



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

**CALL TO ORDER - 5:00 P.M.**

Mr. Adams called the May 5, 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; 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), In accordance with §2.2-3711(A)(3) discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property 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**

| <b>Voter</b>             | <b>Role</b> | <b>Vote</b> |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 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 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 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 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 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 amended, with the following changes:

1. Added a Resolution – Proclaiming May as Older Americans Month to Consent Agenda
2. Added a Resolution – Authorizing a Budget Transfer to Mineral Volunteer Fire Station
3. Added a Discussion on the New LCPS CTE Center to information/Discussion Items

#### **MINUTES APPROVAL**

No minutes were presented for approval due to the short interval between meetings. Two sets of minutes will be presented at the next meeting.

**BILLS APPROVAL****Resolution – To Approve the Bills for the Second Half of April 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 April 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 May 5, 2025, as follows:

1. Resolution - To Approve and Award a Contract for Fire Equipment Testing
2. Resolution - Proclaiming May 17-23, 2025 as National Safe Boating Week
3. Resolution - To Approve and Award a Contract for Electrical Services
4. Resolution - Authorizing the General Services Department to Proceed with the Replacement of the Tracks and Undercarriage of the Cat D6 Landfill Dozer
5. Resolution - Authorizing Trevilians Volunteer Fire Department to Proceed with Capital Projects
6. Resolution – Proclaiming May as Older Americans Month

**RECOGNITIONS**

(None)

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Chairman Adams opened the public comment period.

Ms. Patty Seay, Representing Louisa County Historical Society, thanked the Board for their continued support and offered the Society's assistance to the County if needed.

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

**INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS****Presentation – Foundation for Lake Anna Emergency Services**

Mr. Pat Gallagher and representatives of the Foundation for Lake Anna Emergency Services presented a ceremonial check in the amount of \$60,000 for the purchase of an air cascade system for Fire & EMS Station 8. This system will enable firefighters to refill their air tanks locally, improving efficiency and safety.

The Board recognized the Foundation for Lake Anna Emergency Services for their donation to Station 8 for the purchase of an air cascade system, which will allow firefighters to refill their air tanks locally. Mr. Pat Gallagher, Jane Gallagher, Libby Sandridge, and Diane Eves represented the Foundation. The Board commended their continued dedication and efforts, and noted the significant savings and community benefit their contributions have brought. Several Supervisors

expressed their gratitude and praised the Foundation as a model for other community organizations.

### **Presentation – Ag/Forestal and Rural Preservation Committee Update**

Mr. Jim Riddell, Chair of the Ag/Forestal and Rural Preservation Committee, provided a detailed presentation outlining recommendations for an agricultural and natural resource initiative to preserve farmland and forested land in Louisa County. Key recommendations included hiring a county-level agricultural advocate, creating voluntary conservation easement programs, increasing incentives for land preservation, and investing in infrastructure to support agricultural businesses. He reiterated the County's vision statement about strengthen our sense of community by providing resources for residents, promoting agriculture and forestry, and ensuring environmental stewardship, establishing reasonable growth areas and maintaining a rural character.

Board members engaged in discussion regarding the feasibility, costs, and potential impacts of these strategies. Supervisors Woodward, McCotter, Barnes, Barlow, Williams, and Jones offered support and insights, noting the urgent need to protect rural character amid growth pressures.

Chairman Adams summarized the consensus to begin with exploring hiring a dedicated AG/Forestry staff member and directed staff to continue working with the Committee on next steps.

### **Discussion – Tourism Administrative Process Update**

Mr. Chris Coon presented a proposed administrative process for micro-tourism funding requests under \$5,000. The streamlined approach includes a Memorandum of Understanding, upfront and post-event funding splits, and specific marketing and partnership deliverables.

Supervisors discussed the eligibility criteria and how events would demonstrate support for overnight stays. Mr. Coon clarified that transient occupancy tax revenues fund these efforts.

After discussion and consensus, the Board directed staff to proceed with finalizing the MOU and begin processing pending micro-tourism applications.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

(None)

### **NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Resolution – To Appropriate the Fiscal Year 2026 Operations and Maintenance Budget**

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 County budget was approved and adopted by the Board of Supervisors at its regular meeting on April 28, 2025. The Code of Virginia requires that an appropriation of the budget be granted by the Board of Supervisors before obligations can be made to cover the estimated expenditures. The Board of Supervisors, being fiscally responsible, does appropriate the approved Operational and Maintenance Budget in the amount of \$174,867,600.

On the motion of Mr. Barnes, seconded by Mr. Williams, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to adopt the resolution appropriating the Fiscal Year 2026 Operations and Maintenance Budget.

**Resolution – To Appropriate the Fiscal Year 2026 Capital Improvement Plan Budget**

The Fiscal Year 2026 Capital Improvement Plan budget was approved and adopted by the Board of Supervisors at its regular meeting on April 28 2025. The Code of Virginia requires that an appropriation of the budget be granted by the Board of Supervisors before obligations can be made to cover the estimated expenditures. The Board of Supervisors has approved a budget of \$12,718,599 for Capital Improvement Projects.

On the motion of Mr. Barnes, seconded by Mr. Williams, which carried by a vote of 6-1, with Mr. Barlow voting against, the Board voted to adopt the resolution appropriating the Fiscal Year 2026 Capital Improvement Plan Budget.

**Resolution - Authorizing the Sheriff's Department to Proceed with FY2026 Vehicle Replacement Capital Project**

The Sheriff's Department Vehicle Replacement FY2026 capital project entails purchasing vehicles to replace the oldest vehicles with the highest mileage and/or supplement the Sheriff's Office vehicle fleet. The Sheriff's Office plans to retain the best high mileage vehicles to supplement the Sheriff's Office vehicle fleet as potential back-up vehicles. The Sheriff's Office has experienced delays in placing replacement vehicles into service if ordering is done after the start of the new fiscal year. The Sheriff's Office requests authorization to proceed with the FY2026 vehicle replacement capital project, not to exceed \$580,000 in FY2025 and allow ordering of these vehicles for delivery and payment in FY2026.

On the motion of Mr. Barnes, seconded by Mr. Williams, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to adopt the resolution authorizing the Sheriff's Department to proceed with FY2026 Vehicle Replacement Capital Project.

**Resolution – Adopting the Move Safely Blue Ridge Comprehensive Safety Action Plan**

Louisa County is committed to improving roadway safety and reducing fatalities and serious injuries on its transportation network. 173 people were killed or seriously injured in crashes in Louisa County from 2018 to 2022, underscoring the urgent need for coordinated safety improvements. The County has previously committed to the goal of reducing roadway fatalities and serious injuries by 50% by 2045, in alignment with the Virginia Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP). The Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (TJPDC) has developed the Move Safely Blue Ridge Comprehensive Safety Action Plan to identify data-driven strategies, prioritize safety improvements, and guide implementation efforts for enhanced roadway safety.

The Move Safely Blue Ridge Comprehensive Safety Action Plan serves as a framework for regional collaboration and supports eligibility for federal funding under the Safe Streets and

Roads for All (SS4A) program. Adopting this plan reinforces Louisa County's commitment to proactive safety measures, including infrastructure improvements, policy initiatives, and community engagement strategies aimed at preventing roadway fatalities and serious injuries.

Mr. Coon and a representative from the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission explained the benefits of adopting the plan.

On the motion of Mr. Barnes, seconded by Mr. Williams, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to adopt the resolution approving the Move Safely Blue Ridge Comprehensive Safety Action Plan, which positions the County to apply for federal road safety implementation grants.

### **Resolution – Authorizing a Budget Transfer to Mineral Volunteer Fire Station**

Mineral Volunteer Fire Department is working on a building improvement capital project and is almost finished with the project. After careful consideration of what would be beneficial for specific spaces, they are requesting a budget supplement to add dividers to the bunk room versus having one large open area. The cost to add the dividers would be \$14,054 and would provide benefit to both the station and the County staff that work from this station. Funding for the dividers is available for transfer from the County VRS Retirement Contingencies budget.

On the motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Barnes, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to authorize a budget transfer to Mineral Volunteer Fire Department Building Enhancements (30332000-482500-FS2) in the amount of \$14,054 from County VRS Retirement Contingencies (10091000-422100) for the addition of dividers in the bunk room at Mineral Volunteer Fire Station.

### **Discussion – Louisa County Public Schools CTE Center**

A board member, who served on the planning committee, introduced the item and emphasized the importance of the connector from the new CTE center to the high school to prevent students from having to go outside when moving between buildings. The primary justification for the connector was safety, with weather being a secondary concern. The project was not originally included in the scope of work but was recognized as necessary during planning. The connector will be two stories tall to span over the existing bus loop, which contributed to its cost. It was confirmed that the project remains within budget due to thoughtful financing and the coupling of the middle school and CTE center projects. The estimated cost is \$1.6 to \$1.7 million. Funding will be covered within existing project financing for the middle school addition.

The motion to recommend approval of the \$1.7 million connector was passed unanimously by the Board.

## **REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **Committee Reports**

Mr. Woodward reported on several vacancies on the Commission on Aging and encouraged the Board to continue seeking individuals to serve.

### **Board Appointments**

(None)

### **County Administrator's Report**

Mr. Goodwin informed the Board about a communication from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) regarding a high burn-up fuel cask currently stored at North Anna. This type of fuel is kept in the reactor longer for greater efficiency and is subject to long-term monitoring. There is a federal effort underway to potentially transport the cask to Idaho National Laboratory in 2027 for testing, using a specialized Atlas railcar. County staff are engaged in early planning efforts and Mr. Goodwin encouraged Board members to review the provided materials and share input or questions.

Mr. Goodwin reported on the status of the Hamilton Road Bridge. He explained VDOT has announced plans to move forward with the replacement bridge, funded with state resources. The County previously adopted a resolution in support of a bridge capable of accommodating agricultural and emergency services traffic. Mr. Goodwin will forward the related communication to the Board and include it in the next packet.

Mr. Goodwin stated the most recent Household Hazardous Wast Day event at the landfill was very successful, with 242 vehicles participating. Improved internal traffic flow management helped minimize congestion around drop-off points. Mr. Goodwin commended Anderson Woolfolk and his team for their effective coordination and operations. He noted that while vehicle turnout matched previous events, he would follow up with volume totals when available.

Supervisor Barlow acknowledged the success of the National Day of Prayer event held the previous Thursday. Despite excellent attendance and community participation, it received no media coverage, which he found disappointing.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

#### **Ordinance – Amending Louisa County Code Chapter 70, Taxation Article II In Real Estate Tax Relief for the Elderly or Totally Disabled Section 70-35**

Ms. Wanda Colvin presented the proposed ordinance to amend Chapter 70 of the County Code regarding real estate tax relief for the elderly and totally disabled.

Louisa County Code Chapter 70- Taxation-Article II- Real Estate Tax Relief for the Elderly or Totally Disabled Section 70-35, currently states that the relief shall not exceed \$2,000.00 on any one qualifying dwelling and land. The proposed amendments will modify the relief to not exceed \$3,000.00 on any one qualifying dwelling and land.

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

On the motion of Mr. Barnes, seconded by Ms. Jones, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board to adopt amendments to Chapter 70, Taxation-Article II- Real Estate Tax Relief for the Elderly or Totally Disabled Section 70-35 modifying the relief to not exceed \$3,000.00 on any one qualifying dwelling and land.

**Resolution – Approving the Six-Year Plan for Secondary Roads and the Construction Priority List for Louisa County**

Mr. Scott Thornton appeared before the Board and recommended approval of the Six-Year Plan for Secondary Roads (2025/2026 through 2030/2031) and the Construction Priority List (2025/2026) for Louisa County. Section 33.2-331 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, provides the opportunity for each county to work with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) in developing a Six-Year Plan for Secondary Roads. The Board of Supervisors had previously agreed to assist in the preparation of this Plan, in accordance with VDOT policies and procedures, and participated in a public hearing on the proposed Plan as well as the Construction Priority List on May 5, 2025, after duly advertised so that all citizens of the County had the opportunity to participate in said hearing and to make comments and recommendations concerning the proposed Plan and Priority List.

The Board of Supervisors has carefully weighed the comments of VDOT and Louisa County citizens as to the condition and importance of various secondary roads in the County. The said Plan appears to be in the best interest of the Secondary Road System in Louisa County and of the citizens residing on the Secondary System.

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

On the motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Barne, which carried by a vote of 7-0, the Board voted to approve the Construction Priority List (2025/2026) for Louisa County.

**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 May 5, 2025, meeting at 7:50 p.m.

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