



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

October 21, 2025
Administration Building - 153 Washington
Street - Public Meeting Room
Amherst, Virginia 24521
Meeting Convened - 7:00 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 October 21, 2025, at 7:00 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
Mark Popovich, County Attorney

Chair Tucker called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 Section XIII. Closed Session and Section XIV. Certification of 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 Adams led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Citizen Comment

There was no public comment.

V. Public Hearing

A. Ordinance 2025-6 Inoperable Motor Vehicle Revisions

In recent years, the County has experienced a significant increase of inoperable motor vehicles. The Sheriff's Office, in seeking to enforce the ordinance, had requested a review of the ordinance to determine if there was any possibility of streamlining the process of collecting and disposing of unclaimed inoperable motor vehicles. The proposed edits will effectuate a more streamlined and more efficient means by which to remove and dispose of unclaimed inoperable motor vehicles.

The Public Hearing was opened.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

The Public Hearing was closed.

By motion of Supervisor Wade and with the following vote, the Board adopted Ordinance 2025-6 as presented.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

VI. Non-Public Hearing

A. Ordinance 2025-1 - Energy Storage Facilities

The Board conducted a non-public hearing regarding Ordinance No. 2025-1.

Amending and enacting §§ 302 of Article III – Definitions of terms and use in this Ordinance, §§ 708 of Article VII – Use Requirements by Zoning Districts, and §§ 925 of Article IX– Special Provisions, of Appendix A – Zoning and Subdivisions Ordinance to the Code of the County of Amherst, Virginia. The purpose of the ordinance is to allow energy storage facilities as a special exception in the M-1, Industrial District and set forth developmental standards and requirements for such facilities, such as, but not limited to: setbacks, screening of the facility, fire safety and environmental protections such as an emergency response plan and soil testing, revenue sharing, and decommissioning.

The Board of Supervisors at their September 16th meeting tabled their vote at the request of staff. Staff has since updated the ordinance to reflect the Board's request regarding setback(s) flexibility. The following language was added to Ordinance 2025-1:

The project area must be set back a distance of at least seventy-five (75) feet from all property lines. Exceptions may be made for adjoining parcels that are owned by the applicant. The Board of Supervisors may increase this setback through the special exception process to ensure the public safety, health, and welfare of the surrounding community.

The Planning Commission recommended approval with a 5-0 vote.

By motion of Supervisor Pugh and with the following vote, the Board adopted Ordinance 2025-1 as presented.

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

NAY: None
ABSENT: None

VII. Consent Agenda

By motion of Vice-Chair Martin and with the following vote, the Board approved the Consent Agenda for October 21, 2025.

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

A. Minutes - October 7, 2025

It was moved that the Board adopt the minutes of October 7, 2025

B. Lynchburg Municipal Employees FCU

It was moved that the Board direct the County Administrator to sign the attached letter allowing Amherst County employees the benefit of applying to become Lynchburg Municipal Employees FCU members.

VIII. Special Presentation

A. Reassessment Presentation

Mr. Fred Pearson with Pearson Appraisal Service LLC now known as Vision Government Solutions gave an overview of the upcoming reassessment.

IX. County Attorney's Report

The County Attorney had no matter to discuss.

X. Liaison and Committee Reports

A. Planning Commission - David Pugh

Supervisor Pugh stated that the Planning Commission had a meeting on October 16, 2025, with several different items, including a short-term tourist rental of a dwelling on Pera Rd. that was recommended, and another short-term tourist rental on Indigo Ridge. Mr. Pugh stated the Commission also approved the geographical expansion of the Route 29 Business Beautification Committee to include Dillard Rd. and the section of Route 130 from the intersection of Dillard Rd. and Route 130. He also stated the Commission will be conducting a work session on October 30th at 6:00 pm to discuss allowing certain types of businesses within the county's residential district.

XI. Citizen Comment

Brooke Vandervelde addressed the Board, providing the Board with information that was put together from the research by the Monument Committee.

XII. Matters from Members of the Board of Supervisors

Chair Tucker had no matter to discuss.

Vice-Chair Martin reminded the public of the Park and Recreation Department's Halloween Spooktacular at Coolwell Recreation starting at 6:00 pm, Friday, October 24th.

Supervisor Pugh had no matter to discuss.

Supervisor Adams had no matter to discuss.

Supervisor Wade had no matter to discuss.

XIII. Closed Session

- A. A closed session under Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) as a discussion regarding the acquisition and disposition of public property.

Item removed by Agenda Amendment.

XIV. Certification of Closed Session

Removed by Agenda Amendment.

XV. Adjournment

By motion of Supervisor Adams and with the following vote, the Board adjourned at 7:21 pm.

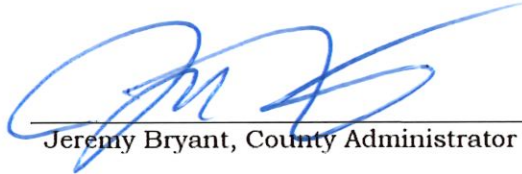
AYE: Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Martin, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Adams and Mr. Wade

NAY: None

ABSENT: None



Claudia D. Tucker, Chair
Amherst County Board of Supervisors



Jeremy Bryant, County Administrator