



BOOK 40
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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 17, 2026
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 March 17, 2026, at 7:00 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
Chris Dadak, County Attorney
Kristen Freeman, Clerk

Chair Martin called the meeting to order at 7:12 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 Vice-Chair Adams and with the following vote, the Board approved the agenda.

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 Chair Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Citizen Comment

Cooke Harvey addressed the Board with information about him running as an independent for the House of Representatives.

Danny Fields addressed the Board about the recent tax assessment and the consideration of what the tax rate will be set at.

Gloria Witt addressed the Board regarding Resolution 2026-3-R opposing congressional redistricting.

Barbara Pryor addressed the Board regarding Resolution 2026-3-R opposing congressional redistricting.

David Schluder addressed the Board regarding congressional redistricting.

V. Public Hearing

A. Special Exception 2026-037 Kevin L Mays

Request by Kevin L Mays for a special exception in the B-2, General Commercial District. The purpose of the special exception is to allow for the construction of an automotive repair garage. The proposal includes a four (4) bay 3,200 square foot shop, auxiliary parking for customers and storage, and proposed screening and landscaping. The property is located at 3362 S. Amherst Highway, and is further identified as tax map no. 137-1-6.

Conditions:

1. Lighting: All outdoor lighting will be glare-shielded and directed so as to prevent illumination across the property line.
2. Parking: All vehicles shall be required to park on the property and not park on neighboring lots that are not of common ownership or on any right-of-way outside of their property unless they have written permission. No vehicle waiting for repair shall stay on the lot longer than ten (10) consecutive business days.
3. Outdoor Storage: There shall be no outdoor storage as it relates to parts, chemicals, or tools. All materials and equipment shall be kept within an enclosed structure.
4. Hours of Operation: The business shall only operate between the hours of 7:30 am – 7:30 pm.
5. The applicant shall submit a major site plan in accordance with Article 11 of the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance and shall receive approval from all applicable agencies.
6. The minimum landscaping and screening (areas adjoining residentially zoned property) requirements in Article XVI of the Amherst County Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance shall be met. Screening trees shall be planted at a minimum of 5' in height.
7. The site shall be developed in substantial compliance with the submitted conceptual plan dated January 8, 2026.
8. All requirements set forth by the Amherst County Fire Marshall shall be met prior to issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy.
9. All requirements from the Virginia Department of Transportation shall be met prior to the issuance of a zoning permit.

The applicant addressed the Board.

The Public Hearing was opened.

Proponents: Calvin Kennon, Sabrina Kennon, Marshall Tyree, Sarah Nichols

Opponents: None

The Public Hearing was closed.

Chair Martin explained he was against this special exception due to the encroachment of commercial use into the residential area and that it went far back into Woodrow. He said the neighborhood has been there for quite a while, and he was surprised that no one came to speak in opposition. He also said a concern of his is that the county has not seen a very good track record with these garages, with some making a lot of promises and not following through. He said these types of uses tend to become very cluttered in terms of the number of vehicles there, fluids, etc. Mr. Martin also stated that none of this was personal towards the applicant and that he hopes he does well and that his business is successful.

By motion of Supervisor Pugh and with the following vote, the Board approved Special Exception 2026-037 with the listed conditions.

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

NAY: Mr. Martin

ABSENT: None

B. Special Exception 2026-038 William E Maddox

Request by William E. Maddox for a special exception in the A-1, Agricultural Residential District. The purpose of the special exception is to allow a short-term tourist rental of a dwelling. The property is located at 4820 Elon Road and is further identified as tax map number 104-A-22.

Conditions:

1. Lighting: All outdoor lighting will be glare-shielded and directed so as to prevent illumination across the property line.
2. Sewerage Facilities: The applicant shall follow all regulations prescribed by the Virginia Department of Health.
3. Parking: Guest shall be required to park on the property and not park on neighboring lots or on any right-of-way outside of their property unless they have written permission.
4. Amherst County Fire and EMS: The owner shall meet all requirements set forth by the Director and Fire Marshal of Amherst County Fire and EMS as it has to do with access to the property.
5. Short-Term Tourist Rental: The applicant shall meet all requirements of Section 916.

The applicants addressed the Board.

The Public Hearing was opened.

Proponents: Lynn Mays, Calvin Kennon, Sabrina Kennon

Opponents: None

The Public Hearing was closed.

By motion of Vice-Chair Adams and with the following vote, the Board approved Special Exception 2026-038 with the listed conditions.

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

NAY: None
ABSENT: None

C. Ordinance 2026-3 Units of Safety Program

Historically, multiple agencies have provided EMS services in Amherst County. Over the past few years, a number of changes have taken place, such as Amherst Life Saving Crew and Monelison Rescue Squad closing their doors. Additionally, Grief Inc., Emergency Response team will be updated to PCA-Riverville EMS.

The Public Hearing was opened.

Proponents: None
Opponents: None

The Public Hearing was closed.

By motion of Vice-Chair Adams and with the following vote, the Board adopted Ordinance 2026-3 as presented.

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

VI. Consent Agenda

By motion of Supervisor Pugh and with the following vote, the Board approved the Consent Agenda for March 17, 2026.

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

A. Minutes - March 3, 2026

It was moved that the Board adopt the minutes of March 3, 2026.

B. Minutes - Budget Workshop March 3, 2026

It was moved that the Board adopt the minutes of Budget Workshop March 3, 2026.

C. Appropriation of Revenue - Commonwealth's Attorney

It was moved that the Board approve the appropriation of funds from the State Compensation Board in the amount of \$10,000 to the Commonwealth's Attorney's budget as presented.

VII. Special Presentation

A. Horizon Behavioral Health - Annual Report

The Board received an annual update from Melissa Lucy, Chief Executive Officer of Horizon Behavioral Health. (See Attachment 1)

VIII. New Business

A. Towing Advisory Board

The Board asked the County Attorney to report back to them with more information on this topic.

IX. County Administrator's Report

A. Boards/Commissions/Committees - Building Appeals Board - Vacancy

By motion of Vice-Chair Adams and with the following vote, the Board appointed Bif Johnson as a representative to the Building Appeals Board for a term ending April 30, 2030.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

B. Opioid Abatement Update

The Board received a presentation from the Opioid Abatement Committee regarding updates on previous and ongoing projects as well as the plan for future updates and appropriations. (See Attachment 1)

X. County Attorney's Report

The County Attorney reported that Lynchburg intends to file an amicus brief in the redistricting lawsuit out of Tazwell County in the Supreme Court of Virginia and is asking whether other localities want to join their efforts and split the cost of filing the pleading. He stated the Botetourt and Appomattox have committed to joining the effort, and he would estimate the cost would be less than \$20,000 total, split between the counties that have decided to join efforts.

No action was taken by the Board.

XI. Liaison and Committee Reports

A. Parks, Recreation & Cultural Development Board - Tom Martin

Chair Martin reported that Amherst County Day at Sweet Briar College will be held Saturday March 28th from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm with the Parks and Recreation Easter Egg Hunt being at 3:00 pm. He also reported that all the sports programs going on right now are having great participation totals. Mr. Martin stated their will be a senior luncheon coming up on May 19th and June 17th is the annual Batteau Festival, and that July 25th will be the annual Day in the Park at Mill Creek Lake 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.

B. Agriculture Committee - Claudia Tucker

Supervisor Tucker thanked everyone for the support of the two newest Agriculture Committee members and stated they were off to a great start.

XII. Citizen Comment

Samuel Bryant addressed the Board and asked the citizens to get involved in their community. He also mentioned to the board that some insurance companies have health and wellness programs for employees, and asked them to consider looking into that. He also asked them not to forget about down the road considering an Agriculture Center or Vocational Tech Center and some other incentives to keep kids here.

George Stanley addressed the Board regarding the earlier topic of creating a towing advisory board.

Jerry Yancey addressed the Board regarding the earlier topic of creating a towing advisory board.

XIII. 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.

XIV. Adjournment

By motion of Vice-Chair Adams and with the following vote, the Board adjourned at 9:05 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

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE VIRGINIA OPIOID ABATEMENT AUTHORITY

The Virginia Opioid Abatement Authority, also referred to as VaOAA, is a statewide program that provides financial support to localities to aid against the opioid epidemic. The program began in 2022 and is anticipated to receive annual funds through the year 2039. The funds come from settlements between the State and major opioid distributors such as Janssen, Mallinkrodt, and Teva, to name a few.

A full history of the Virginia Opioid Abatement Authority can be found at www.oaa.virginia.gov



OPIOID ABATEMENT UTILIZATION

The Virginia Opioid Abatement Authority has outlined projects and initiatives that are favored when utilizing Opioid Abatement Funding:

- Youth prevention education using evidence-based programs
- Naloxone distribution and “leave-behind” programs
- Mobile treatment programs
- Behavioral health crisis response teams (988 instead of 911)
- Crisis receiving centers
- Recovery courts and jail diversion programs
- Treatment in local jails (therapeutic & medication) and re-entry programs
- Foster care prevention through proactive efforts to divert parents to treatment
- Focused efforts to support kinship care
- Recovery supports: transportation, recovery housing, job training, job pipelines

It is important to note that Opioid Abatement Funding cannot be used for anything other than approved Opioid Abatement projects and initiatives.

AMHERST COUNTY OPIOID ABATEMENT COMMITTEE

The committee is composed of members from various departments throughout the county. Each member brings a certain level of expertise to the table to assist in navigating the best way to utilize funding for the ongoing opioid epidemic within our community.

The committee members are:

Jeremy Bryant - County Administrator

Tracie Morgan- Finance Director

Bradley Beam - Fire & EMS Chief

Dr. Tim Hoden - Chief Operations Officer, ACPS

Karen Tanner - Extension Agent, Family Consumer Sciences Unit Coordinator

Jason Meador - Director of Amherst Dept. of Social Services

Lt. Greg Jones - Criminal Investigations, Amherst Sheriff's Dept.

Joni Tables - Amherst County CSA Program Manager

Melissa Woodard - Procurement & Contracts Division Manager

Leslie Sprouse - Amherst County Grant Administrator





FUNDING DETAILS

Direct Distributions

This funding is non-competitive funding and will be distributed directly to Amherst County as settlements are finalized between the State of Virginia and various distributors.

OAA Individual Distribution

This funding is competitive funding and requires an application with a complete project narrative. Once a project application is submitted, it will go before the VOAA for approval or denial of funding.

The Gold Standard

The Gold Standard is a more stringent set of rules for the utilization of OAA Funding. This is a percentage increase incentive to the Individual Distribution for approved projects. The Gold Standard of use is outlined in Code of Virginia 2.2-2370

FUNDING DETAILS

	No Application to OAA		Must Apply to OAA					
	Direct Distributions		OAA Individual Distribution			OAA Gold Standard Incentive		
Fiscal Year (FY)	Projected	Used as OAA Match	Eligible to Receive	Awarded / Used as Match	Balance Available	Eligible to Receive	Awarded / Used as Match	Balance Available
2022	\$12,158	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2023	\$76,969	\$0	\$27,852	\$0	\$27,852	\$6,963	\$0	\$6,963
2024	\$94,923	\$0	\$32,240	\$0	\$60,091	\$8,060	\$0	\$15,023
2025	\$36,403	\$0	\$12,555	\$0	\$72,646	\$3,139	\$0	\$18,161
2026	\$39,117	\$0	\$13,774	\$0	\$13,774	\$3,444	\$0	\$3,444
2027	\$41,572	\$0	\$14,674	\$0	\$14,674	\$3,669	\$0	\$3,669
2028	\$31,672	\$0	\$11,045	\$0	\$11,045	\$2,761	\$0	\$2,761
2029	\$44,389	\$0	\$15,707	\$0	\$15,707	\$3,927	\$0	\$3,927
2030	\$44,591	\$0	\$15,802	\$0	\$15,802	\$3,950	\$0	\$3,950
2031	\$41,750	\$0	\$14,696	\$0	\$14,696	\$3,674	\$0	\$3,674
2032	\$38,744	\$0	\$13,594	\$0	\$13,594	\$3,398	\$0	\$3,398
2033	\$35,619	\$0	\$12,448	\$0	\$12,448	\$3,112	\$0	\$3,112
2034	\$27,182	\$0	\$9,718	\$0	\$9,718	\$2,430	\$0	\$2,430
2035	\$27,182	\$0	\$9,718	\$0	\$9,718	\$2,430	\$0	\$2,430
2036	\$27,182	\$0	\$9,718	\$0	\$9,718	\$2,430	\$0	\$2,430
2037	\$22,584	\$0	\$8,033	\$0	\$8,033	\$2,008	\$0	\$2,008
2038	\$22,584	\$0	\$8,033	\$0	\$8,033	\$2,008	\$0	\$2,008
2039	\$15,812	\$0	\$5,798	\$0	\$5,798	\$1,449	\$0	\$1,449
Total	\$680,434	\$0	\$235,404	\$0	\$235,404	\$58,851	\$0	\$58,851

** The amounts listed reflect estimates of local distributions based on finalized settlements and may vary due to adjustments occurring at the national level prior to distribution to the states.

PRIOR PROJECTS TO-DATE

In 2024, a K9-Working Dog was purchased and trained as part of the School Resource Officers Team. Drax and Officer Harrison perform their duties on a rotating schedule between the Amherst County Public School locations.

In 2025, two drone systems were purchased and housed under the Amherst County Sheriff's Office to be used in Opioid related scenarios and operations. One system is an aerial unit and the other is a tactical grounds unit.

Also in 2025, a rapid hair follicle testing system was purchased and housed within the Amherst County Department of Social Services. This allows DSS access to accurate results in a fraction of the time it would previously take to send off for results.



PROJECT IN PROCESS

Amherst County has been approved for an Individual Distribution in the amount of \$57,975.00 for the Opioid Abatement Taskforce Trailer project that was approved by the Board of Supervisors on April 1st, 2025. That project is underway and expected to be operational within the County by the Summer of 2026.

Amherst County has been chosen to participate in a Regional Cooperative Partnership Program between the Blue Ridge Regional Jail, Horizon Behavioral, Bedford County, Campbell County, Appomattox County, and the City of Lynchburg. The County is committing \$50,378.00 of its Direct Distribution funding toward to the development and implementation of a Recovery and Re-Entry Program for individuals recovering from opioid addiction that are incarcerated within the BRRJ.



EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN

Project Description	Status	Estimated Cost
K9 for ACPS	Complete	\$19,441.21
BRINC LEMUR 2 Drone & Equipment	Complete	\$47,997.60
Skydio x10 Drone & Equipment	Complete	\$28,898.75
STAT Rapid Hair Testing Equipment	Complete	\$7,879.94
Opioid Abatement Taskforce Trailer	In-Process	\$57,975.00
BRRJ Substance Use Jail & Re-Entry Program	In-Process	\$50,378.00

Total Direct Distribution Expenditures To-Date: \$72,219.10

OAA Individual Distributions Awarded: \$57,975.00

Current OOA Direct Distribution Funding Available: \$216,717.87

Direct Distribution Funding Available If BRRJ Program Approved: \$166,339.87

UPDATES AND APPROPRIATIONS PLAN

It is the goal of the Opioid Abatement Committee to keep the Amherst County Board of Supervisors up to date on the ongoing of the Opioid Abatement Committee throughout the Fiscal Year. Going forward, the Board of Supervisors will receive a monthly update on the direction of the Opioid Abatement Committee and all proposed projects and expenditures from the County Administrator .

The Finance Director looks to appropriate available Opioid Abatement Funding within the budget of each Fiscal Year to be utilized for VaOAA approved projects, initiatives, and expenditures within Amherst County.

THANK YOU

Thank you for your time today. On behalf of the Opioid Abatement committee, we sincerely appreciate your time and attention. I yield to the Board for questions or concerns at this time.

