



**Board of Supervisors
County of Louisa
Monday, April 7, 2025
Louisa County Public Meeting Room
5:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER - 5:00 P.M.

Mr. Adams called the April 7, 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; Cris Watkins, Director of Elections and General Registrar; 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)(3), discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property in the Mineral, Cuckoo, and Louisa Districts for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body; and
2. 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 Mineral 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
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 7th day of April 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 7th day of April 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. Williams 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 amended, with the following changes:

- Added a Resolution Authorizing the Louisa County Public Schools to Issue Employment Contracts for the 2025-2026 School Year to New Business/Action Items
- Removed Presentation from VDOT from Information/Discussion Items
- Switched the Order of Public Hearings

MINUTES APPROVAL

Board of Supervisors (BOS) Regular Meeting – March 17, 2025

On the motion of Mr. Barnes, seconded by Mr. Williams, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2025, meeting.

BILLS APPROVAL

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

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

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

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

1. Resolution – Authorizing Additional Federal/State Revenue for DHS
2. Resolution – Authorizing the Louisa County Sheriff's Department to Apply for a Byrne Justice Assistance Grant
3. Resolution – Authorizing a Budget Supplement to the Department of Fire & EMS for a Walmart Grant
4. Resolution – Authorizing Daniel Bateman to Purchase his Service Handgun
5. Resolution – Recognizing Chris Coon as a Virginia Business Top 40 Under 40 Honoree for 2025
6. Resolution – To Approve and Award a Contract for Professional Engineering Services
7. Resolution – Authorizing the Louisa County Sheriff's Department to Apply for the FY26 NG911 Additional Funding Grant
8. Resolution – To Approve and Award a Contract for Generator Preventative Maintenance and Repair Services
9. Resolution – Authorizing a Pass Through Appropriation to the Louisa County Sheriff's Department for a Department of Criminal Justice Services Enhancing Digital Forensic Capabilities Grant

RECOGNITIONS

Recognition – Recognizing and Honoring Tom Worosz, Jr. for His Dedicated Service to Louisa County

The Board presented a resolution recognizing and honoring Mr. Worosz for his dedicated service, unwavering commitment, and outstanding contributions to the mental health and well-being of the students of Louisa County.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chairman Adams opened the public comment period.

Ms. Vicky Harte, Louisa District, suggested that warming shelters be available from November through March each year, rather than being activated only during a declared state of emergency.

Mr. Vernon Fleming, Louisa County Historical Society, provided the Board with a brief update

highlighting upcoming community events, recent program developments, and relevant statistical data. The update included attendance trends, outreach efforts, and anticipated participation for scheduled activities, offering insight into ongoing engagement and departmental performance.

Mr. Fred Vanderburgh, Patrick Henry District, spoke about litter concerns and the committee to which he has been assigned to. He expressed his primary concern regarding the County's ability to effectively enforce litter control measures under the proposed ordinance amendments.

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

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

(None)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(None)

NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

Resolution – Authorizing a Budget Supplement to the Louisa County Water Authority for a Headworks Screen Replacement for the Louisa County Waste Water Treatment Plant

The Louisa County Water Authority is requesting \$110,000 to replace the headworks screen at the Louisa Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant. The total cost of the project is \$220,000; with the County's share of the project being \$110,000 and the Town of Louisa funding the other 50% of the cost. The replacement is necessary for the system to continue to operate properly. These costs were not anticipated and, therefore, not included in the Fiscal Year 2025 budget process.

On the motion of Mr. Woodward, seconded by Mr. Barnes, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted authorize a budget supplement and payment to the Louisa County Water Authority to cover half of the replacement cost of the headworks screen at the Louisa Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant (GL # 10043040-451040) in the amount of \$110,000. The source of funding is General Fund Balance.

Resolution – To Proceed with a Park Maintenance Capital Project at the Betty Queen Center

The Department of Parks and Recreation would like to proceed with a Park Maintenance Capital Project at the Betty Queen Center in the amount of \$33,583.40. This project would include stabilization of the Betty Queen Center playground area, walking track improvements, guard rail installation, repairing of retaining wall and the addition of a drainage system. These improvements will help make the area safer for public use.

On the motion of Mr. Barnes, seconded by Mr. McCotter, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to authorize the Department of Parks and Recreation to proceed with the Park Maintenance Capital Project (30371000-482400) at the Betty Queen Center in the amount of \$33,583.40 for stabilization of the Betty Queen Center playground area, walking track improvements, guard rail installation, repairing of retaining wall and the addition of a drainage system.

Resolution – Authorizing the Refunding of Series 2007A and 2009A School Bonds

The Virginia Public School Authority is tentatively scheduled to sell Refunding Series of School Financing Bonds, as market conditions are favorable at this time and Louisa County's Series 2007A and 2009A Bonds are refunding candidates. The sale of the Refunding Bonds to refund Prior VPSA Bonds and the determination of which Prior VPSA Bonds will be refunded are subject to market conditions. If the Series 2007A and 2009A bonds are refunded, the County would achieve savings as a result of the refunding which would be allocated over the remaining amortization period for the Bond affected by the refunding through an annual credit. The credit amount is estimated to be approximately \$97,658, but exact savings will be unknown until the Refunding Bonds are sold.

On the motion of Mr. Barnes, seconded by Mr. McCotter, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to authorize the refunding of the VPSA School Financing Series 2007A and 2009A bonds by the Virginia Public School Authority.

Resolution – Authorizing Louisa County Public Schools to Issue Employment Contracts for the 2025-2026 School Year

The Louisa County School Board has requested approval to issue the necessary employment contracts associated with local positions for the 2025-2026 school year. It is extremely important for Louisa County Public Schools to issue these contracts as soon as possible to retain valuable employees and provide them with the security needed so that they do not seek out employment elsewhere.

Supervisors Barnes and Jones acknowledged that, while they are employees of Louisa County Public Schools, their vote on the matter does not constitute a conflict of interest

On the motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. McCotter, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to approve issuance of necessary employment contracts associated with local positions.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES**Committee Reports**

On the motion Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Barnes, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board agreed to move its regularly scheduled meeting on April 21st to April 28th.

Mr. McCotter reported on the most recent Lake Anna Advisory Committee (LAAC) meeting. The Committee approved the 2025 Hydrilla Management Plan; however, no update has been received from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) regarding the application. He noted that a significant amount of funding will be required to address the hydrilla issue effectively.

Mr. Barlow shared an update he intended to bring to the Board at the previous meeting. He reported that U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary, Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., recently visited Louisa County High School. During the visit, while touring classrooms, Mr.

Barlow had an opportunity to speak with one of Kennedy's security team members. The visit was unplanned and required minimal preparation, which is unusual for such events due to the high level of security typically involved. The Governor of Virginia's team recommended Louisa County High School specifically, noting its strong reputation and the ability to conduct the visit without incident or protest. Mr. Barlow stated that the experience offered valuable insight into how decisions are made at the state level regarding school visits and praised Superintendent Straley and the school for the impressive showing. He remarked that it was a meaningful and positive reflection of the County.

Chairman Adams noted that approximately a week ago, Mr. Straley and Sheriff Lowe visited a school, and it was gratifying to observe how well they interacted with the students. He emphasized the pride in Louisa County being one of the localities in Virginia that has a School Resource Officer (SRO) in every school. He expressed appreciation for the program and the reception the officers receive from both students and staff.

Ms. Jones attended the Gordonsville Volunteer Fire Department banquet and shared positive remarks about the event. She commended the department for its dedication and service to the community and noted the strong sense of camaraderie and appreciation expressed throughout the evening. She thanked the volunteers for their continued commitment and recognized the importance of their contributions to public safety.

Board Appointments

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

- Appointed Mr. Jimmy Snyder to the Louisa County Water Authority Board;
- Appointed Ms. Carol Stone to the Human Services Advisory Board; and
- Appointed Mr. James Wilkens to the Commission on Aging to represent one of the Cuckoo District Seats.

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

Ordinance – To Amend Chapter 2. Administration; Article I. In General; Section 2-4. Election Districts and Precincts; Subsection (2) (b) – Green Springs 2 Precinct and Subsection (2) (e) – Louisa 3 Precinct

Section 24.2-307 of the Code of Virginia (the "Code") requires that governing bodies of localities establish by ordinance one polling place for each electoral precinct. The General Registrar of the County of Louisa, Virginia has informed and requested that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Louisa, Virginia, relocate the polling place for Election Precinct Green Springs 2 and Election Precinct Louisa 3 from Living Grace Church, 1457 James, Madison Hwy., Gordonsville, Virginia 22942.

Code Section 24.2-129(A) deems certain actions by local governments as “Covered Practices” (as defined in Code Section 24.2-129(A)) and requires that certain processes be observed prior to the administration or enforcement of ordinances that implement Covered Practices. The actions contemplated by this Ordinance are Covered Practices, and therefore, the said actions are not to be administered or enforced until the Registrar is satisfied that the requirements of Code Section 24.2-129(A) have been met.

Ms. Watkins noted that the new precinct location offers improved accessibility and resources for voters and was, in fact, encouraged as a preferred polling site over the existing location. The new site provides better parking and easier access to the building, enhancing the overall voting experience.

Chairman Adams opened the public hearing.

Ms. Vicky Harte, Louisa District, spoke in support of the proposed ordinance amendment.

With no one else wishing to speak, Chairman Adams closed the public hearing and brought it back to the Board for discussion.

Mr. Barlow noted that he was not aware of a route number having been assigned to Bloomington Lane and expressed concern that, if one has been designated, the number listed in the ordinance may be incorrect. He requested that staff review the information to ensure its accuracy prior to codification.

On the motion of Mr. Woodward, seconded by Ms. Jones, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to resolve the following:

1. To amend the sentence found in Chapter 2. Administration; Article I. In General; Section 2-4. Election Districts and Precincts; Subsection (2) (b) – Green Springs 2 Precinct, which reads: *“In the Green Springs District, the voting place for the Green Springs 2 Precinct shall be Living Grace Church, 1457 James Madison Hwy., Gordonsville, VA 22942* to *“In the Green Springs District, the voting place for the Green Springs 2 Precinct shall be Trevilians Elementary, 2035 South Spotswood Trl., Louisa, VA 23093.”*
2. To amend the sentence found in Chapter 2. Administration; Article I. In General; Section 2-4. Election Districts and Precincts; (2) (e) – Louisa 3 Precinct, which reads: *“In the Louisa District, the polling place for the Louisa 3 Precinct shall be the Living Grace Church, 1457 James Madison Highway., Gordonsville, VA 22942.”* to *“In the Louisa District, the polling place for the Louisa 3 Precinct shall be Trevilians Elementary, 2035 South Spotswood Trl., Louisa, Virginia 23093.”*
3. The General Registrar of the County of Louisa, Virginia (the “Registrar”), shall not administer or enforce the resolutions herein until the Registrar is satisfied that the requirements of Section 24.2-129(A) of the Code of Virginia have been met.

Public Hearing – Fiscal Year 2026 Budget

Ms. Wanda Colvin, Director of Finance, presented the Fiscal Year 2026 Proposed Budget to the Board of Supervisors. She provided a detailed overview of both revenue and expenditure projections, highlighting key changes from the prior year.

The total proposed budget for FY26 is \$188.4 million, with a \$18.7 million (11.97%) increase in operating expenses and a \$12.9 million (7.51%) increase in revenues. Ms. Colvin emphasized that there is no proposed increase in the tax rate for FY26, and the County is projecting an operating surplus of \$10.2 million that will be used towards \$13.5M in capital projects.

Ms. Colvin outlined the available funding to meet budget needs, including \$16.6 million in unrestricted fund balance, \$9.6 million in long-term capital reserves, and \$5.3 million in school capital reserves.

Revenue Highlights:

- General property tax revenues are projected to increase by 6.2% (\$5.6 million).
- Other local taxes (including sales and transient occupancy taxes) are expected to increase by 9.8% (\$1.5 million).
- Significant increases were noted in permits and licenses (119.8%, \$1.5 million), and revenue from the use of money and property (31%, \$1.4 million). Much of this increase is from building permit fees for AWS.
- Meals tax revenue is projected to rise by 10.5% (\$200,000).
- LCPS revenues are expected to increase by \$2.6 million, which includes additional state funding.

Expenditure Highlights - Operating:

- Debt payment expenses will increase by \$5.5 million.
- Health insurance costs are increasing by 7.5%, impacting both County and School employees.
- A 3% employee compensation increase is proposed in line with the state budget, along with one-time employee bonuses.
- Funding is included for additional full-time and part-time staff, as well as for retention and career development initiatives.
- Increases were also noted in maintenance, software, contractual services, vehicle repairs, and insurance.
- CSA/DHS service costs are projected to rise by \$737,000, with some offsets from state/federal funding.

Expenditure Highlights - Schools:

- Compensation increases include 3% plus step for certified staff or 4% for classified staff, totaling \$3.02 million.
- Additional staffing needs total \$574,000, with operational increases of \$456,000 and software/technology expenses of \$372,000.
- A prior year adjustment continuation amounts to \$2 million.

Expenditure Highlights - Capital:

- LCPS technology and equipment: **\$2.48 million**
- Fire/EMS apparatus and equipment: **\$4.4 million**

- LCWA infrastructure improvements: **\$950,000**
- Circuit Court second-floor courtroom remodel: **\$876,000**
- Sheriff vehicle replacements: **\$580,000**
- Volunteer station projects: **\$540,000**
- Landfill development and closure: **\$425,000**
- Parks & Rec aquatic facility: **\$400,000**
- Community Development fleet vehicles: **\$350,000**

Changes to Budget after Public Hearing Notice was published

- Move \$1.950,000 in capital projects to FY27
- Additional Interest Income Added - \$100,000
- Reduced New Positions to be added in FY26 - \$250,248
- \$-(2,286,000) -Allow for a Real Estate Tax Rebate of 2 cents/2.4 cents

Following the presentation, the Board engaged in discussion and asked questions regarding specific components of the proposed budget. Topics included projected revenues and long-term capital needs.

After discussion, the Board directed staff to prepare an advertisement for proposed amendments to the elderly tax relief ordinance. They also discussed issuing 2.4 cent tax rebate on non-public service corporation properties.

Next Steps as Presented:

- Await adoption of the final State budget.
- Proceed with a public hearing and consideration of ordinance changes related to elderly tax relief.
- Consider action on the tax rebate proposal.
- Adopt the O&M and CIP budgets on April 28, 2025.
- Establish and adopt the tax rate on April 28, 2025.
- Appropriate the O&M and CIP budgets on May 5, 2025.

Chairman Adams opened the public hearing.

Ms. Rosane Olyha, Cuckoo District, appeared before the Board to opposed the proposed FY26 budget.

Mr. Bruce Tenney, Cuckoo District, addressed his concerns with the proposed budget.

Ms. Courtney Sloan, Mountain Road District, addressed her concerns with her recent real estate assessment and noted that she was shocked to see that Louisa's tax rate is higher than Goochland's.

Mr. Steve Randolph, Cuckoo District, expressed his concerns with his recent real estate assessment notice.

Several written comments were received and were asked to be made part of the official meeting record (see Appendix A).

With no one else wishing to speak, Chairman Adams closed the public hearing and brought it back to the Board for discussion.

No action is required at this time.

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 April 7, 2025, meeting at 7:26 p.m.

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