between Dominion, AWS, and the Virginia Governor's Office.

Dominion Representative, Sarah Marshall, confirmed that the SMR project is still in the early stages, with a tentative target for the early to mid-2030s for completion.

Chairman Adams opened the public hearing, with no one wishing to speak, Chairman Adams closed the public hearing.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr. Barnes, seconded by Mr. Williams, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to adjourn the March 3, 2025, meeting at 7:20 p.m.

BY ORDER OF:
DUANE A. ADAMS, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
LOUISA COUNTY, VIRGINIA