



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

May 19, 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 May 19, 2026, at 7:00 p.m., the following members were present:

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

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

ABSENT:

Tom Martin, Chair

STAFF:

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

Vice-Chair Adams 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 Vice-Chair Adams and with the following vote, the Board approved the agenda with the amendments of a change to Item A. on the Consent Agenda and removing the Closed Session and Certification of Closed Session sections.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Martin

III. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Pugh led the Invocation and Vice-Chair Adams led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Citizen Comment

Sky Pacot, District 4, addressed the Board regarding data center concerns and a zoning change petition.

Sharon Ponton, District 4, addressed the Board regarding data center concerns.

Barbara Pryor, District 2, addressed the Board regarding data center concerns and flock cameras.

Robyn Smith, District 3, addressed the Board regarding data center concerns and asked the Board to support the circulating zoning change petition.

Teresa Almond, District 3, addressed the Board regarding data center concerns.

Jim Vazquez, District 3, addressed the Board with concerns on Phyllis Lea Road and with Three Oak Manor and its owners.

Lisa Jonas, District 4, addressed the Board regarding data center concerns.

Ashley Jacobs, District 4, addressed the Board regarding data center concerns.

Becky Henry, District 4, addressed the Board regarding data center concerns.

V. Public Hearing

A. VDOT Rural Rustic Six Year Road Plan

VDOT has asked that the County's existing prioritized listing of roads to be paved be approved as presented. The proposed document makes no changes to the listing as it was last presented to VDOT. The priority list requests the Virginia Department of Transportation to designate certain roads as Rural Rustic Roads in Amherst County and add these roads to the Six-Year Plan for paving in the secondary system of state highways.

The Public Hearing was opened.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

The Public Hearing was closed.

By motion of Supervisor Tucker and with the following vote, the Board approved the VDOT Rural Rustic Six-Year Road Plan.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Martin

B. Conditional Rezoning 2026-062 Believablebuild

Request by Nixon Land Surveying for a conditional rezoning of approximately 1.731 acres from the B-2, General Commercial District, to the R-2, General Residential District. The purpose of the conditional rezoning is to build two new single-family dwellings and to allow two existing single-family dwellings to function as conforming uses within the R-2, General Residential District. The properties are located at 138 and 124 Cedar Gate Road and are further identified as tax map number(s) 137C4-A-16 and 137C4-A-18.

This request includes an amendment to the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) of the Amherst County Comprehensive Plan from commercial and low-density residential to medium-density residential.

Proffer dated February 25, 2026:

1. The applicant shall complete a subdivision plat that substantially matches the site plan submitted for the rezoning application dated November 26, 2025, and signed December 19, 2025.

Russ Nixon addressed the Board.

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 approved Conditional Rezoning 2026-062 with the submitted proffer.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Martin

C. CDBG Block Grant

Amherst County is in the process of preparing a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application for funding not to exceed the amount of \$2,000,000.00 for infrastructure improvements for the South Madison Heights Public Infrastructure Project. The Central Virginia Planning District Commission will provide a presentation to the Board.

Jefrado Granger from the Central Virginia Planning District Commission made a presentation to the Board.

A resolution of support will be presented to the Board for approval at their June 16, 2026, meeting.

No matching funds are required.

The Public Hearing was opened.

Proponents: Richard Jordan

Opponents: None

The Public Hearing was closed.

VI. Consent Agenda

By motion of Supervisor Tucker and with the following vote, the Board approved the Consent Agenda for May 19, 2026 with the amendment to Item A. Minutes - May 5, 2026.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Martin

A. Minutes - May 5, 2026

It was moved that the Board adopt the minutes of May 5, 2026, with the following change.

Section XIII. Matters from Members of the Board.

Changing Supervisor Campbell had no matter to discuss to Supervisor Campbell brought up looking into offering a discount for those who pay taxes early. the consensus of the Board was to give the County Attorney direction to look into this matter.

B. Appropriation - Parks and Recreation

It was moved that the Board approve the appropriation of \$8,500.00 of grant funds as requested.

C. Appropriation of Revenue - Commonwealth Attorney

It was moved that the Board approve the appropriation of the Services Council reimbursement.

VII. Special Presentation

A. Resolution 2026-9-R Amherst County Museum & Historical Society 50th Anniversary

The Board recognized the Amherst County Museum & Historical Society's 50th Anniversary, 1976-2026.

By motion of Supervisor Campbell and with the following vote, the Board adopted Resolution 2026-9-R as presented.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Martin

VIII. County Administrator's Report

A. Boards/Commissions/Committees - Planning Commission District 1 Vacancy

The Board interviewed the candidate, Mr. Robert Baxter.

By motion of Vice-Chair Adams and with the following vote, the Board appointed Mr. Robert Baxter to the Planning Commission District 1 representative seat for the remainder of a term ending August 31, 2028.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Martin

B. Boards/Commissions/Committees - Community Policy & Management Team (CPMT)

By motion of Supervisor Tucker and with the following vote, the Board appointed Ms. Dorisia Belford as the County representative to the Amherst County Community Policy and Management Team with Tracie Morgan as her alternate.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Martin

IX. County Attorney's Report

The County Attorney had no matter to discuss.

X. Liaison and Committee Reports

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

In Chair Martin's absence, Randy Nixon, Parks and Recreation Director, provided a report.

Mr. Nixon reported that the first senior social was held today May 19, 2026. He stated that the Park attendants are undergoing training and they will start this weekend as well as the kayak rentals at Mill Creek Lake will be available to the public starting this weekend. Mr. Nixon stated that the Batteau Festival is coming up in June and that on June 17 the James River Association is providing free Batteau rides. He stated that on June 22nd, there will be a Fall Prevention Workshop at the Coolwell Recreation Center at 12:00 pm. Mr. Nixon reported that Day at the Park at Mill Creek Lake will be held on July 25th from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. He stated that the Parks and Recreation Board has asked that the Coolwell Community Center Room be named after JoJo Alcock who passed away in 2022 and they would like to name the Monroe Ballfield after John Mann who passed away in April 2026.

XI. Departmental Reports

A. Amherst County Museum & Historical Society - Annual Report

Octavia Starbuck, Director of the Amherst County Museum & Historical Society, gave the Board an annual report.

XII. Citizen Comment

Becky Henry, District 4, addressed the Board asking for clarification on how citizens are able to speak to the Board and how they may receive information or answers to questions they may have or things the citizens bring up during citizen comment.

Barbara Pryor, District 2, stated she wanted to reinforce the good work that the Museum and Historical Society does.

Mike Cargill, District 2, encouraged people to come to the museum and take steps to preserve history for future generations.

Lynn Cable, District 1, stated she is working with the Museum on the 50th Anniversary Committee and she stated there is a program on June 7th from 2:30 to 4:00 pm about Coolwell neighborhood presented by Crystal Rosson and Dr. Lynn Rainville. She also stated that she was given an image of Karen Wood to give to the Monacan Indian Nation Museum and the Amherst County Museum celebrating her life and what she was able to do and accomplish for the Monacan Nation.

XIII. Matters from Members of the Board of Supervisors

Supervisor Tucker asked if it was noted at the beginning of the meeting that Mr. Martin was absent and asked for that to be noted in the meeting minutes, she also asked staff to make sure there is an extra trash can at Mill Creek Lake in between the beach and the parking lot as there has been a lot of extra trash in that area.

Supervisor Campbell stated that the Hometown books Octavia Starbuck referenced in her annual report were very good reads and recommended them. He also said that at the last meeting, he had brought up some legislation for a discount on early tax payments for the citizens. Mr. Campbell said it's VA Code Section 15.2-1201.2 Discount for payment of early taxes, and that he would like to see that on a future agenda for discussion. He also said that the citizens have come out tonight and spoke on this data center, and that he would like for that matter to also be on a future agenda for discussion on making that a special exception, giving the board in the future some power.

Supervisor Pugh agreed with Mr. Campbell regarding the data center discussion. He said the piece of property in question is in his district and asked the County Administrator to provide a brief synopsis of the property to the public.

Vice-Chair Adams stated that, for complete transparency, he believes the data center discussion should be on a future agenda for discussion and information to the public.

XIV. 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).

Item removed by Agenda Amendment.

XV. Certification of Closed Session

Section removed by Agenda Amendment.

XVI. Adjournment

By motion of Supervisor Pugh and with the following vote, the Board adjourned at 8:57 pm.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Martin



Tom Martin, Chair
Amherst County Board of Supervisors



Jeremy Bryant, County Administrator