



AMHERST COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board of Supervisors

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

MINUTES

March 3, 2026
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 March 3, 2026, at 3:00 p.m., the following members were present:

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

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

ABSENT: None

STAFF:

Jeremy S. Bryant, County Administrator
Mark Popovich, County Attorney
Kristen Freeman, Clerk

Chair Martin 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 Chair Martin and with the following vote, the Board approved the agenda with the amendment of removing Section VII. Old Business Item A. Voluntary Compliance - Derelict Structure.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

III. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

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

IV. Citizen Comment

Cooke Harvey, District 1, addressed the Board with thoughts on preserving the scenic views in the county and not encroaching too much on agricultural areas in the county. He also gave some thoughts on land use in the county.

Mark Labadie, District 2, addressed the Board, thanking Sheriff Ayers for his recent statements regarding the Second Amendment and constitutional rights. He also brought up concerns of making a FOIA request for the contract for the flock cameras and locations of the cameras and was informed there would be a fee to obtain this information and did not agree with that.

V. Ordinance - First Read

A. Ordinance 2026-3 Units of Safety Program

By motion of Supervisor Pugh and with the following vote, the Board directed staff to advertise Ordinance 2023-3 for public hearing for March 17, 2026.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

VI. Consent Agenda

By motion of Supervisor Tucker and with the following vote, the Board approved the Consent Agenda for March 3, 2026.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

A. Minutes - Budget Workshop February 17, 2026

It was moved that the Board adopt the minutes of February 17, 2026 Budget Workshop.

B. Minutes - February 17, 2026

It was moved that the Board adopt the minutes of February 1, 2026.

C. Social Services — Appropriation of Revenue

It was moved that the Board appropriate funds received into the Social Services budget as described.

D. FY 26 Appropriation of Revenue - Sheriff's Office

It was moved that the Board approve the appropriation of funds as described.

VII. Old Business

A. Voluntary Compliance - Derilict Structure

Item removed by Agenda Amendment.

VIII. New Business

A. Web Hosting Solution

By motion of Vice-Chair Adams and with the following vote, the Board approved Civic Plus as the new chosen web hosting vendor and appropriated \$36,837 from the Unobligated General Fund to the IT budget to

cover the first year one-time costs for migration and first year annual hosting fee for Amherst County's website.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

B. ACR 1-3, Agriculture Committee Charter Update

By motion of Supervisor Pugh and with the following vote, the Board approved the changes to ACR 1-3, Agriculture Committee Charter as presented.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

C. Resolution 2026-3-R Opposition to Congressional Redistricting

By motion of Supervisor Tucker and with the following vote, the Board adopted Resolution 2023-3-R as presented.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

IX. County Administrator's Report

A. Boards/Commissions/Committees - Planning Commission At-Large seat vacancy

The Board interviewed both Mr. Michael Bryant and Mr. Bill Wise. The Board directed staff to readvertise the District 4 vacancy and bring back any letters of interest as well as Mr. Bill Wise if he is still interested in serving on the Commission at their April 7, 2026 meeting.

By motion of Vice-Chair Adams and with the following vote, the Board appointed Mr. Michael Bryant to serve a four-year At-Large term on the Planning Commission.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

B. Agriculture Committee Vacancies

By motion of Supervisor Tucker and with the following vote, the Board appointed Mr. William Bryant and Ms. Myra Parr to serve on the Agriculture Committee with terms expiring December 31, 2028.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

X. County Attorney's Report

The County Attorney had no matter to discuss.

XI. Citizen Comment

John A. Marks, Jr., District 5, addressed the Board. (See attachment 1)

Mr. William Bryant, introduced himself to the Board as he is one of the newly appointed members on the Agriculture Committee. Mr. Bryant thanked them for the opportunity to serve the county.

Supervisor Tucker read comments from a citizen unable to attend the meeting, Doris Bryant, Ms. Bryant stated that any tax increase would be a true burden on citizens.

Mark Labadie, District 2, he spoke on his opinion of the EDA and the Gateway Project with Mr. Morcom.

XII. Matters from Members of the Board of Supervisors

Supervisor Tucker had no matter to discuss.

Supervisor Campbell had no matter to discuss.

Supervisor Pugh had no matter to discuss.

Vice-Chair Adams had no matter to discuss.

Chairman Martin had no matter to discuss.

XIII. Adjournment

By motion of Vice-Chair Adams and with the following vote, the Board adjourned at 4:09 pm.

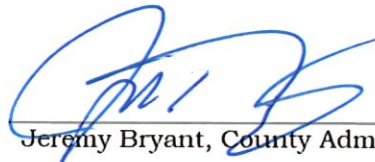
AYE: Mr. Martin, Mr. Adams, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Campbell, and Mrs. Tucker

NAY: None

ABSENT: None



Tom Martin, Chair
Amherst County Board of Supervisors



Jeremy Bryant, County Administrator

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

This afternoon you will be dealing with the budget for the County's 2027 fiscal year . I would like to make serval points regarding the upcoming budget.

1. According to the latest profile report I could find 23% of your constituents are age 65 and plus. Please keep that in mind.
2. If the .39 cent number is truly the equalized number after the reassessment, then everyone that saw an increase in their property values has already experienced a tax increase at .39. My numbers run from .09% to .19% increase.
3. The County closed out fiscal year 2025 at the end of June, 2025, that is eight months ago and there is still no certified audit. In four months the books on the County fiscal year 2026 will be closed. Who knows when that audit will be available. My point is that without a certified audit one does not have an absolute handle on revenue and expenses. Consequently, I would like to recommend that the Board consider level funding, or less, the 2027 budget, and that in itself would be a heavy lift. However, that would provide the Board some time to sort things out before another fiscal year and hopefully have some certified audits available for reference.
4. Our leaders in Richmond are really concerned about the subject of affordability, so much so that they voted themselves a 300% increase in their salaries. Guess they want to make sure they can afford what they want. They seem to be wanting to tax anything that moves and if it's already taxed, tax it again because it's not enough. Your constituents also pay that tax.