

A Regular Meeting of the Westmoreland County Board of Supervisors was held Monday, February 10, 2025, in the public meeting room of the George D. English, Sr. Memorial Building, located at 111 Polk Street, Montross, Virginia. Those members present were Darryl E. Fisher, W. W. Hynson, Jeffrey McCormack, Mathew Ingram, and Timothy Trivett. Also present were County Attorney, Richard Stuart, and Jim Taylor, County Administrator.

The Chairman stated that Supervisor Ingram was not at the meeting but they have adopted a policy allowing him to participate electronically.

The Chairman stated that under the Board's new policy a Board member is allowed to participate electronically with the agreement of the other Board members. The request before the Board is for Supervisor Ingram to attend the meeting virtually, according to the new policy. Chairman Fisher asked Mr. Ingram to give a brief explanation as to why he was absent. Mr. Ingram stated that his wife planned an once-in-a-lifetime vacation for them and unfortunately it would cause him to miss the February Board Meeting in person. The Chairman stated that Mr. Ingram has met the criteria for participating virtually and asked if any Board member had any objections. With no objections, the Chairman stated to let the record show that the request by Mr. Ingram was accepted by the Board unanimously.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Fisher called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

The Chairman asked the Board if any amendments needed to be made to the current advertised Agenda.

Mr. McCormack asked to amend the agenda by adding action item 7a. Closed Session regarding a property on Nomini Creek at McGuire's Wharf Road. Under Section 2.2-3711.A3 for discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose where discussion in an open meeting could adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

With no further discussion, upon Motion by Mr. McCormack, Seconded by Mr. Trivett and carried unanimously, the Board approved the amendment to the agenda to be added after 7. Public Hearing as a Closed Session.

3. COMMENT PERIOD

A. Chairman and Board Member Comments

The Chairman thanked all the residents in attendance for taking the time to be there with them.

He also thanked Mr. Stuart, County Attorney and one of the esteemed State Senators who was part of facilitating Chairman Fisher's privilege of giving the invocation at the opening of this year's Senate session. He noted everyone was so delightful and they had a great day and went on a tour of the facility. Chairman thanked him for the opportunity and his kind words on the floor.

Mr. McCormack thanked Jerry Davis for his efforts in securing a \$100,000 Community Development Block Grant which will be used for the countywide housing assessment. He also stated that we now have an SRO in every school in the County, which was important during the last budget cycle and he was happy that the Sheriff's office was able to fill those positions.

Mr. Hynson stated that sometimes people forget the little parts of history. The SAR and DAR have been working on a monument for three years for the people who took part in the Revolutionary War. They finally put up the memorial in Warsaw this past Saturday because it was considered the middle of the Northern Neck. There were 70 names, of which you could recognize, even 250 years later. He stated that the people's names on the monument were not slaves. They were free men to help defend this country. Americans must realize that we all must come together to accomplish great things. These men were sought after so heavily due to the USA never having a navy before; they had 12 ships, they didn't have anyone who knew how to raise sails, and the Black community had some experience due to them working on crab boats, fish boats, etc.

Chairman Fisher stated that this is our black history moment during Black History Month, and he wasn't aware of that part of our history until Mr. Hynson brought it to his attention. He was glad to hear Mr. Hynson say that when they speak about history, they must listen to

everything - the good, the bad, and the ugly. You don't get here without the journey and it takes all that to get you where you are.

Mr. Ingram thanked the Board for allowing him to participate virtually in the meeting. He echoed Mr. McCormack's comment that having an SRO in every school is vital to keeping the schools safe for the children.

**B. County Administrator's Comments**

Mr. Taylor went over a few updates and information.

- i. He also echoed Mr. McCormack's comment regarding the Governor's announcement last week that \$23.6 million went to 33 communities, including Westmoreland who will receive \$100,000 in grant money and he thanked the Northern Neck Planning District for taking the lead on that effort and noted that a lot of good will come out of that grant money.
- ii. He thanked DEQ for continuing to assist us with some illegal trash sites in the County and we will continue to work with them going forward on multiple issues.
- iii. The animal shelter had a recent audit by the Department of Agriculture, and the state passed our shelter with no recommendations. Mr. Taylor thanked Sherriff Balderson, Captain Smith, and their team for all of their hard work.
- iv. The County's financial audit for FY24 is still pending. We hoped for a presentation at this meeting but it wasn't possible. We hope to have that Audit presentation at the next meeting in March.
- v. Mr. Taylor stated we are currently recruiting for a director of economic development. Information is available on the County's website and it is posted on a few state professional associations' webpages.
- vi. Kelsie Reyes, Administration Assistant, has moved to the reception area to enhance customer service. We will also be making the customer window larger and more welcoming.
- vii. We are monitoring the weather forecast for the potential of 6-8 inches of snow tomorrow. Please make preparations soon.
- viii. He thanked VDOT for all they do to clean the roads and the County maintenance crew for all they do to clear the parking lots and sidewalks. He also thanked

Dominion Power and Northern Neck Electric for keeping the County informed and the public safety workers for working no matter what the weather is.

- ix. On Monday, February 17th, 2025, Presidents Day, County offices will be closed. Presidents Day honors all presidents who have served as presidents of the United States. In some areas, this day originated to celebrate George Washington's birthday and is still called George Washington Day. They will be making some posts about the holiday and working on a display at the historic courthouse.

The Chairman thanked Ms. Reyes for moving up to the front office to answer phones. He noted that most of the Board members are not accustomed to automated answering machines. They would prefer to call and get a person who can answer questions and take care of issues before getting to the point of no return.

#### 4. CONSENT AGENDA

##### A. Request for Approval of Minutes

##### 1. Request for Approval of Minutes: Board of Supervisors Meeting – January 10, 2025

Chairman Fisher stated that everyone should have had an opportunity to review the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting on January 10th. The Chairman asked if any changes needed to be made to the minutes, if not, he asked for a motion to approve.

With no further discussion, upon Motion by Mr. Hynson, Seconded by Mr. McCormack and carried unanimously, the Board approved the minutes from the January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, as presented.

Mr. Stuart stated that you can approve the whole block, including the Accounts Payable and Payroll, but the minutes must be separate.

##### B. Request for Approval of Accounts Payable and Payroll Register

Chairman Fisher stated that you all received the Accounts Payable and Payroll Register and asked if there were any questions, observations, or concerns. If not, Chairman Fisher asked for a motion to approve the Payroll Register and Accounts Payable as presented for January 2025.

With no discussion, upon Motion by Mr. Hynson and Seconded by Mr. McCormack, carried unanimously with Mr. McCormack, Mr. Ingram, Mr. Hynson, Mr. Trivett, and the Chairman voting "aye". The Board approved the Accounts Payable and Payroll Register presented for January 2025.

C. Request for Approval for Approval of Appropriations Increase/Decrease Requests

1. DSS Appropriation to Balance County and State Budget (no local match needed)

The Chairman asked if Ms. Cusk had any comments about the appropriation, but she did not.

Chairman Fisher then asked the Board if there were no objections; he was in a position to request a motion for approval.

With no further discussion, upon Motion by Mr. Hynson, Seconded by Mr. Trivett with Mr. Trivett, Mr. McCormack, Mr. Hynson, Mr. Ingram, and the Chairman voting "aye." The Board approved the appropriation for DSS to balance county and state budgets. Mr. Taylor noted that he can change next month's agenda so that the minutes are on the regular agenda and the other matters are on the consent agenda if the Board wishes.

**\*\* DSS APPROTATION ON THE NEXT PAGE\*\***

WESTMORELAND COUNTY  
APPROPRIATION INCREASE/DECREASE REQUEST  
FY 2025-2026

I, Keri Cusick Director at Social Services, HEREBY REQUEST A  
SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION INCREASE/DECREASE FOR THE FOLLOWING:

DEPARTMENT NAME & NUMBER		FUND # <u>105</u> DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES 105	
EXPENDITURES			
(1) INCREASE	/DECREASE	LINE ITEM #	4-105-053100-6001 BY \$ 3,000.00
(2) INCREASE	/DECREASE	LINE ITEM #	4-105-053210-5711 21,704.00
(3) INCREASE	/DECREASE	LINE ITEM #	4-105-053210-5712 35,000.00
(4) INCREASE	/DECREASE	LINE ITEM #	
(5) INCREASE	/DECREASE	LINE ITEM #	
(6) INCREASE	/DECREASE	LINE ITEM #	
(7) INCREASE	/DECREASE	LINE ITEM #	
(8) INCREASE	/DECREASE	LINE ITEM #	
(9) INCREASE	/DECREASE	LINE ITEM #	
(10) INCREASE	/DECREASE	LINE ITEM #	BY \$
TOTAL:			\$ 59,704.00
REVENUE			
(1) INCREASE	/DECREASE	LINE ITEM #	3-105-33050-0001 30,413.37
(2) INCREASE	/DECREASE	LINE ITEM #	3-105-24010-0002 28,825.63
(3) INCREASE	/DECREASE	LINE ITEM #	3-105-41050-0005 465.00
(4) INCREASE	/DECREASE	LINE ITEM #	
(5) INCREASE	/DECREASE	LINE ITEM #	
TOTAL:			\$ 59,704.00

THIS SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IS FOR:

To get County Budget in line with the State Budget. No new Local Match needed.

FUNDS FOR THIS SUPPLEMENTAL WILL COME FROM:

LOCAL ☒ STATE ☒ FEDERAL ☒ OTHER ☐

APPROVAL: AYE/NAY

CHAIRMAN

Keri Cusick  
REQUESTING SIGNATURE

02/03/2025  
DATE REQUESTED

POSTED

DATE ACTION TAKEN: \_\_\_\_\_

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. VDOT Monthly Report, David Beale, Resident Engineer

Mr. Beale was present and went over the monthly report below.

Mr. Beale noted that Long Field Road will get latex, a preventative treatment to put a surface on Long Field. He reminded the Board that Cape Seal is a two-step process. It starts as tar and gravel, as seen on the 600 routes, and will cure. Then, it will wait a few weeks, and VDOT will come in, sweep loose gravel, and apply a seal on top. It is a messy process and generates some complaints. He noted that they are above schedule with Charles Way. The money is available sooner, and they expect to start this fall. The HSIP projects will go out to bidders tomorrow. They are still waiting on easements from one of the revenue-sharing projects that carried over from last year. Mr. Beale thanked all citizens who had driven through the one lane on 205. He did not have any complaints and thanked everyone for their patience. They are hoping to be finished by the middle of next week, weather permitting. They did their pretreatment on the roads for the upcoming snow today. They are looking at 4-6. He stated that they are ready and have more people coming in and will report at 8:00 a.m. tomorrow. There is a slight threat of freezing rain on Wednesday. He urged everyone to look at Virginia Traffic, google 588. They update the road conditions as they change; they are updated 24/7.

**\*\* VDOT REPORT ON NEXT PAGE\*\***



Westmoreland County Board of Supervisors  
February 2024 VDOT Report

**Maintenance Activity Highlights**

Completed:

- Pothole patching (Rt 3 Kings Hwy, Rt 600 Ebenezer Church Rd, Rt 628 Pomona Rd, Rt 621 Mt Holly Rd, Rt 612 Antioch Rd)
- Pipe cleaning (Rt 645 Zacata Rd)
- Brush Removal (Rt 624 Horners Rd, 658 Monroe Bay Circle, 640 Grants Hill Rd)
- Winter storm preparation and response
- Address work orders countywide

Upcoming:

- Brush cutting (Rt 624 Grants Hill Church Rd, Rt 665 Plunktown Rd, Rt 607 Kinsale Bridge Rd)
- Ditch cleaning (205 James Monroe Hwy, Rt 664 Bowie Rd)
- Grade gravel roads countywide (in progress)
- Patching potholes countywide
- Address work orders countywide

**Pavement Schedule**

Plant Mix:

Rt 3 (Flat Iron Rd to Finchs Hill Rd)      Rt 203 (Cople Hwy to Steamboat Landing)

Latex:

Rt 631 Longfield Rd

Cape Seal:

Rt 612 Antioch Rd      Rt 638 Ferry Landing      Rt 785 Industrial Park Dr

Surface Treatment:

Rt 600 Ebenezer Church Rd	Rt 600 Nomini Grove Rd	Rt 600 Nomini Hall Rd
Rt 604 Sandy Point Rd	Rt 606 Bancton Rd	Rt 608 White Point Rd
Rt 610 Sandy Point Rd	Rt 612 Woodbine Rd	Rt 624 Longwood Rd
Rt 625 Horners Mill Rd	Rt 626 King Copsico Rd	Rt 626 Hering Ln
Rt 628 Stoney Knoll Rd	Rt 662 McGuire's Wharf Rd	Rt 665 Beales Wharf Rd
Rt 703 Eden Ln	Rt 705 Burnt House Pt	Rt 711 Hickory Point Dr
Rt 739 King Copsico Ln	Rt 766 Templemans Rd	Rt 1009 Levelgreen Dr
Rt 1401 Pine Ln		



## Construction Projects

### SSYP:

Rt 652 Charles Way; Summer 2026      Rt 685 Ashbury Rd; Summer 2028  
Rt 610 Skipjack Rd; Summer 2029

### HSIP:

Rt 202 paved shoulder (Rt 3 to Nomini Creek Bridge); 2025 Construction  
Rt 3 paved shoulder (County line to Oak Grove); 2025 Construction

### Revenue Sharing:

Deux Rue; Summer 2024	Holly Way Ph III; Summer 2024
Hickory Ln; Summer 2025	Birch Ln; Summer 2025
Woodmount Dr; Summer 2025	Pinewood Ln; Summer 2025
Lakeview Ln; Summer 2026	Rt 610 Skipjack Rd; Summer 2029

### Bridge:

UPC 123364 Rt. 205 over Branch of Rosier Creek; Scour Repair; ***Under Construction***  
UPC 121539 Rt. 658 over Monroe Creek; ***Under Construction***

### **Contacts:**

*VDOT Customer Service Center: 1-800-FOR-ROAD*

David L. Beale, P.E.  
Resident Engineer  
(804) 333-7941  
[david.beale@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:david.beale@vdot.virginia.gov)

Carter White  
Assistant Residency Administrator  
(804) 333-7942  
[carter.white@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:carter.white@vdot.virginia.gov)

Ronnie Crabbe Jr.  
Hague Area Headquarters Superintendent  
(804) 695-6730

After Mr. Beale read the report, he asked if the Board had any questions.

Chairman Fisher thanked Mr. Beale for fixing the pothole on Antioch Road and VDOT for all they do and will do, no matter how much snow the county gets.

Mr. Ingram urged residents to drive safely and to let the plow trucks do their job.

Larry Hinson asked Mr. Beale what they use to treat the roads.

Mr. Beale stated that they use regular sodium chloride, like table salt.

**B. Town of Colonial Beach Update, Natasha Tucker, Town Manager**

Natasha Tucker, the Town Manager, was present to discuss the events in the town.

- i. The Dr. Martin Luther King Day celebration was canceled due to inclement weather and rescheduled to February 23, 2025.
- ii. They are hosting a Mardi Gras-themed cooking class on February 25, 2025, at the community center, 717 Marshall Ave, Colonial Beach, VA 22520. The cost is \$25 per cooking student.
- iii. On March 1, 2025, they will sponsor their second annual Mardi Gras gala sponsored by downtown Colonial Beach from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Riverboat.
- iv. They received a charitable grant that kicks off a t-ball field in the back limits of Colonial Beach. The old field has been in disarray for some time, and they are now putting it back. They are teaming up with the Colonial Beach Community Center and a partnership with Westmoreland County Little League. They will still be fundraising for the bells and whistles like bleachers, benches, etc.
- v. They recognized Jerry Davis for helping the Town of Colonial Beach with a grant and many other things.

**C. Town of Montross Update, Fran Taylor, Town Manager**

Fran Taylor, the Town Manager, was present to discuss the events in the town.

- i. In January, the town was reorganized. Joey King is the new mayor, and Katherine Whitman is the vice mayor. They have one seat available, which will be filled at the next meeting.

- ii. The cold weather has caused broken pipes in the Town and she thanked the crews that helped repair them so fast.
- iii. They have new software that can now detect leaks. If something leaks for more than 24 hours, they get an alert.
- iv. She thanked Sherriff Balderson for helping with a grant so they could purchase another speed limit sign.
- v. They were grateful for the housing grant received on the Board's behalf, the Town of Montross gets a lot of calls about it.

D. Mobile Integrated Healthcare Program Update, Captain Tiffany Bounds

Captain Tiffany Bounds gave a presentation on Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) program. During her presentation, she noted that Westmoreland County is the first in the Northern Neck to provide MIH Services. They are hoping that Eastern Virginia Medical School will provide a hub in the county for people to access telehealth services. The presentation is below:

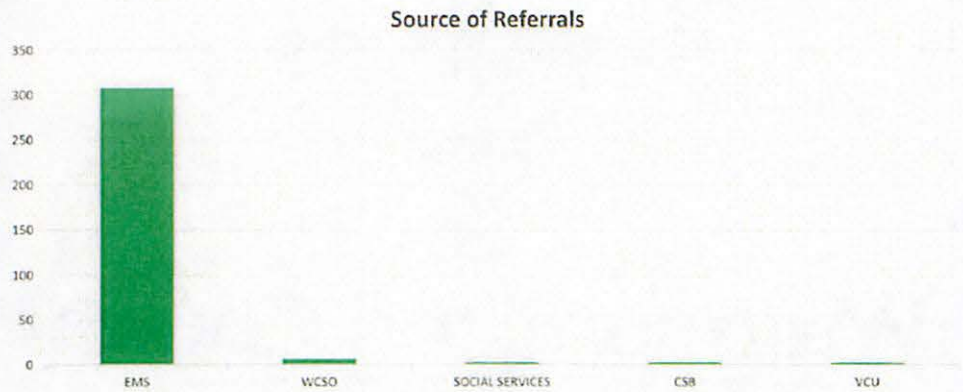




# Mobile Integrated Healthcare continues to grow



## 2024 Referrals for MIH Consult





## Services Provided

### Free Health Fairs

Free Health Events in the community to provide free health education, blood pressure checks, blood sugar checks, medication organizers, referrals for services, SUD support, medication lock boxes, gun locks, etc.

Taught 42 other EMS providers from all over the state how to provide MIH services and how to integrate into their agencies

**Rappahannock Community College Announces a New, Unique EMS Program to the Region!**

**Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH)**  
 Certified EMS providers with go/skills and training to partner with the prehospital healthcare delivery team and successfully extend medical care beyond emergency services.

MIH and Community Paramedicine (CP) provide support for chronic disease management and connections with primary care providers, mental health, and substance abuse services.

**This 6-week course begins April 30, 2024**  
 Tuesdays 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., via ZOOM

Requires 2 shifts with an active MIH/Community Paramedicine Partner.

**SCAN TO ENROLL!**  
 For more information contact Beth Czapka at [bczapka@rappahannock.edu](mailto:bczapka@rappahannock.edu)

The 6-week course is held on ZOOM. Upon successful completion of the course, students will receive a certificate, providing them greater opportunity for employment opportunities in the growing and advancing field of Emergency Medical Services (EMS).

**2025-2026 EMS providers seeking certification**

**Rappahannock Community College**

**VAHEC**  
 Virginia Association of Health Emergency Care

**DRFA**  
 Bay River Education





Participated in  
Community Events to  
share information on  
Health, Wellness and  
Safety



Serve on a Community Advisory  
Board (CAB) for EVMS to advise  
and advocate on the health  
disparities and needs of  
Westmoreland County.



Developing an online platform for health  
resources and information/education

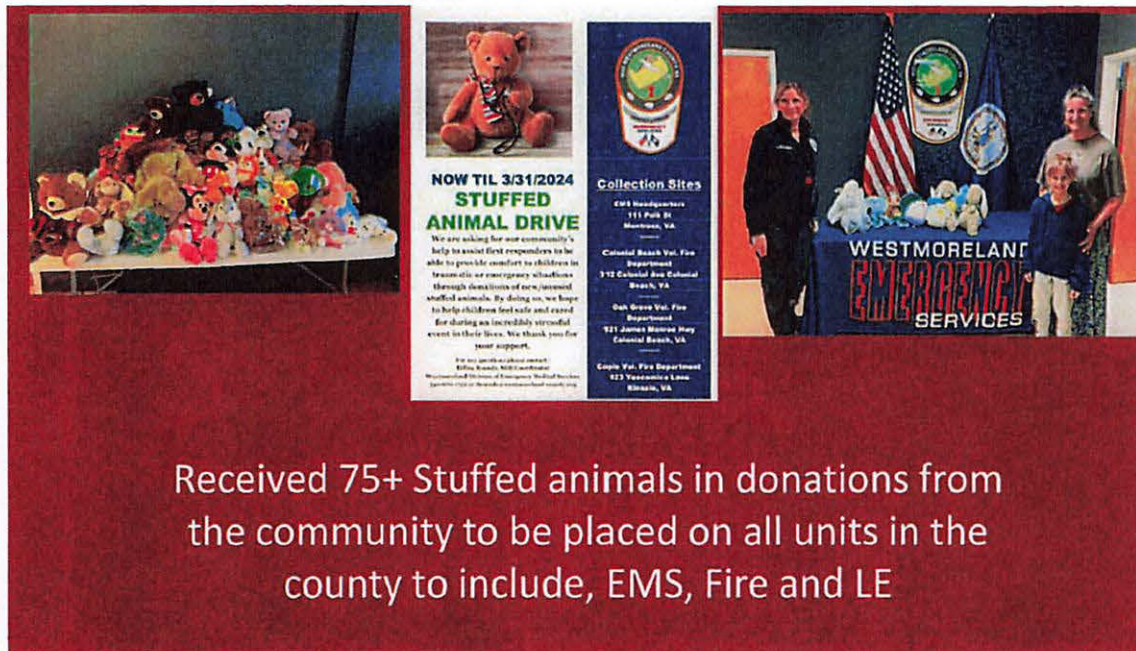


Increasing involvement of rural  
communities to enroll in research  
projects to assist with better  
understanding of needs in rural settings.



Providing internet access to rural  
communities to assist in healthcare  
access







**MIH Summit**  
Atrium Health

Mobile Integrated Health & Community Paramedicine  
Clinical & Leadership Summit

🎵 Nashville, TN 🎵



**12:30 PM - 2:00 PM**      **Lunch & Vendor Visits**

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**2:00 PM**      **Navigating Regulatory Issues with State EMS Bodies**  
Great Room 3

**Leadership Track**

**Tiffany L. Bounds, LPN, NREMT**  
MIH Coordinator  
Westmoreland County EMS

**R. Blake Byrd, BS, NRP**  
EMS Chief  
Westmoreland County EMS

**This Session Sponsored By**  **NinthBrain**



## Performed Home Safety Risk Assessments and made recommendations on all new MIH Enrollments

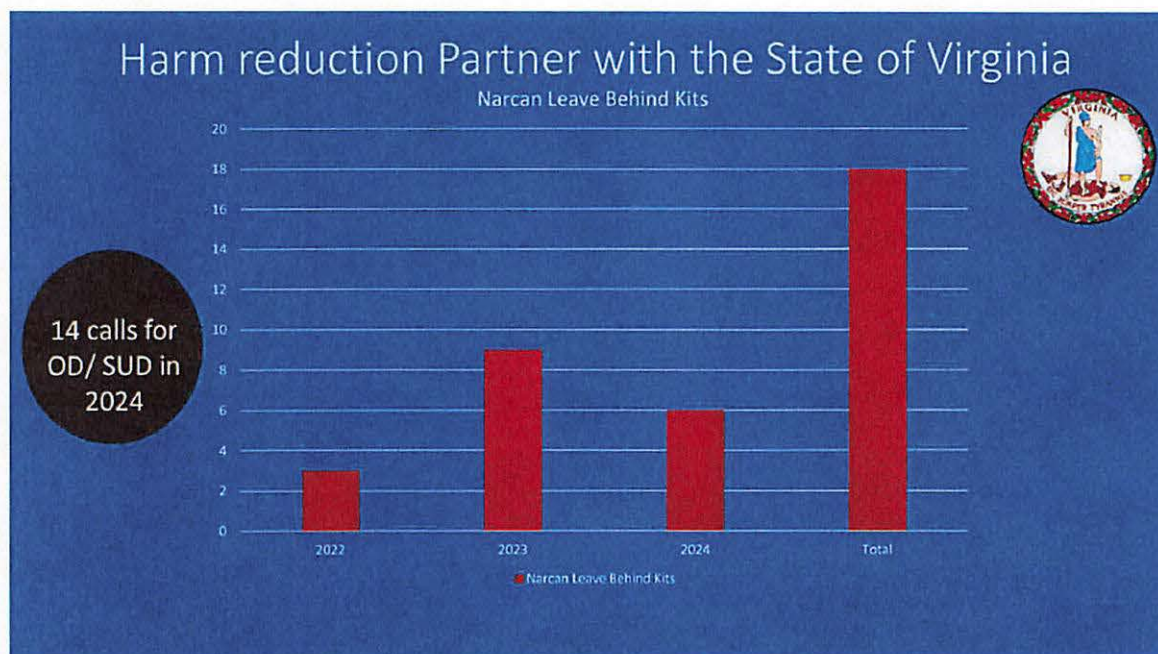
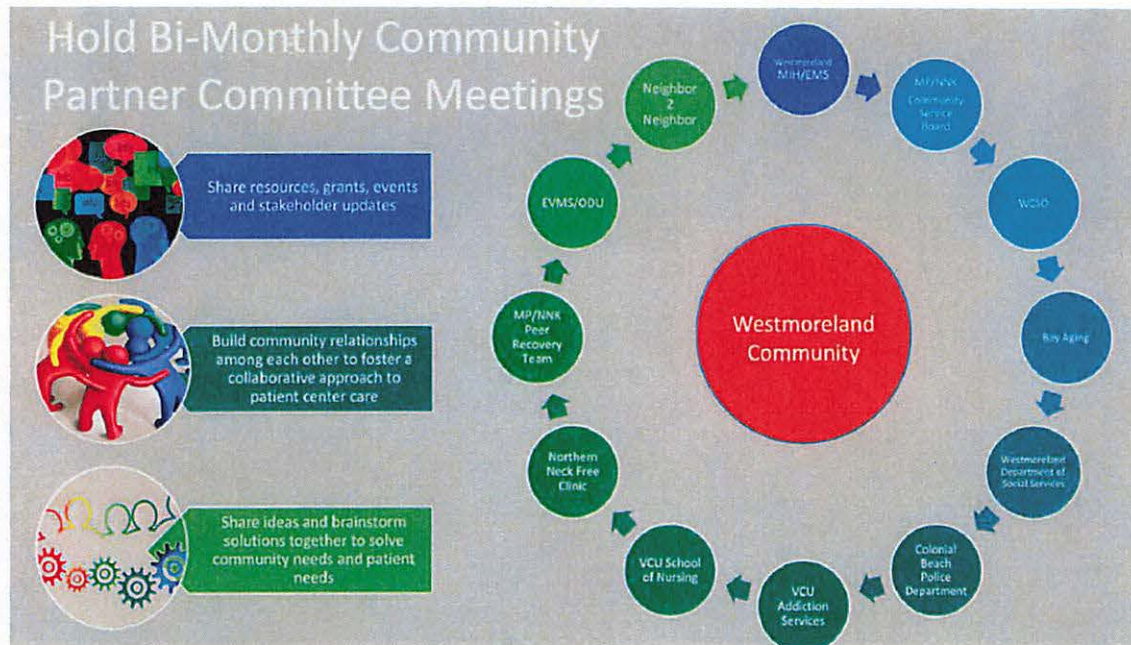
- Smoke/Carbon Monoxide detectors tested/ replaced/ added
- Lock Boxes for access in emergency
- File of Life given
- Medication reconciliation and organization
- Trip Hazards identified and removed
- Ramps installed
- Bathroom renovations, equipment installed
- Fall Risk Assessments/Gait tests performed
- Fall detection equipment recommendations
- Heat/Cooling practices and availability (removal/replacement of unsafe equipment)
- Identification of unsafe practices



Through partnerships with Non-Profit Organizations Neighbor 2 Neighbor and Equipment Connection, we have been able to provide much needed durable medical equipment at no cost to those in need.









## Outcomes:

21- Referrals for Peer Support/ SUD/ Mental Health  
 3- SUD patients that report no use in over 12 months  
 1- admission to inpatient treatment for SUD after OD  
 9- Patients moved to LTC Facility  
 3- Homeless assisted with shelter/food  
 10- Reports to APS  
 2- Reports to CPS  
 30- Referrals to Meals on Wheels  
 25- DME provided  
 300+ - Provided Health Education  
 30- Medication Lock Boxes handed out  
 15- Gun locks handed out  
 10- Grief Support after cardiac arrest  
 45- Referrals to \$5 for housing/medial/caregiver/food/utility assistance  
 3- CISM Debriefings  
 10- First Responder Peer Support and resources provided  
 12- Domestic Violence follow-up and support

## 2025 Community Health and Safety Goals

### Formation of Peer Support and Wellness/CISM Team

- Physical Health ( trainers/ nutrition)
- Mental Health (LCSW access to our department)
- Spiritual Health (Pastor on team for support)
- Resiliency Training
- Education
- Family Support
- Critical Incident response and support
- Resources and connection

### Mobile Health Clinic/Command Center

- Provide space for visiting providers to bring more healthcare providers to area
- Emergency Services

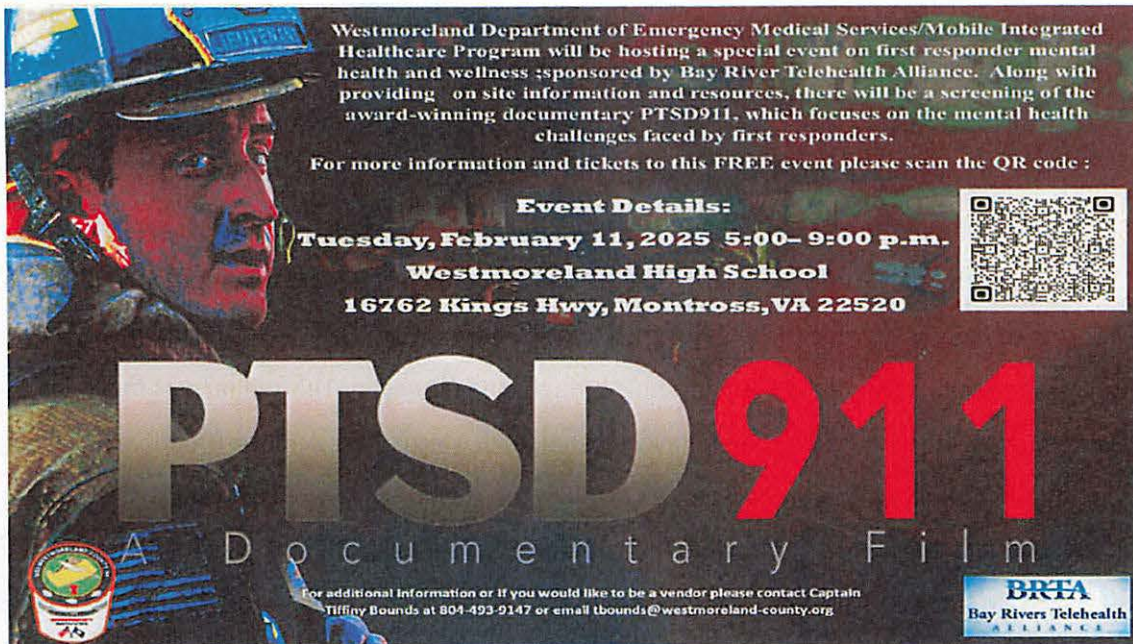
### Expand MH Providers

- Mid-level provider
- Additional MH Provider(s)
- Peer Recovery Specialist

### Opiate Abatement Funds

- Expand OUD/SUD services in Westmoreland through development of programs





After the presentation, Captain Bounds asked if the Board had any questions.

Mr. Trivett asked if they were planning to reapply for the grant again after it expires.

Captain Bounds stated that they are planning to do a no-cost extension. It isn't necessarily renewed, but money was rewarded to several localities and they are planning to put that money into a pot and redistribute it. You have to apply for different uses of those funds and at this point they aren't sure how much that is. The grant is set to expire in August 2025.

Mr. Trivett thanked Captain Bounds and Chief Byrd for their outstanding work with that program. Captain Bounds stated that her family has been in the County for generations and she has always had to travel out of the County as a nurse. It is beyond thrilled that she is now able to help the County residents. She also mentioned this program continues to grow and expand. The Chairman stated that it is a wonderful program that does so much to reach the segments of the population that fall through the cracks. Larry Hinson asked about people he has been seeing recently who are homeless. Captain Bounds stated that homelessness was never really a problem in the County before but people who aren't from Westmoreland County come here seeking aid and are passing through.

E. Broadband Update

Chairman Fisher asked Jerry Davis to come to the podium, introduce the representatives from Dominion Energy and All Points Broadband, and give the public an update.

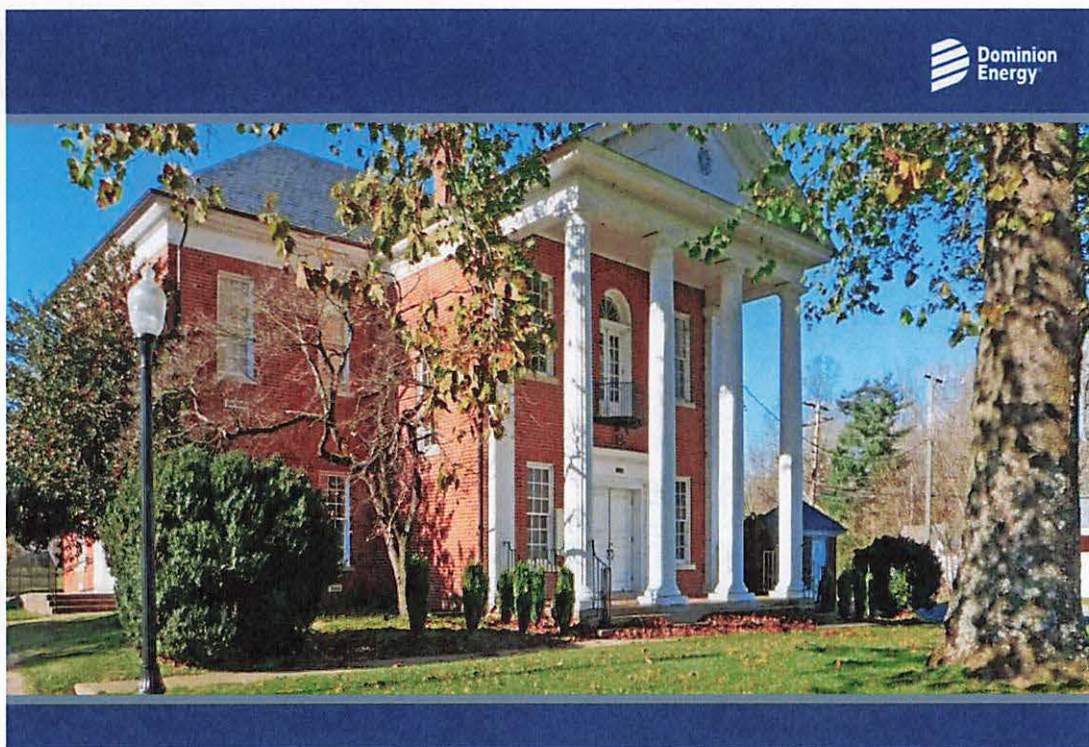
Mr. Davis came to the podium and stated that they were coming to an end. This project had been in the works for a number of years, and they had been looking into improving telecommunications infrastructure. There was much talking and planning on how to provide that service throughout the county. There weren't enough funds to make anything happen until the pandemic brought the money in. This region was fortunate that we already had a cable television company, Metro Cast, Atlantic Broadband, etc.; they had already extended service through the region. They were upfront with them and said they were a private entity and don't typically rely on government investments to expand services. He noted that there is still a lot of the region they can't reach on the shoreline. They aren't getting enough return on the investment to make it worthwhile. Some wireless companies were providing services to help fill the gaps, but people want a wired service, which is what this project will bring. The state of Virginia had started a limited grant program for telecommunications. They partnered with Mid Atlantic to allow them to expand their service out and were in communication with each county to see where they would like service brought. The application wasn't funded because it was competitive, and localities had to submit certain information about moving toward universal coverage. Dominion Energy went before the general assembly to get approval initially on a pilot basis to use their proposed infrastructure to get broadband in the Northern Neck. They were introduced to Jimmy Carr with All Points Broadband at the meeting, and Dominion Energy chose them after getting approval from the General Assembly. All counties boarded as partners and asked to put up local match dollars, \$ 650,000 each. They use the Department of Housing funding to develop broadband for the region. The partnership between Dominion Energy, Northern Neck Electric, and the five counties, as well as their contributions, came together for them to be able to execute the plan. They were one of the first regions to get a sizable reward from the VATY program; the initial request was \$10 million, and then the following year, over \$3 million. The project is coming near the end.



The Chairman stated that they are under tremendous pressure from the residents on how they will get Internet services in the woods, and it has been a long road. Everything is falling into place and he thanked everyone for their hard work on this project.

i. Dominion Energy- Reagen Fakhoury

Reagen Fakhoury gave a presentation on Dominion Energy. He stated that the people in the northern neck are underserved, and there is a need for it. The presentation is below:



## Our Mission & Core Values



 <b>Safety</b>	 <b>Ethics</b>	 <b>Excellence</b>	 <b>Embrace Change</b>	 <b>One Dominion Energy (Teamwork)</b>
<i>Our highest priority is keeping our employees and communities safe</i>	<i>Doing right and doing well are inseparable</i>	<i>Striving for excellence in everything we do</i>	<i>Changing the way we think about the today and tomorrow of our businesses</i>	<i>Sustainable performance depends on how well we support one another</i>

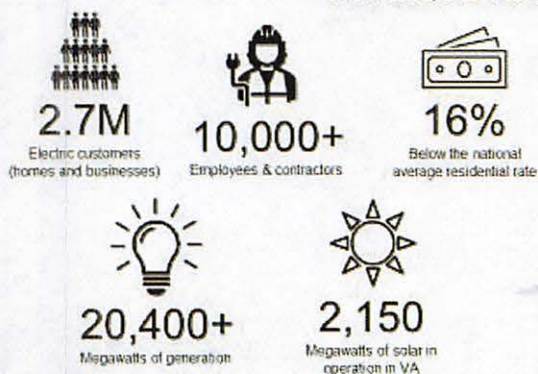
Powering Your Every Day.™

2

## Dominion Energy Virginia – Powering Your Every Day



Committed to serving the people of the Commonwealth by safely providing reliable, affordable, and increasingly clean energy



1 MW = 250 Homes

Powering Your Every Day.™

3



## Dominion Energy in Westmoreland County



Dominion Energy has been part of the Westmoreland County community for over 75 years

  
**7,157**  
Customers

  
**12+**  
Employees & Retirees

  
**2**  
Major Assets

  
**\$195,015**  
2024 Property Taxes Paid



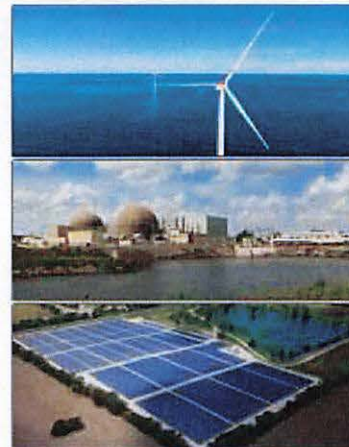
Powering Your Every Day.™

4

## 2024 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP)



- ☐ Designed to meet much higher projections for future demand
  - ☐ 5x larger than growth experienced over the last 15 years
- ☐ An “all of the above” approach is needed to assure reliability:
  - ☐ Expands renewable portfolio
  - ☐ Preserves most current power stations
  - ☐ Considers new nuclear and natural gas resources



Powering Your Every Day.™

5

## Investing in Grid Reliability Initiatives



**Grid Transformation Plan:** 10-year initiative designed to prepare the grid for the future, focused on reliability and resilience

- Phase I and II: Smart meters, physical and cyber security, outage management system, mainfeeder hardening, grid to accommodate influx of distributed solar, etc.
- Phase III: continued investments from Phase I and II; battery storage non-wires alternative pilot; expanded mainfeeder hardening pilot

**Strategic Underground Program:** converting outage-prone overhead lines to underground

- Direct benefit to all customers; fewer work locations means shorter restoration times systemwide
- Undergrounded more than 1,900 miles of outage-prone distribution lines- avoiding an estimated 2,800 outage events



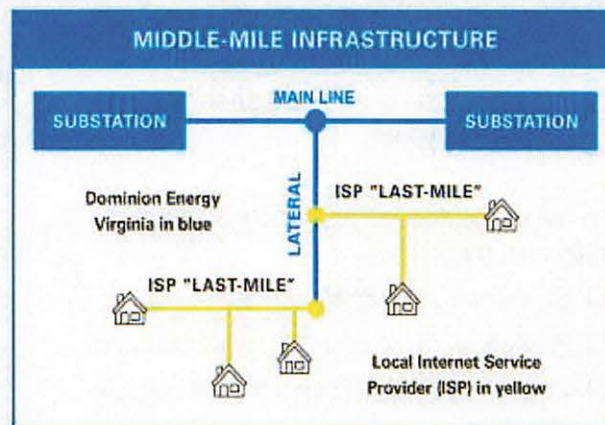
**99.99% reliability outside of major storm events**

## Broadband: Middle – Mile



Dominion Energy partners with internet service providers to bridge the digital divide

- Dominion Energy is installing "middle-mile" fiber optic cable along existing electric distribution infrastructure
  - 3,000 Miles of Middle-Mile Fiber
  - Serving More than 30 Counties across DE's System
- All Points Broadband will install the "last-mile" fiber and reach unserved rural communities



Main Line is the communication line between substations  
Lateral is the communication line that connects to a main line



## Westmoreland County Middle - Mile



### Project Update

Construction Complete	85 miles
Total Middle-Mile	85 miles

- Design Complete
- Released
- Complete - April 2024



Powering Your Every Day.™

8

## When An Outage Occurs



### Safety is Paramount

- Safety and storm preparation tips shared
- Customers with medical needs are notified in advance of possible multi-day outages
- Continued updates throughout the outage duration
- Field crews and support teams follow strict safety guidelines to keep employees and customers safe

### Tools Available

- Municipal Outage Portal
- Website, social media, news outlets
- Dominion Energy External Affairs, Key Accounts

### How to report an outage

- Visit [DominionEnergy.com/outage](https://www.dominionenergy.com/outage) via your mobile device
- Call 1-888-2045-HELP (1-888-264-4357)
- Sign onto the Facebook Outage App



Download our outage app



Powering Your Every Day.™

9

### We are committed to:

- Ensuring reliable energy access via a diverse portfolio of electric generation resources
- Keeping rates affordable to support customers and economic growth
- Delivering increasingly clean energy by deploying solar, wind, energy storage, and other emerging technologies
- Giving back to the communities we serve and investing in their future



**External Affairs contact:** Reagen Fakhoury

Phone: 804-221-8430

Email: [reagen.g.fakhoury@dominionenergy.com](mailto:reagen.g.fakhoury@dominionenergy.com)

After Mr. Fakhoury's presentation, he advised everyone to be careful and safe during the upcoming weather event. He noted that crews are ready around the County.

ii. All Point- Tom Innes

Tom Innes gave a presentation on All Points Broadband. He stated that they are in the paperwork stage of the grant process. Of the 1400 locations that can sign up in the county, 20% have taken advantage of that. They send people to [apbfiber.com](http://apbfiber.com), where they can enter their address and verify if they meet the project area. If you are eligible, you can sign up for service, if not, there will be a message sent to you, a notification for you to put in your contact information, and you will make contact when it is available in that area. Mr. Innes encouraged us to go to the website, enter their address, and sign up for notifications. He noted that if you put in your address and you get a notification stating that you are ineligible and feel that is incorrect, don't hesitate to contact him and he will be working with Mr. Taylor to assist citizens. You must line up your address with a particular database between the state



and federal agencies. Between Northern Neck Electric and Dominion Energy, they processed make-ready engineering and construction. The data collection and evaluation on electric utility poles. They have placed 4000 poles throughout the County. All points presentation below:



**February 10, 2025**

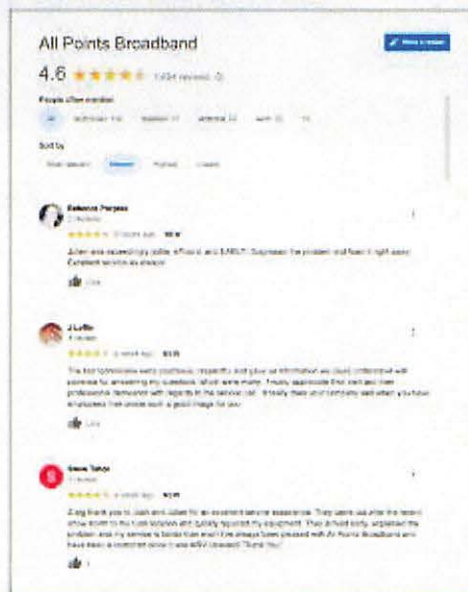
## Regional Project Overall Stats

- Successful public-private partnership under management of NNPDC
  - Westmoreland, Richmond, Northumberland, King Georg, and Lancaster
  - Dominion Energy Virginia
  - Northern Neck Electric Cooperative
  - All Points Broadband
  - VA Department of Housing & Community Development
- Approximately 10,000 locations now have access to 100% fiber optic broadband
- 4.6-star rated Internet service provider in previously unserved areas with no ongoing subsidy
- More than 1,600 miles of fiber constructed to date
- 23,000 electric utility poles made-ready
- BEAD investment is logical next step for broadband initiative

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## Focus on Customer Service – APBfiber.com

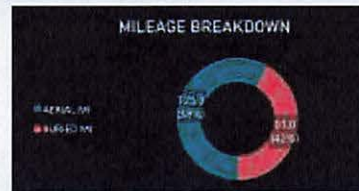


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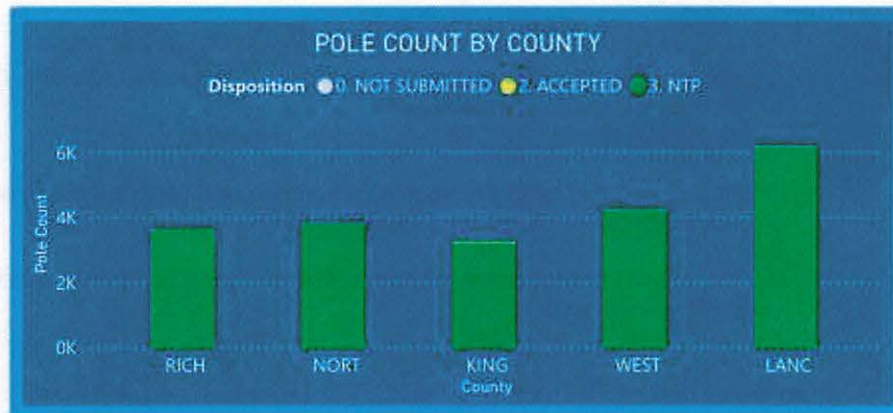
### Last-Mile and Drop Construction (Excludes Dominion Middle Mile)



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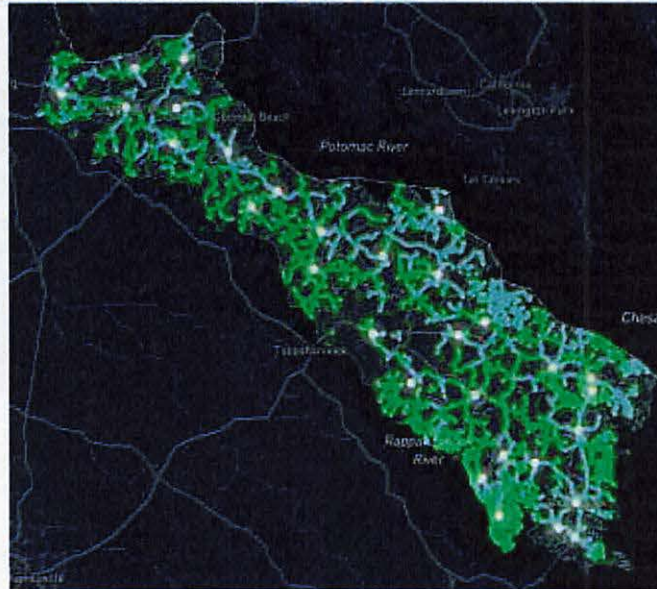
### Pole Make-Ready Accomplished at 150x Typical Annual Rate



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### Pole Make-Ready Accomplished at 150x Typical Annual Rate



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15

### Westmoreland Summary

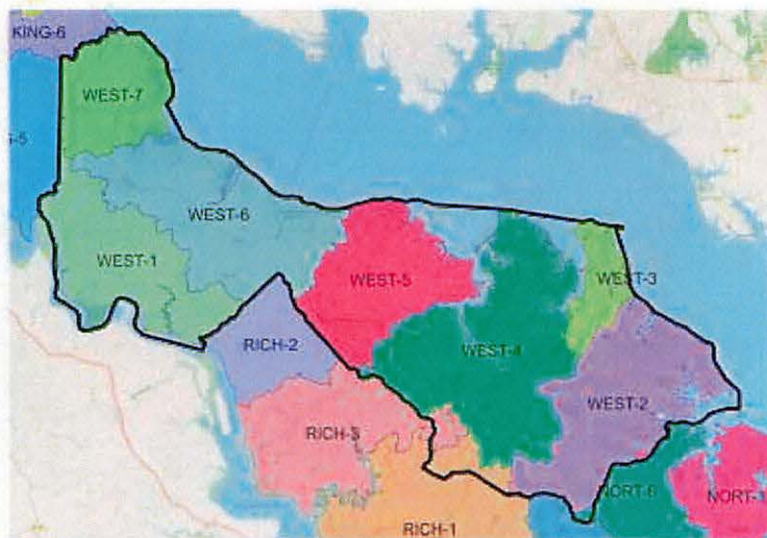
- 225 miles of APB fiber constructed on XGS-PON architecture
  - Easily scale to 10 x 10 gigabit to each location
  - Sufficient capacity for years of demand growth
- Approximately 1300 locations able to subscribe with more than 20% already subscribed
  - Additional 40 miles worth of fiber "drops" constructed
- >4,000 electric utility poles through the make-ready engineering & construction process is significant investment in electric infrastructure
- Submit contact information via [APBfiber.com](http://APBfiber.com) even if location not included in initial VATI project area

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16



## Westmoreland Fiber Service Areas



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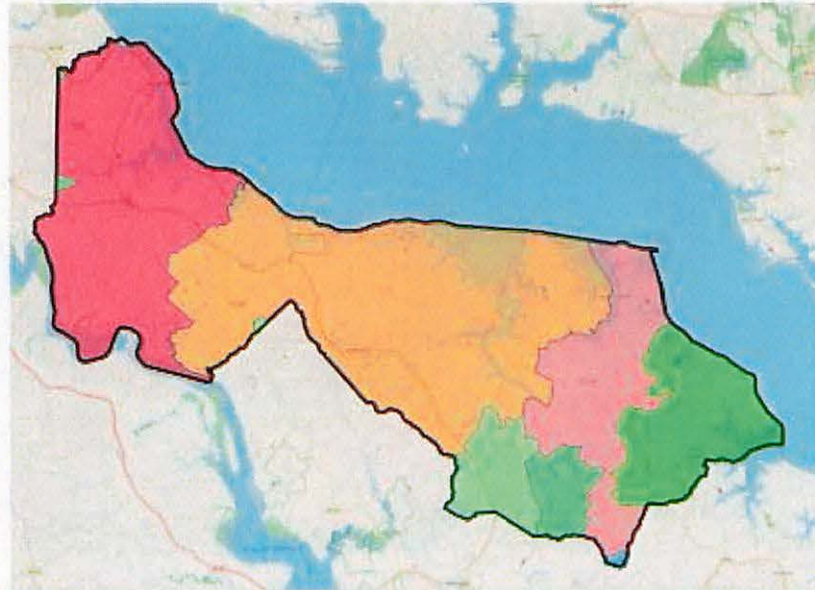
## Overview of Virginia's Implementation of BEAD (Infrastructure Act)

- Virginia has been allocated \$1.48 billion in federal BEAD funds to serve ~130,000 BEAD-eligible locations
  - Shifted locations are included in BEAD as planned
  - Federal law requires Virginia to extend broadband to all BEAD locations
- Virginia's BEAD application window opened on December 1<sup>st</sup> with applications due March 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Results expected to be made public in June, with submittal to NTIA in July
- APB's BEAD applications will also include locations that were not eligible for VATI funding but are now eligible under BEAD's new service definitions
- DHCD is actively updating program guidelines:
  - <https://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/bead>
- BEAD-eligible list for Mar 1<sup>st</sup> application cannot be expanded; however, DHCD will continue efforts to close digital divide, so mapping data remains critical

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| 8

## BEAD Application Areas (Zip Code Tabulation Areas) in Westmoreland

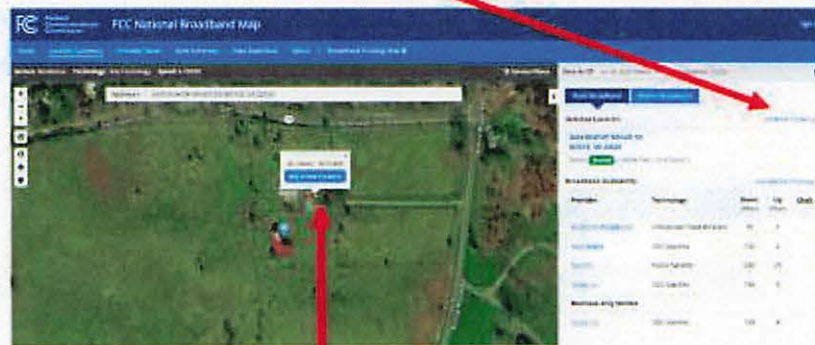


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| 9

## Adding or Modifying Locations through the National Broadband Map (<https://broadbandmap.fcc.gov/>)

**Modify:** Click on map icon for your location to begin "Location Challenge" process



**Add:** Navigate to your location and click on screen above building to begin "Add a New Location" process

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| 10





After Mr. Innes' presentation, he asked if there were any questions he could answer.

Mr. Taylor thanked Mr. Innes for the presentation and all the partners for their hard work on the project. He stated that a lot has been done, but more remains. He noted that sometimes the information is incorrect, which causes some houses to be missed. They are hoping that with the next round of funding, those people can be identified. They have written a letter of support for All-Points for the next round of funding and application. He stated there is some confusion on who things are related to and who works together. Breezeline was mentioned but they are not a part of the project. He noted that the residents need more information and he wants to work with the providers on frequently asked questions so we can put the answers on the County website. Mr. Taylor stated that he knows that cost is a factor for many people when connecting if they have a long driveway. He spoke with Breezeline recently, and the first \$2500 is on them. Any more than that, they will work

with the customer for the extra expense, and with All Points, there may be a fee to connect, but after a year, that may change.

Mr. Innes stated that if a customer signs up on the website, the standard for installation distance is 500 feet from where they connect the pole. They have the ability right now through the grant, to charge a per foot fee after 500 feet, they waive that fee up to 1000 feet and is \$2.00 per foot if it exceeds that. After the grant is exhausted, they revert back to 500. He urged residents to take advantage of the fees being waived for 1000 feet. He said they will share that upfront before anything else if you have a long drop fee, and having information on the website will help a lot of people, especially the ones that are doing it for the first time.

Mr. McCormack asked Mr. Innes if Breezeline and All Points Broadband will eventually compete with each other.

Mr. Innes stated that the grant funding is to offset the cost and as soon as they can close out the obligation with the FCC, broadband office, and the counties, they will open it up to areas that aren't in the grant program. He noted that they had made a massive investment in a new network, and they will keep everyone up to date on the progress of the project.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their hard work and dedication to the project.

F. Update on Biennial Elections and Staggered Terms, Jim Taylor, County Administrator

Mr. Taylor gave an update and presentation on biennial Elections and staggered terms. The presentation is below:



## Biennial county supervisor elections and staggered terms



### Background

Virginia Code Sec. 24.2-219 allows for staggered terms:

- By ordinance adopted by the Board of Supervisors
- OR
- By petition signed by 10% of registered voters and referendum by majority of voters
- Currently elections for the Westmoreland County Board of Supervisors occur every four years at the same time
- Currently 59 Virginia counties out of 95 have staggered terms for Board of Supervisors



## **If staggered terms are approved by ordinance or referendum:**

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- Terms of supervisors elected at next general election (2027)
    - 3 seats elected for 4 years
    - 2 seats elected for 2 years
- 

## **Which seats are elected for 2 years?**

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- Two members can volunteer for two-year terms
  - If no volunteers, the electoral board of the county can assign the individual terms of members by lot at its meeting on the day following the election and immediately upon certification of the results
- OR
- the electoral board may assign individual terms of members by election district in a drawing at a meeting held prior to the last day for a person to qualify as a candidate, if the governing body of the county so directs by ordinance or resolution adopted at least thirty days prior to the last day for qualification and members are elected by district.
  - In all elections thereafter all successful candidates shall be elected for terms of 4 years
-

## Considerations



### Advantages of Staggered Terms

- Ensures continuity from one board to the next
- Reduces risk of political instability or upheaval

### Disadvantages of Staggered Terms

- The board could change every two years, leading to less cohesiveness
- Potentially more frequent orientation and training

### Costs

- The cost of an additional local election is negligible as there is already an election each November and ballots have to be printed by precinct (Westmoreland County Registrar)
- 

## Some Peers



King George County	Staggered
Northumberland County	Staggered
Richmond County	Staggered
Lancaster County	Staggered
Essex County	Staggered
Gloucester County	Staggered
Stafford County	Staggered
Caroline County	Not Staggered
King & Queen County	Not Staggered
King William County	Not Staggered
New Kent County	Not Staggered

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## Next Steps

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- The Board could take no action to impact the election cycle of the Board of Supervisors
- The Board could direct staff to draft an ordinance to provide for biennial elections and staggered terms (for the next general election)
- The Board could determine if there would be any volunteers among current members for the two-year term if elected in 2027

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After Mr. Taylor's presentation, he asked if the Board had any questions.

Mr. Trivett stated that he asked if this topic would come up, which has been discussed for some time. He favors staggered elections, and if the other members are as well, he would favor going to the next level in the process.

Mr. McCormack also favors staggered elections specifically for the continuity of the local government. He stated that he would be concerned if all five members got fired simultaneously, and who knows what would happen to the County Attorney and Administrator. He felt that drawing names out of a hat would be the best process and that they should do it before the next election.

Mr. Taylor stated that, per the code, it would be closer to the general election, but they can follow up if there is interest in pulling from a hat.

Mr. Hynson stated that he is not in favor of staggered elections because it helps everyone work together if the same people are elected for a term rather than changing in the middle.

The Chairman stated that he has reviewed the pros and cons and is okay with whatever the Board decides. He noted that if all terms expire simultaneously, everyone will be on the same level running for reelection. It doesn't matter how often you run for reelection. If the district's residents are ready for you to go, you are gone. You never stop politicking. The

next election starts when you get reelected and engage yourself with the public as much as possible. The Chairman stated that he and Mr. Hynson came on the Board in 1992, and he didn't know much about what it takes, but they had three senior members on that Board to teach them how things go.

Mr. Trivett asked the Chairman if it would be appropriate to make a motion to adopt an ordinance or wait.

Mr. Taylor stated that there is still time, the reelection year isn't until 2027. They can get a consensus for the staff to draft the ordinance and get it back to the Board for review, but it would need a public hearing or wait until a later date to decide.

Mr. Stuart stated that there are a couple of options, either the ordinance or the petition for the court. A resolution is needed that the Board wants to move forward, and then they can start the process; it will take time.

Chairman Fisher asked if the Board agreed to take time to digest and consider what is before them and put it back on the agenda for March, and maybe some direction would be given. He noted that the meetings in March and forward will be heavily into the budget. Let the record show that the Board agrees not to take any action tonight and asks that this topic be put back on the agenda for March.

Chairman Fisher urged the other Board members to contact Mr. Taylor if they need more information or clarification so a decision can be made when it comes up again.

## 6. ACTION ITEMS

### A. Hunting Language Revision to Include Rifle, Donna Cogswell, Assistant County Administrator

Mr. Taylor gave the presentation in Ms. Cogswell's absence, stating she is under the weather but he will do his best. The presentation is below:



## Board of Supervisors

### Rifle Hunting

February 10, 2025



## **Sec. 30-2 County Code – Hunting prohibitions; exceptions**

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### **Currently**

- It shall be unlawful for any person to hunt in the county with a shotgun loaded with slugs or a muzzleloading rifle other than during the prescribed open season for the hunting of big game species or with a rifle of a caliber larger than .22 caliber.
- Any person who violates this section shall be guilty of a class 3 misdemeanor.



## Peers

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### Richmond County

September 2023 - Rifles and pistols, .23 caliber or larger with a maximum magazine capacity of five (5) rounds for rifles and a six (6) round capacity for pistols, may be used to hunt deer during the firearms deer season provided the hunter is in an elevated stand at least 8 feet above ground level and has first obtained written permission from the landowner. The rifle may have a round in its chamber only when it is on the elevated stand, except such weapon may be discharged on the ground when necessary to dispatch deer wounded from the elevated platform.

### Northumberland County

January 2025 – rifles larger than .23 caliber with a maximum magazine capacity of five rounds and pistols larger than .23 caliber with a maximum capacity of six rounds are permitted. The hunter must be at least 8 feet above the ground and rifle used for deer hunting can only be loaded once the hunter is in the stand.

## Peers

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### King George County

Rifles, .23 caliber or larger, may be used to hunt deer during the firearms deer season provided the hunter is in an elevated stand at least 10 feet above ground level. The rifle may only have a round in its chamber when it is on the elevated stand.

### Essex County

It shall be unlawful for any person to hunt in the county with a rifle or pistol of a caliber higher than .22 rimfire except as provided hereafter.

Rifles and pistols greater than .23 caliber shall be permitted for hunting of deer when hunting from an elevated platform at least 8 feet above ground level.

Turkey shall not be hunted with a rifle greater than .22 caliber.

Muzzleloading rifles may be used during the prescribed open season.

Rifles with caliber larger than .22 rimfire may be used for hunting of groundhogs, coyotes, bears, bobcats, feral hogs, and beavers during any respective season as permitted by state law and/or permitted under state law for the control of destructive animals.

## Next Steps

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- The Board of Supervisors may vote to direct staff to draft changes to the hunting ordinance and advertise a public hearing.
- Sergeant Bumgarner from Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) spoke to the Board last August and advised that any changes for the digest book must be received by May 1.

After the presentation, Mr. Taylor asked if the Board had any questions.

Mr. McCormack stated that the Board talked about this early last year. All the surrounding counties have adopted rifle language policies or usage. He felt that it may be time to move and adopt a similar policy not necessarily the same one. He suggested that rifles must be at least .23 caliber, they can have a maximum magazine of 5 rounds, and they cannot be used for turkey hunting, the stand must be 8 feet off the ground, and it needs to be stationary. It cannot be located within 150 feet of a road or dwelling, and the firearm can only be loaded in the stand, unless the hunter comes down to finish the wounded deer. Mr. McCormack stated that is the direction he would like to see it go.

Mr. Hynson stated that Mr. McCormack's report was good and that the Board should go along with what the other counties are doing. He agreed that it should be 8 feet off the ground and stationary. He noted that more hunters are moving toward stationary hunting rather than using dogs or vehicles. Mr. Hynson stated that a muzzleloader today is just about as good as any rifle. There is not much difference between the two. He felt that it was time to make a decision.

Mr. Trivett stated that he did not have any objections.

Mr. Ingram stated that several larger hunting clubs contacted him and reviewed the Richmond County policies. They are happy to abide by that policy, have no reason to speak against it and are in favor of it. Mr. Ingram noted that he also favors making that change and moving forward.



The Chairman stated that Mr. Taylor has outlined the steps that need to be taken to put it in motion.

Mr. Stuart stated that they could have it ready for the Board's review at the next meeting in March. He wanted to ensure that the Board agreed to go with 8 feet but the gentleman from DWR suggested 10 feet.

Mr. McCormack stated that 10 feet would be fine.

Mr. Stuart also stated that there is different types of ammunition when you move from a .22 caliber to a .243 to a .3030 and some of them are made with a straight walled shell and some are made to go to a point. The difference is that straight-walled shell the bullet is the size of a casing and doesn't go nearly as far, where as the ones that go down to a point some go 400 yards and some 1.5 miles. He wanted to know if the Board wanted to address the type of ammunition that is used in this ordinance.

Mr. Hynson stated that due to the height we are proposing they have to go up the distance that they go doesn't bother him as much because they are shooting down no matter what height they are. He noted that he won't get into it if it is a .3030 or .243 because some people may have one rifle they like to use. Therefore, he suggests not to get into the ammunition.

With that the Chairman, along with the Board, directs the County Attorney and County Administrator to draft an ordinance changing the stand height from 8 feet off the ground to 10 feet, and provide a draft ordinance at the March meeting.

Mr. Hynson asked why they decided on a stand having to be 10 feet off of the ground when all of the surrounding counties are 8 feet.

Mr. Stuart stated that two counties decided on 8 feet and one county decided on 10 feet, but Department of Game and Inland Fisheries recommends 10 feet, that is the reason he brought it up.

Mr. McCormack asked if they could discuss whether the residents would rather have an 8 or 10 foot elevation at the community hearing.

The Chairman stated that the adjacent counties are 8 feet, so staying consistent through the Northern Neck might be best.

Mr. Stuart stated that if you advertise the least restrictive, 8 feet, you can make it more restrictive at the public hearing.

B. Solar Policy, Jim Taylor, County Administrator

Mr. Taylor gave a presentation on solar policy and asked the Board for directions on solar farms. The presentation is below:



Board of  
Supervisors

Solar Policy

February 10, 2025



## **A solar policy**

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- Virginia localities may adopt a policy on solar installations to guide the siting, location, and land use decisions
- Many Virginia counties have adopted a solar policy
- Intended to meet the goals of planning and zoning under the Code of Virginia and to provide for the health, safety, and general welfare of our community
- Can include fiscal policies related to permitting and revenue generation



## **Considerations**

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- A solar policy is not an ordinance (an ordinance could be adopted)
- A solar policy would provide more guidance to prospective applicants
- A solar policy could further define:
  - Acreage caps, radius restrictions, and capacity limits
  - Requirements for noise limitations, buffer areas, setbacks, and facility decommissioning
  - Battery storage

## **Motion**

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- To direct staff to develop a solar policy for consideration by the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors

After the presentation, Mr. Taylor asked if the Board had any questions.

Mr. McCormack stated that he has attended several meetings regarding solar projects over the last couple of months. The comprehensive plan, written in 2012 and last amended in 2017, only mentions the word solar once. Military operations over the County, where solar or wind projects may interfere with the flight path, meaning the panels' reflection may interfere with the operation of the aircraft. The work farm or farmland is in there 67 times, rightfully so (40% of Westmoreland County is farmland). Section 3.1 of the

comprehensive plan states the County's vision for future land use. If the County were to keep the farms as farms and towns as towns, as public input has indicated, difficult decisions would be required to manage development; the goal is to grow but to keep the existing character of the county and balance the plan's objectives. The overall goal at the end states, "limit the nonagricultural uses of agricultural land to preserve the rural nature of the county." Mr. McCormack noted that he isn't against solar projects, but if he was a solar developer, he would come to Westmoreland County because they don't have an ordinance. He noted that he saw some frustration from some of the members of the Planning Commission due to a lack of guidance on the projects. You don't want to be a strict property owner, but there is no standard to go by. He asked the county administrator how many man hours had been spent on solar projects. The land use office had spent 90 hours on the current solar project, and many others had also spent time. He noted that it is the Board's job to give guidance to everyone involved. They need a town hall meeting on what the community would like regarding solar, and restrictions must be in place. A solar energy bill in the Virginia State Senate failed with 19 "aye" and 20 "nay". That bill would have allowed the state to override the county's decision regarding solar projects. The state senate has given them a little reprieve, but it is up to the county to work on a responsible and reasonable solar plan included in the comprehensive plan.

Mr. Hynson stated that they need more knowledge and is unsure how long windmills and solar will be around. He isn't against new technology, but things change. The county has survived many years off of farmland. He stated that he spoke with James Lane of Farm Bureau and has been wanting to send his expert to come before the Board to talk about how solar farms affect farmland and agriculture. He isn't opposed if there is a property that cannot grow anything and isn't close to a highway. He stated that we need to see what we are willing to give up and keep; people don't come to Westmoreland County because certain people live there, but they go because it is beautiful land between two rivers.

Mr. Trivett stated that he agreed with both of his colleagues.

Mr. Ingram stated that he agreed with the other members, and it would be the county known for its wheat fields and forestry. He felt that they needed to do a lot of research on developing a policy that best fits the County.



Chairman Fisher stated that while it is lucrative today to install solar farms, where he lives, there are many open fields, and he would not want solar farms around him; it isn't appealing. He noted that there needs to be a lot of research and planning on where they will be place that best fits the County.

Mr. Stuart stated that from his understanding, the Board would like to screen this from the public view, look at poor land and preserve water quality.

Mr. Taylor stated that this process will take time for them to develop and present to the Board. He suggested a committee to work on this, a Board Member, Planning Commission member, a representative from the Farm Bureau, Dominion Power, the Land Use Department, and the County Attorney.

The Chairman asked Mr. Taylor to consider what was said and agreed that a committee would be great for examining the solar farms and compiling a policy. He noted that it is an important topic and time and energy must be put into it; otherwise, down the line, they may not have the resources needed for the County.

Let the record show that the Board members directed the County Administrator to move forward with putting together a Committee, to include Supervisor, Planning Committee, Farm Bureau, Citizen and Land Use, to begin developing a policy for solar farms in Westmoreland County to include the effect on farmland and agriculture to present to the Board of Supervisors.

C. Road Name Change( Rosa Bran)- Authorization to proceed, Beth McDowell,

Land Use

Mr. Taylor gave a presentation on the road name change in Ms. McDowell's absence. The presentation below:



## Board of Supervisors

Rosa Brann Road  
February 10, 2025



### Rosa Bran Road (name spelling change)

- Rosa Bran Road should have been spelled with two "n"s (Rose Brann)
- Some residents have asked in the past to correct the spelling
- Current process is to have residents on that road sign a petition to change it (Board of Supervisors could waive this step)
- The County would hold a public hearing before changing it

Motion to proceed with advertising a public hearing to correct the name of the road without a petition

After the presentation, Mr. Taylor stated that his understanding is that even although some residents may want the name spelled correctly, they may not have the energy to get a petition to have it changed, and it can be waived by the Board if approved. They are looking to the Board to handle this. He stated that he spoke with Ms. McDowell, and she stated that the Board could authorize to proceed with holding a public hearing, allowing anyone that lives on that street to come to the hearing and get their input. Mr. Taylor



stated that he is looking for direction from the Board to see if they can proceed without a petition.

The Chairman asked what the pleasure of the board was.

Chairman Fisher stated that he believed that it was 10 residents on the road and that it wouldn't be objectionable and that they should move forward with a public hearing. He noted that the misspelling just fell through the cracks when they were originally named the road and thought that it could be taken care of at a public hearing.

Upon Motion by Mr. McCormack, seconded by Mr. Hynson with Mr. Trivett, Mr. Ingram, Mr. McCormack, Mr. Hynson, and the Chairman vote" aye." The Board approved the motion to proceed with advertising a public hearing to correct the road's name change without a petition.

D. Transfer Station Tire Disposal, Jim Taylor, County Administrator

Mr. Taylor gave a presentation on the tire disposal at the Transfer Station.

The presentation is below:



Board of  
Supervisors

Tire Disposal

February 10, 2025



## Transfer Station Tire Disposal

### Currently

- Residents and businesses pay fee by size
  - \$1.00 per tire passenger
  - \$5.00 per tire large truck
  - \$20 per tire large off-road
- No limit
- Any size
- Revenue approximately \$6,000 annually
- Cost to County approximately \$17,000 annually (vendor)



## Regional Comparison

Locality	Number of Tires	Fees
Essex County	12 tires per year	No fees to residents
King George County	4 tires per day	No fees to residents
Lancaster County	No limit	No fees to residents
Northumberland County	2 tires per day	No fees to residents
Richmond County	4 tires per day	No fees to residents
Westmoreland County	No limit	\$1.00 to \$20.00 per tire

## Commercial Tire Cutter

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- Allows for cutting tires and disposing in dumpster
- Easier handling and hauling
- \$27,000



## Recommendations

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- Purchase commercial tire cutter
- Place limit of 4 tires per day on residents
- No tires from commercial businesses
- Cost changes from approximately \$11,000 per year (\$17,000 minus \$6,000) to County's per tonnage trash rate
- Change rigid hang tag to paper and make available at convenience center with drivers license check





Motion to place a limit on number of residential tires to 4 per day, accept no commercial tires, eliminate the fee to residents, and change the hang tag to paper



After the presentation, the Chairman stated that tires have been a problem in the past. They had three locations with thousands of tires, and they were cleaned up. He noted that they will have to continue to accept tires for residents but they need to do something with them. He agreed that a tire cutter would be a good investment to keep up with them. Commercial companies already charge a fee to pick up the tires from the place; they should pay to dispose of them elsewhere.

Mr. Hynson stated that most tires contain steel and steel will tear up blades in a chopper or cutter. He asked if this model could cut tires with steel.

Mr. Ingram stated that the models are built for today's tires.

Keith McElfresh of the Maintenance Department came to the podium and stated that the model they are looking at purchasing cuts the side walls out and leaves the general tread. If they need to cut the tread, they have handheld devices that can do it.

Mr. McCormack asked the Chairman if a separate motion needs to be made on a tire disposal fee.

With no further discussion, upon Motion by Mr. Hynson, Seconded by Mr. McCormack with Mr. Trivett, Mr. Ingram, Mr. McCormack, Mr. Hynson, and the Chairman votes "aye." The Board approved the purchase of the commercial tire cutter in the amount of \$27,000.

The Chairman stated that they should approve the motion included in Mr. Taylor's presentation, as it includes everything.

Mr. Hynson said he would do anything to keep people from throwing tires on the side of the road or on someone else's property.

The Chairman stated that it has been an issue for some time, and the Board is in agreement to relax the tire disposal fee and just offer it as a service to Westmoreland County Citizens. The charge is already established and if they want to remove that fee, this is the time to do it.

With no further discussion, upon Motion by Mr. McCormack, Seconded by Mr. Trivett with Mr. Trivett, Mr. Ingram, Mr. McCormack, Mr. Hynson, and the Chairman votes "aye". The Board approves changing the tire policy to include residents only with a limit of four (4) tires per day, eliminate the fee for residents, and no longer accept tires from commercial companies. Also, motion includes change the hang tag to paper.

## 7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Fisher stated that they are now at the Public Comment Portion of the meeting, where they will hear from the public present. He asked whoever would like to come to the podium to state their name for the record and proceed to address the Board. Below is who spoke during Public Comment.

### Donald Saunders

He said he would like to volunteer to be a part of the committee that will draft the solar policy. He came before the Board to talk about the solar farm. He is against the continued destruction of our beautiful county by building solar farms. He spoke with Mr. Hynson on multiple occasions about his opposition to the solar farms being built in the county, yet they continue to be approved and built. He appreciated the Board making strides to regulate it. He noted that

the votes in the state senate approving to take of power from the counties were from northern Virginia. By approving the facilities, it scars the beautiful landscape, increases the cost of electricity, and it affects the rivers. It turns the beautiful county into a construction site when solar facilities are built. After the solar facilities are decommissioned, the land is never the same, and it hurts the water supply by runoff. The efficiency rating quoted by most solar companies is 25%; Virginia's is 23% and decreases yearly. They are quoted to last 40 years, but data is showing less. A power company in California planned to shut down 2 solar facilities due to rising energy costs. Energy generated by solar power is unpredictable and is hard to track. Most solar power is generated in the middle of the day; you can store it or not use it. We would introduce something the first responder has little knowledge of, which endangers the county's residents and has nothing to gain. There is nothing in the current comprehensive plan about solar and the process. He recommended that the Board consider a decommissioning bond that increases with inflation.

Richard Wilkins

Mr. Wilkins stated that when he speaks at the meeting, he doesn't attack the members as people; instead, he reacts to their performance in their positions. He talked about a Board meeting on November 13, 2024, where a letter of intent from DWR was to purchase a tract of property the county owns. It was stated that a public hearing was needed, but nothing was advertised. He noted that the monitors are inadequate when presentations or documents are on the screen; they cannot see. Mr. Wilkins sent the Board members a link to a presentation from the Farm Bureau. The experts were linked to the solar farms, from people getting permits to people not stating the facts. He would like the Board to put a moratorium on these until further knowledge is given on the solar farms. He called the Northern Neck Planning Commission after the poles were put up and stopped short of serving seven people. He noted that he filled out the survey, and it stated that they weren't in network, and he felt that was incorrect due to the wrong Breezeline map. He wondered if they were planning to get another round of funding so they could reach the unserved people.



Shirley Blackman

She wanted an update on the project on Cabinford Road.

Mr. McCormack stated that there are a few options to consider, including grant funding with the Community Development Block Grant, which is a long process. He and Mr. Taylor met a few weeks ago and were tossing ideas around on funding the project. He reached out to Donald Gong to see if he could get an estimate and is waiting to hear back, but he told Mr. McCormack to wait until the spring due to all of the weather. They are looking to work with one of the regional partners.

Mr. Taylor stated that he had been down Cabinford Road and had seen its conditions. He noted that since it is a private road, they have to look at it from several different angles. The residents may have to take some responsibility for it, but with the grant and other options in mind, they should be able to come to the residents for help.

Larry Hinson

He asked Mr. Taylor how the other counties dispose of their tires.

Mr. Taylor stated that he would get back to him with an answer but his thought was that because they don't allow commercial tires, it isn't as big of an issue as ours. Mr. Hinson stated that when he worked for the County he saw how bad the tires were and that the tire cutter would save the County money in the long run. The company only brings one dumpster at a time and they can't keep up with how many were coming in.

Let the record show that no one else spoke during public comment and Chairman Fisher closed the public comment section of the meeting.

- A. Closed Session Under Section 2.23711.A.3 for discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion is an open meeting, would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

With no further discussion, upon motion by Mr. McCormack, seconded by Mr. Hynson, carried unanimously, the Board moved into closed session.

RECORDING WAS STOPPED, AND THE MEETING MOVED TO CLOSED SESSION

Let the record show that Mr. Ingram was not present during the closed session.

Chairman Fisher asked for a motion to return to Regular Session from Closed Session. Upon Motion by Mr. Trivett, Seconded by Mr. McCormack and carried unanimously, the Board returned to Regular Session from Closed Session.

Chairman Fisher then asked for a Certification Motion stating that nothing other than what was listed on the call under Sec 2.2-3711(A)(1) was discussed during the Closed Session, and no action was taken. Upon Motion by Mr. Trivett, Seconded by Mr. Hynson and carried unanimously, with Mr. Trivett, Mr. McCormack, Mr. Hynson, and the Chairman voting "aye." The Certification Motion was approved.

#### 8. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Fisher asked if there was any further business to bring before the Board.

Mr. Trivett stated there has been some discussion about the solar farm in the Chairman's district. He asked if anything that needs to be done to stall any future projects or if something needs to be put on the next agenda stating that the Board won't approve any more projects until we get the comprehensive plan. The residents need to be aware of whether they are planning to submit plans or a permit.

Mr. Stuart stated that the best process would be to take them as they come, and if there is something about that project that the Board doesn't approve, you can vote accordingly. A moratorium is a difficult word and this is what Mr. Stuart is fighting currently in Richmond. The bill that would have taken the County's authority away was almost approved and was only defeated by one vote. Until a policy is in place, taking them as they come is best.

Chairman asked if there was anything to come before the Board.

Mr. McCormack asked to make a Motion to allow him to continue to explore options regarding property on McGuire's Wharf Road, Seconded by Mr. Hynson. With no further discussion, the Motion was carried unanimously, and the Board authorized Mr. McCormack to continue to explore options regarding property on McGuire's Wharf Road.

Mr. Trivett asked if they needed to continue the meeting to the work session on February 24th and if a work session is needed for this month.

Mr. Taylor stated that the work session is needed because they are spending time on strategic planning and there may be some other items to discuss.

The Chairman stated that the work sessions are on their official schedule and they will adjourn and reconvene at the work session.

The Chairman asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. If not, he asked for a motion to adjourn.

With no further business, upon Motion by Mr. Hynson, Seconded by Mr. McCormack and carried unanimously. The Board adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting is Monday, February 24, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the George D. English, Sr. Memorial Building.

Chairman, 