



BOOK 39
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AMHERST COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board of Supervisors

Claudia Tucker, Chair
District 2
Tom Martin, Vice-Chair
District 1
David W. Pugh, Jr., Supervisor
District 4
Chris Adams, Supervisor
District 3
Drew Wade, Supervisor
District 5

MINUTES

August 5, 2025
Administration Building - 153 Washington
Street - Public Meeting Room
Amherst, Virginia 24521
Meeting Convened - 3:00 PM

County Administrator
Jeremy Bryant

County Attorney
Mark Popovich

I. Call to Order

At a regular meeting of the Amherst County Board of Supervisors held on August 5, 2025, at 3:00 p.m., the following members were present:

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Claudia D. Tucker, Chair
Tom Martin, Vice-Chair
David W. Pugh, Jr., Supervisor
Chris Adams, Supervisor
Drew Wade, Supervisor

ABSENT: None

STAFF:

Jeremy S. Bryant, County Administrator
Stacey McBride, Deputy County Administrator/Finance Director
Mark Popovich, County Attorney
Kristen Freeman, Clerk

Chair Tucker called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

NOTE: All Board of Supervisors' meetings are now being streamed live on Facebook and on YouTube.

II. Approval of Agenda

By motion of Supervisor Wade and with the following vote, the Board approved the agenda with the amendment of removing Item B. from Section XV. Closed Session.

AYE: Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Martin, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Adams and Mr. Wade

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

III. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Wade led the Invocation and Supervisor Pugh led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Citizen Comment

John A. Marks Jr., addressed the Board regarding Winton Country Club. (See Attachment 1)

V. Consent Agenda

By motion of Supervisor Adams and with the following vote, the Board approved the Consent Agenda for August 5, 2025.

AYE: Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Martin, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Adams and Mr. Wade

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

A. Minutes - July 15, 2025

It was moved that the Board adopt the minutes of July 15, 2025.

B. Dixie Youth World Series Teams

It was moved that the Board appropriate \$8,000 to the youth organizations attending their World Series events.

C. Agreement for Underground Service - Landfill Cell 2

It was moved that the Board authorize Chair Tucker to sign the agreement for the underground service for Cell 2.

D. Appropriation of Revenue - Amherst County Public Schools

It was moved that the Board appropriate the 41,052,457.00 of additional revenue to the 2024-2025 School Operational Budget.

E. Appropriation of Revenue - Amherst County Public Schools Child Nutrition

It was moved that the Board appropriate the \$300,000 of fund balance to the 2024-2025 Amherst County Public School's Child Nutrition program.

F. Amherst County Public Schools - Budget Transfer

It was moved that the Board appropriate the \$290,920.00 from the 2024-2025 employee benefit accounts to their employee bonus accounts.

G. FY 2025 Appropriation of Public Works Revenue

It was moved that the Board appropriate \$17,710.00 of Solid Waste Miscellaneous revenue into the Solid Waste FY 2025 budget for uniforms and supplies.

H. FY 2026 Carryover of FY 2025 Public Works Revenue

It was moved that the Board appropriate \$5,032.00 of FY 2025 Solid Waste Miscellaneous revenue into the Solid Waste FY 2026 budget for public works bonuses.

I. 2025 Personal Property Tax Relief Act

It was moved that the Board adopt Resolution 2025-10-R implementing the Personal Property Tax Relief Rate of 26.40% for the tax year 2025.

VI. Ordinance - First Read

A. Ordinance 2025-3 - Transient Occupancy Tax Revisions

By motion of Supervisor Wade and with the following vote, the Board directed staff to advertise Ordinance 2025-3 for public hearing on August 19, 2025.

AYE: Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Martin, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Adams and Mr. Wade

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

B. Ordinance 2025-4 - Wild or Exotic Animals

By motion of Supervisor Adams and with the following vote, the Board set a public hearing on September 16, 2025.

AYE: Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Martin, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Adams and Mr. Wade

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

VII. Special Presentation

A. FY26 CIP Amendment (Victoria Drive)

By motion of Vice-Chair Martin and with the following vote, the Board directed staff to amend the FY26 CIP to include the 50% match (\$261,682.00) required under the Virginia Department of Transportation's Revenue Share program for the upgrade of Victoria Drive.

AYE: Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Martin, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Adams and Mr. Wade

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

B. VDOT Revenue Share Resolution

By motion of Vice-Chair Martin and with the following vote, the Board voted to approve Resolution 2025-9-R.

AYE: Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Martin, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Adams and Mr. Wade

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

VIII. New Business

A. Appropriation of the School's Capital Improvement Plan FY2024-2025

By motion of Supervisor Adams and with the following vote, the Board appropriated the \$2,561,321.00 to fund the school's projects listed above in their capital improvement plan.

AYE: Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Martin, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Adams and Mr. Wade

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

B. Debra Speyer - Conservation Easement

By motion of Chair Tucker and with the following vote, the Board accepted the additional parcels (81-A-13B, 81-A-18A, and 81-A-18B) to be added to the existing open-space easement and direct the County Administrator and County Attorney to work with Ms. Debra Speyer in recording an amended deed of easement.

AYE: Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Martin, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Adams and Mr. Wade
NAY: None
ABSENT: None

C. Amelon Commerce Center Slope Easement Vacation

By motion of Supervisor Wade and with the following vote, the Board directed the County Administrator to sign the plat titled SunCap Property Group, Easement Plat, dated June 9, 2025.

AYE: Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Martin, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Adams and Mr. Wade
NAY: None
ABSENT: None

D. 233 Gouyer Dr. Right-of-Way Easement Vacation

By motion of Supervisor Wade and with the following vote, the Board vacated the 50' Right-of-Way located on Tax Map No. 147-A-182 and to allow the County Administrator to sign either a plat or deed of vacation to allow for such.

AYE: Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Martin, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Adams and Mr. Wade
NAY: None
ABSENT: None

IX. County Administrator's Report

**A. Boards/Commissions/Committees - Central VA Alcohol Safety Action Program
Board - Amherst County representative**

By motion of Chair Tucker and with the following vote, the Board reappointed Kelvin R. Brown for a term ending August 31, 2028.

AYE: Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Martin, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Adams and Mr. Wade
NAY: None
ABSENT: None

B. Boards/Commissions/Committees - Planning Commission District 2 and one At-Large seat vacancies

Ms. Gamble and Ms. Schjonning were interviewed by the Board. (See Attachment 2)

By motion of Vice-Chair Martin and with the following vote, the Board tabled this item until their August 19, 2025 meeting to interview At-Large candidate Michael Martineau.

AYE: Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Martin, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Adams and Mr. Wade
NAY: None
ABSENT: None

C. Reassessment/Board of Equalization

For the Board's information.

X. County Attorney's Report

The County Attorney had no matter to discuss.

XI. Liaison and Committee Reports

A. Emergency Services Council - Chris Adams

Supervisor Adams stated he had nothing to report at this time.

XII. Departmental Reports

A. Recreation, Parks, and Tourism- Annual Report

Randy Nixon, Director of Parks and Recreation, gave an annual report to the Board. (See Attachment 3)

XIII. Citizen Comment

XIV. Matters from Members of the Board of Supervisors

Chair Tucker had no matter to discuss.

Vice-Chair Martin stated that he forwarded an email to Mrs. McBride and Mr. Bryant about an issue an employee's family was having with a prescription drug, and he asked them to look into that. Mr. Martin also stated that the volunteer fire service has had a rough couple of weeks. He said they had lost former Chief Trenton Richie on July 27th. His funeral was this past Saturday, and Mr. Richie was a man who had dedicated his entire life to serving, after serving in the Marine Corps. Mr. Richie served the Amherst Fire Department from 1991 to 2016, when he retired. Mr. Martin asked people to keep Mr. Richie's family in their prayers.

Supervisor Pugh had no matter to discuss.

Supervisor Adams had no matter to discuss.

Supervisor Wade had no matter to discuss.

XV. Closed Session

- A. A closed session for the limited purpose of consultation with legal counsel retained by the Board regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel related to the Winton property pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(8) of the Code of Virginia (1950, as amended).**

Supervisor Wade motioned to go into closed session and was approved with the following vote:

AYE: Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Martin, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Adams and Mr. Wade

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Supervisor Wade motioned to come out of closed session and was approved with the following vote:

AYE: Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Martin, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Adams and Mr. Wade

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

- B. A closed session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) for the discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body regarding property in Districts 3 and 4.**

Item removed by Agenda Amendment.

- C. A closed session for the limited purpose of consultation with legal counsel retained by the Board pertaining to actual litigation where such consultation in open meeting would adversely affect the litigating posture of the Board related to the Fisher property pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(7) of the Code of Virginia (1950, as amended).

Supervisor Wade motioned to go into closed session and was approved with the following vote:

AYE: Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Martin, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Adams and Mr. Wade

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Supervisor Wade motioned to come out of closed session and was approved with the following vote:

AYE: Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Martin, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Adams and Mr. Wade

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

XVI. Certification of Closed Session

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

I move that the Amherst County Board of Supervisors certify by a recorded vote that, to the best of each Board member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and identified in the motion authorizing the closed session were heard, discussed, or considered in the closed session.

Mrs. Tucker: AYE

Mr. Martin: AYE

Mr. Pugh: AYE

Mr. Adams: AYE

Mr. Wade: AYE

XVII. Adjournment

By motion of Supervisor Wade and with the following vote, the Board adjourned at 5:38 pm.

AYE: Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Martin, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Adams and Mr. Wade

NAY: None

ABSENT: None



Claudia D. Tucker, Chair
Amherst County Board of Supervisors



Jeremy Bryant, County Administrator

August 5th, 2025 Presentation to Amherst County

Board of Supervisors

Good evening members of the Board and Staff. My name is John A. Marks, Jr. and I reside in District 5.

On January 21st, 2025 the Amherst County Board of Supervisors (BOS) held a Public Hearing relative to the proposal to "Terminate Purchase and Sale Agreement between the BOS and Waukeshaw Development, Inc. regarding Winton Country Club (Winton)."

After the Public Hearing was closed, by motion of Chair Tucker, "the Board tabled the matter for a future meeting as soon as possible when all members are present and have sought outside counsel to review the current and proposed contracts."

I see that Item XV.A of the Closed Session on today's Agenda deals with legal counsel retained by the BOS regarding the Winton property. I believe one would reasonably assume this deals with the commitment made during the Public Hearing on January 21st, 2025. If so, this leads me to question if the BOS has the privilege of using a closed session regarding this matter. The commitment made at the January 21st 2025 Public Hearing, by BOS motion, was to table the matter and obtain legal counsel. That action committed the legal counsel recommendation to become a part of the Public Hearing and, as such, be presented in a Public Hearing. If the BOS also plans to have legal counsel present their recommendations to the public in a Public Hearing, fine, then proceed with the closed session (and pay legal fees twice). If that is not the case, I believe the BOS is abusing the closed session privilege. I cannot speak for the citizens of Amherst County, but I am not interested in hearing

what the BOS believes legal counsel has told them in closed session, I want to hear it from the legal counsel as committed to in the January 21st, 2025 motion by the BOS. That is what this BOS committed to the citizens of Amherst County as to the handling of this matter.

Do the right thing, remove this matter from today's agenda and place it on the agenda for the next meeting, when working citizens can attend. Then take the matter from the table, as required by Robert's Rule of Order, and have the legal counsel make its presentation so that it then becomes a part of the Public Hearing.

In addition, someone owes me a copy of the legal counsel recommendations per my FOIA request of June 3rd, 2025.

Attachment 2

County of Amherst - Planning Commission - Interview Questions

1. Please tell us about yourself: What experience or background would you bring to the Planning Commission?
2. What experience would you bring that would demonstrate an understanding of the potential impacts, both positive and negative, of land development, i.e., environment, aesthetics, economics, community services, transportation, storm-water/drainage, parking, etc?
3. Have you ever served on other citizen's advisory groups before? If so, please describe.
4. Are you comfortable in a committee setting dealing with technical as well as, at times, difficult community issues?
5. Are you able to see both sides of a proposal before making judgment on its merits? Give an example of your experience with this process.
6. What do you perceive the role and responsibility of the Planning Commission to be?
7. What motivated you to apply for the Planning Commission and what do you hope to accomplish by your participation?

Added Question

- (8. How do you see going forward with new technology to ensure we are in a position to progress and not regress.)

2024-25 Year Annual Report
Amherst County
Recreation, Tourism and Cultural Development Department

The Amherst County Recreation, Tourism and Cultural Development Department's goal is to offer the Citizens of Amherst County, from small children to senior adults, an array of services, classes, programs and special events. The department encourages citizens to stay involved and active in their community in a wide variety of ways.

Some of the ways to participate and get involved are:

SPORTS/ATHLETICS:

Total Participants- 3081

Revenue- \$52,015.00

Programs Offered:

Adaptive Soccer, Co-Ed Basketball, Girls Basketball, Summer Basketball League, Basketball Camp, Fall Soccer, Pick-up Soccer, Pickleball, Spring Soccer, Brazilian Soccer Camp, Football Camp, Bedrock Church Sports Camp

SENIOR ADULTS:

Total Participants- 4945

Revenue- \$1769.00

Programs Offered:

Coolwell Senior Center, Bingo, Senior Socials, Bocce Ball

CLASSES:

Total Participants- 2052

Revenue- \$8,910.00

Programs Offered:

Aging Well Exercise, Amherst Art Society, Line Dancing, Round Dancing, Square Dancing, Liquid Art, Dog Training, Hunters Safety, Donna Meeks' Art Camp

OUTDOOR PROGRAMS:

Total Participants- 103

Revenue- \$0

Programs Offered:

Woodland Rambles, Park Passport Program

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Total Participants- 1474

Revenue- \$0

Programs Offered:

Halloween Spooktacular, Arts & More Christmas Event, Easter Eggstravaganza, Lion Club Wellness Fair, Lions Club Luncheons, Movies in the Field, Piney River Tri-Biathlon, Batteau Festival, Amherst County Day

Special Event Permits Issued- 20

TRIPS:

Total Participants- 294

Revenue- \$1240.00

Programs Offered:

National D-Day Memorial, Holiday Lights at Elks Home, Lynchburg Farmers Market, Caesars of Danville, Rosie's in Vinton, Richmond Governors Mansion, Blue Ridge Parkway, Poplar Forest, Charlottesville shopping and lunch, Waynesboro Flea Market, Doswell Christmas Lights, Hamricks and many more.

LOCATION RENTALS:

Total Participants- 68

Revenue- \$9,865.00

Coolwell Park Community Center, Monroe Community Center, Coolwell Ballfield, Monroe Ballfield

The Monroe Community Center is used by many different groups and organizations such as the Lions Club, 4-H, Democrat Party, Voter Precinct, Public Safety Training Room, Amherst Art Society

The Coolwell Community Center is used by our Senior Sites, Dance Classes, Bingo, Voter Precinct

THEME PARK TICKET SALES:

Tickets Sold- 512

Revenue- \$17,678.00

Tickets Offered:

Kings Dominion, Busch Gardens

NIGHT FISHING PERMITS:

County 51
Revenue- \$510.00
Non-County 33
Revenue- \$495.00

Total Program Participants- 12,628
Total Revenue- \$92,482.00

PARKS:

Seminole Park:

The ribbon cutting was held on October 15, 2024. It has been a huge success with the playground, walking trail, pavilions and dog park. It has become one of our more popular parks.

Mill Creek Lake Park:

The swimming area was shutdown last summer because of the blue/green algae bloom in mid-July. The eight weeks of extreme heat and drought caused the problem with the algae. The water was tested in April of 2025 and the beach was opened for the summer of 2025.

Coolwell Park:

Staff constructed the Bocce Ball Court next to the Community Center using funds from an AARP Community Fund Grant. It was completed in December and has been a big success with our Seniors.

The new LED lights were installed in June of 2025 and this should bring some substantial savings to the county electric bill.

Monroe Community Center:

Funds were approved to replace the windows and construction starts this summer of 2025.

Department Masterplan:

The Department Masterplan was completed by Hill Studios and presented to the Board of Supervisors at the first meeting in April of 2025. The plan was approved and Staff has created a park committee to start on the priority list created by the masterplan. The Kilgore Community Park is the first on the list and the committee is working on the plan to develop this park.

TOURISM:

The Department continues to work with the Chamber of Commerce to promote the County and its businesses, special events and wonderful natural amenities.

The visitor Center had 1,102 visitors.

The Tourism visitamherstcounty.org website had 27,956 unique visitors and had 76,952 page views.

FUTURE PLANS:

The Department is currently working to make the Department's Masterplan a reality. Our goal is to put in place the process, the funding and the resources to start developing the parks and the upgrades to existing parks. The Department is also working with other organizations to combine resources to initiate new programs and activities for the citizens we serve.
