

# COUNTY CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of the  
Virginia Association of Counties

January 1, 2011



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## Gov. McDonnell introduces biennial budget amendments

By Dean Lynch, CAE  
dlynch@vaco.org

Gov. Bob McDonnell delivered his budget proposal to the General Assembly's key money committees on Dec. 21. The proposal reflects signs of an improved state economy, adding \$283 million in tax revenue to the two-year plan that took effect July 1. The governor's proposal includes new spending for economic development, higher education, transportation and VRS. His plan also includes \$191.6 million in cuts, savings and transfers in the amended two-year budget.

McDonnell stated, "The opinion from the Joint Advisory Board of Economists and the Governor's Advisory Council on Revenue Estimates was that the economy continues to slowly recover, while major uncertainties linger and job growth remains weak."

The revenue forecast adopted by the administration in developing the introduced budget includes the standard minus revenue forecast, and the budget projections reflect that caution in the models from the Virginia Department of Taxation.

Revised figures add \$133.9 million in total net revenue in fiscal year 2011, and \$180.5 million in fiscal year 2012, for a total of \$314.4 million over the biennium. McDonnell cautioned that because revenue forecasts have increased slightly, the need to find savings and make state government more efficient has not ended. Gov. McDonnell cited this reason behind his \$191.6 million in cuts, savings and reprioritization across state government.



### Revenue

- Individual income tax collections are expected to grow by 6.5 percent in FY 2011 and 5.5 percent in FY 2012.
- The forecast for FY 2011 and FY 2012 sales tax revenue has been increased by \$133.8 million and \$141.3 million, respectively. The FY 2011 revised forecast reflects a 2.2 percent decline in comparison to FY 2010's 6.5 percent. The FY 2012 increases by 3.3 percent compared with 3.2 percent in FY 2010.
- Insurance premium taxes will increase by \$1.5 million for the biennium and one-third are dedicated for transportation debt service.
- The governor assumes a reduction in recordation taxes in FY 2011 and 2012. The reduction in FY 2011 is \$40 million and FY 2012 is \$19.9 million.

- Total general fund resources are forecast to increase by \$510.8 million for the biennium -- \$330.3 million in FY 2011 and \$180.5 million in FY 2012. Balances from FY 2010 (\$183.2 million), additional tax revenues (\$133.2 million), and transfers from state agency cash balances (\$13.2 million) make up almost all of the resource increase in FY 11. In FY 2012, the \$180.5 million increase is comprised of additional tax collections (\$157.3 million) and transfers (\$22.9 million).

As previously mentioned, Gov. McDonnell's budget also includes \$191.5 million in spending cuts. Most notably for local governments was a

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U.S. Communities is pleased to announce the launch of our newly redesigned Web site [www.uscommunities.org](http://www.uscommunities.org)! Our site has been updated with many new features to help procurement professionals find the resources they need quickly and efficiently.

One key feature now offered through our new Web site is our online marketplace. U.S. Communities' online marketplace was designed to make purchasing through U.S. Communities' contracts easier. The online marketplace is available at no cost, provides quick visibility into products and pricing, and integrates many U.S. Communities' supplier contracts into a single shopping environment. Purchases can be made using a p-card or credit card.

The following contracts are currently available through our online marketplace:

School Specialty- Art, Classroom & School Supplies  
Insight- Technology Products and Equipment, Service and Solutions  
HD Supply- Maintenance, Repair and Operations  
Graybar- Electrical and Data Communications  
Fisher Science Education- Educational Laboratory Supplies  
Tech Depot- Technology Products and Equipment  
BSN Sports/US Games- Athletic Equipment and Supplies  
Hagemeyer- Homeland Security and Public Safety Equipment  
Zep- Janitorial Supplies

To get started, please visit our Web site at [www.uscommunities.org](http://www.uscommunities.org) and click on the "Shop Now" button.

Webinars on the U.S. Communities online marketplace will be held daily. To register for a webinar, please visit our Web site at [www.uscommunities.org/news-events/ecom-webinar.aspx](http://www.uscommunities.org/news-events/ecom-webinar.aspx).

For additional information please contact us at [cs@uscommunities.org](mailto:cs@uscommunities.org).

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## Are you a county board chair or vice chair?

If so, VACo's Chairpersons' Institute is for you. It will be held at the Richmond Marriott between Feb. 3-5.

The Institute offers a professional learning experience that is carefully tailored to the needs of county board chairs.

These uncertain times require county leaders who are prepared for every eventuality, and balancing a tight budget is only the beginning.

To succeed, board chairs must be active leaders who know how to encourage teamwork and manage

conflict. They must be confident problem solvers as well as visionary leaders.

The Chairpersons' Institute was developed with the cooperation of an ad hoc committee of board chairs. This Institute gives chairs a chance to learn practical strategies in critical areas including the duties, powers and responsibilities of board chairs.

This program provides details on the structure and functions of county government, active leadership, communications, meeting management, decision making, working strategically



to achieve important goals, building partnerships with local staff, board colleagues, the media and other governments.

For a registration form with hotel information or to register online, visit the calendar section on [www.vaco.org](http://www.vaco.org).

## Gov. McDonnell signs Executive Order 25

By Beau Blevins  
bblevins@vaco.org

In response to the increased number of sexual and domestic violence acts committed in Virginia in 2009, with 61 percent of victims being under the age of 17, Gov. Robert F. McDonnell signed Executive Order 25 establishing the Domestic Violence Prevention and Response Advisory Board.

The purpose of the board is to "make recommendations for changes to our laws, policies, and procedures to enhance Virginia's response to domestic violence at all levels." Further, the board is to promote collaboration with state and local agencies, the private sector, and community partners involved in domestic violence prevention and enforcement.

The board will operate under direction of the Secretary of Public Safety. Click here to view the designees.

The Advisory Board is designated the following responsibilities:

- Assess means of improving services to children who have experienced, wit-

nessed, or been exposed to the effects of domestic violence.

- Work in conjunction with the Virginia State Crime Commission and the Office of the Attorney General, to complete a comprehensive review of Virginia's protective order laws and processes, and make recommendations for clarifying the protective order process and enhancing the enforcement of protective orders.
- Review the recommendations set forth in previous relevant reports and studies, and develop strategies for implementing sound recommendations from these sources. This assessment should include prioritizing initiatives, developing a timeline for achieving goals, and designating duties to accomplish the Advisory Board's stated purpose of preventing and responding to domestic violence.
- Develop recommendations for enhancing services and community response to victims of domestic violence who are traditionally underserved.



- Investigate ways to make Virginia's college campuses safer and reduce incidents of violence of all kinds.
- Make any other recommendations as may be appropriate.

The Advisory Board is responsible for submitting its findings and recommendations to the Governor no later than Sept. 15, 2011. A final report is due no later than Oct. 1, 2011.

Executive Order 25 supersedes and rescinds Executive Order 93 (2009) issued by Gov. Tim Kaine and is in effect for one year unless amended or rescinded by further executive order.

## Workgroup discusses definition of 'distressed locality'

By Beau Blevins  
bblevins@vaco.org

Acting on a recommendation by the Governor's Economic Development and Jobs Creation Commission, a workgroup was formed by the lieutenant governor's office to discuss what factors constitute a distressed locality.

This workgroup was made up of several representatives from state offices including the governor's office, the lieutenant governor's office, the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), the Virginia Department of Business Assistance (DBA), and the Virginia Employment Commission (VEC). Also joining the discussion were Del. Danny Marshall and Sen. Mark Obenshain.

The intent of the workgroup was to reevaluate the factors used to determine a distressed locality and, if needed, modify or make changes accordingly.

Three factors are used in assessing the economic status of a locality. These distress factors are (i) the average unem-

ployment rate for the locality over the most recent three-year period, (ii) the average median adjusted gross income for the locality over the most recent three-year period, and (iii) the average percentage of public school students within the locality receiving free or reduced price lunches over the most recent three-year period. These factors are established in Section 59.1-545(c), Code of Virginia, which deals with enterprise zone applications.

The group discussed the possibility of adding an additional distress factor to the existing three. This factor was to be classified as "high level of fiscal stress." The objective for this additional factor was to try to gauge which localities tended to have their median income and unemployment averages skewed by retirees, most notably those retiring from the northern Virginia/D.C. area.

Moreover, the workgroup hoped by adding another factor and codifying that localities only needed to meet two out of the four factors that a more fair representation of economically distressed areas could be reached.



After a series of meetings, however, the workgroup concluded that the three existing factors should remain unchanged in the code and no additional criteria should be added. This conclusion was based on two reasons. First, the group could not determine a formula that could fairly assess a locality as experiencing a "high level of fiscal stress." Second, the additional distress factor would have a negative impact on the Governor's Opportunity Fund (GOF) (the GOF provides either grants or loans to localities to assist in the creation of new jobs and investment in accordance with criteria established by legislation). Essentially, a significant number of localities would have dropped off the distressed list - impacting the criteria set forth for GOF funding, including the amount of awards required to go to such localities.



## Powhatan announces Eric Gregory as county attorney

Powhatan County is pleased to announce the hiring of Eric Gregory as county attorney effective Feb. 7.

Gregory has been working as an assistant attorney general in the Commonwealth's Office of the Attorney General for seven years and has served in the office of Special Counsel for the past year.

Gregory has a breadth of experience including administrative and regulatory law, compliance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and State and Local Government Conflicts of Interest Act, case management, serving as legislative liaison with the General Assembly, litigation, and providing legal counsel to many administrative and regulatory agencies such as the Department of Health Professions, Office of Architectural and Engineering Services, Office of Emergency Medical Services and Department for the Aging.

"We are fortunate to hire someone with a solid legal background with strong knowledge of the State Code, public policy issues, litigation and many matters affecting local government," said Robert Cosby, Chairman of the Powhatan County Board of Supervisors.

"Hiring Mr. Gregory will provide the sound legal focus that Powhatan County needs on staff," said Scott

Daniel, a member of the Board.

Supervisor Carson Tucker said, "This position is integral to the team we have in place and Mr. Gregory is the right fit for the job. He will ensure responsive, timely legal services and has proven to cultivate effective working relationships with public officials, staff, other attorneys and the public."

"The department directors of the County and I are excited about Mr. Gregory coming to work for the citizens of our great community. We welcome him as an outstanding addition to our hardworking team," said Carolyn Bishop, county administrator.

Gregory is a graduate of University of Richmond School of Law, J.D., 2002, and also has a Bachelor of Arts in English and Spanish, 1996, from the University of Richmond.

He and his wife, Allison, are very excited about this appointment. They have two boys, Isaac, 3 years, and James, 18 months. Gregory was a fellow of the Sorenson Institute's Political Leaders Program of the University of Virginia and serves as a Board member for First Things First of Greater Richmond as well as the Richmond Public Schools Education Foundation, and is the President of the St. Thomas More Society.

"I am absolutely delighted to be



joining the Powhatan County government team. It is an honor to have been selected and I am looking forward to serving the people of Powhatan and contributing to this wonderful community's bright future. Powhatan is a special place and my family and I are excited to become a part of it."

Gregory's appointment follows the resignation of John Rick as county attorney after sixteen outstanding years of service effective December 31, 2010. Rick will continue his private law practice in Powhatan County. Interim legal matters will be handled by Hefty and Wiley, P. C.

## Henrico names Owdom to head information technology

Henrico County Manager Virgil R. Hazelett, P.E. has announced the appointment of Thomas L. Owdom as director of the Department of Information Technology. The appointment is effective Jan. 15.

Owdom, who currently serves as assistant director of the agency, will succeed Steven M. Lewis, who is retiring after more than seven years in the position.

As director, Owdom will oversee an agency with 83 personnel and a total budget of nearly \$12.1 million for fiscal year 2011.

Information Technology is responsible for serving all computer-oriented information processing needs for county

agencies, including technology implementation, office automation equipment and software selection, application development, hardware and software maintenance and data and telecommunications network development and support.

The department also administers the county's telecommunications infrastructure and maintains the Emergency E-911 system for Public Safety.

A Henrico County employee since 1977, Owdom has more than 24 years experience in information technology.

He received a bachelor's degree from Ohio State University and earned a master's degree from the University of Illinois.





## Visit Pittsylvania County and the American Armoured Foundation Tank Museum

Source: [www.aaftankmuseum.com](http://www.aaftankmuseum.com)

### Who we are

American Armoured Foundation, Inc., better known as the Tank Museum, is a 501 (c) 3 charitable not for profit educational organization. Founded in 1981 by present museum curator and director, William Gasser.

### Museum Mission

The mission of the Tank Museum is to collect, restore, preserve, and exhibit, a significant part of military tank & cavalry artifacts from all time periods and nations as is possible, and to educate present and future generations to the service and sacrifices given by the men and women of the armed services.

### Museum Collection

- The Museum collection is exhibited in a 330,000 sq. foot facility.
- Presently the Museum has over 118 Tanks and Artillery pieces.
- Weapons Room Exhibit ~ with over 150 Mid size weapons such as, Bazookas, Flame Throwers, and Recoilless Rifles.
- Rifle Room Exhibit ~ with over 60 rifles from the unique and rare to the very common military types.
- Over 350 Tank & Artillery Optics & Fire Control items.
- International Hall of Tank & Cavalry Generals with over 340 Generals in Attendance.
- Sandbox Soldiers Exhibit with 37 children's military uniforms.
- 1400 Tank & Cavalry Uniforms dating from 1509 to present.
- 300 Women's Uniforms dating from 1852 to present.
- 1300 Tank and Cavalry headgear pieces dating from 1790 to present.
- Over 350 Tank & Armored Fighting Vehicle toys.
- Radio Control 1/16 scale indoor Battlefield ~ 6,000 sq. ft in size and the only indoor RC Battlefield in the world.



**A.A.F. Tank Museum**  
3401 U.S. Highway 29B  
Danville, VA 24540  
Phone: 434-836-5323  
Fax: 434-836-3532  
[www.aaftankmuseum.com](http://www.aaftankmuseum.com)

### Background Facts

Museum was founded in 1981 by present museum curator and director, Mr. William Gasser.

Certified in 1981 and recertified in 2003 by the U.S. Government and the Center of Military History to receive military donations as a not for profit museum.

AAF Tank Museum has the most extensive collection of Tank and Cavalry artifacts found anywhere in the world.

The only military museum with all artifacts under one roof.

Museum facility is 330,000 square feet on 89 acres.

Museum relocated in 1999 from Mattituck, New York to Pittsylvania County.



**Mark Your Calendars**

**2011 NACo Legislative Conference  
March 5-9**



**2011 Legislative Conference**  
March 5-9  
Marriott Wardman Park Hotel  
Washington, D.C.

**Registration is Open for NACo's 2011 Legislative Conference**

Register by clicking [here](#) today and SAVE \$25.

Plan now:

- select the policy setting committee meetings relevant to your county to attend,
- decide which educational workshops will provide solutions for your county, and
- start scheduling your meetings with congressional and federal representatives to bring back home the most knowledge and solutions to benefit your county and its residents.

Tell America, County Government Works!



Questions? Please contact the NACo Meetings Department by emailing: [nacomeetings@naco.org](mailto:nacomeetings@naco.org).



Visit NACo's New Website  
[www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org)



The deadline for class of 2011 applications is Jan. 15, 2011

LEAD VIRGINIA, a statewide Leadership forum celebrating its five-year anniversary in 2010 is accepting applications for its upcoming 2011 class.

LEAD VIRGINIA is a non-partisan, nonprofit educational forum connecting Virginia's proven leaders across the Commonwealth.

For an application, 2011 class schedule or more information about LEAD VIRGINIA, visit [www.leadvirginia.org](http://www.leadvirginia.org) or e-mail Susan Horne, President & CEO at [shorne@leadva.org](mailto:shorne@leadva.org).

The deadline for class of 2011 applications is Jan. 15, 2011.



**Virginia Institute of Government  
Spring 2011  
Second Wednesday Series**

We are pleased to announce the titles for our Spring 2011 Second Wednesday Series, which will begin in March.

- March 9, It's Showtime! Delivering Effective Presentations
- April 13, Teamwork Skills & Group Dynamics: Achieving Success Together
- May 11, Business Writing Basics: Write it Right
- June 8, Creating a Quality Culture: Going from Good to Great

Seats available at a new low price! **Cost:** \$75 (includes lunch and materials). **Time:** 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

**Place:** University of Virginia Richmond Center, located off I-64 and Parham Road. Parking is free.

**On Site Training:** If it is more practical for your organization, we can bring the training to you. Just send us an email or give us a call.

**Contacts:** Billie Easton at [bee2u@virginia.edu](mailto:bee2u@virginia.edu) or Danika Mansfield at [dgm9h@virginia.edu](mailto:dgm9h@virginia.edu) or call us at (804) 371-020. Visit us at [www.coopercenter.org/institute](http://www.coopercenter.org/institute).

# VACo Committee Interest Form



VACo seeks county supervisors and executive staff interested in serving on steering and operational committees. The steering committees consider proposals from member counties for inclusion in VACo’s legislative program. They also provide direction to the VACo staff on policy issues arising from legislative and state agency studies. Steering committee members are selected from each of VACo’s 13 regions. Committees also include several members appointed at-large. The operational and ad hoc committees are responsible for helping direct the staff in the activities, programs and functions of VACo.

Attendance will be expected of committee members at the VACo Annual Meeting, and other committee meetings during the year. VACo asks that committee members or the counties they represent assume responsibility for travel arrangements and costs associated with attending committee meetings. Appointments are made each year by the president of VACo. If you are interested in being considered for an appointment, complete this form and return it to VACo, 1207 E. Main St., Suite 300, Richmond, VA 23219-3627, fax 804-788-0083.

**County officials who serve on committees need to submit this form to be reappointed to a committee in 2011.**

name \_\_\_\_\_

title \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_

address \_\_\_\_\_

phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

## STEERING COMMITTEES

- \_\_\_\_\_ Administration of Government
- \_\_\_\_\_ Community Development and Planning
- \_\_\_\_\_ Compensation and Public Safety
- \_\_\_\_\_ Education
- \_\_\_\_\_ Environment and Agriculture
- \_\_\_\_\_ Finance
- \_\_\_\_\_ Health and Human Resources
- \_\_\_\_\_ Transportation

## OPERATIONAL COMMITTEES

- \_\_\_\_\_ Budget & Finance
- \_\_\_\_\_ Conference Planning
- \_\_\_\_\_ Nominating

**BUDGET**

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reduction of \$57.6 million in FY 2012 designated as "hold harmless" for localities who lost state support because of changes in the local composite index. Other reductions include areas in health and human resources (CSA services and mental health services).

**Highlights:****Constitutional Officers**

- Reduction of \$1.7 million in funding for the cost of the Virginia Risk Management liability and surety bond premiums paid by the Compensation Board on behalf of constitutional officers, directors of finance, and regional jails. The Compensation Board presently pays this premium and recovers 50 percent of such cost from reimbursements to localities. Language has been amended providing for the recovery of 100 percent of the cost in FY 2012 from localities.
- Budget language provides that localities are afforded the option to require employees to contribute a 5 percent employee-share amount toward the cost of VRS retirement premiums, but only if such requirement is offset by a 3 percent or more salary increase. Also proposed is an increase in the employer-share retirement contribution rate for state employees from 2.08 percent to 6.08 percent in FY 2012, which in turn increases the cap rate which the Compensation Board may reimburse on salaries of constitutional officers and their employees to a maximum of 6.08 percent in FY 2012.
- A 3 percent salary increase for state employees that is a component of requiring employees to pay an employee-share contribution of 5 percent in FY 2012 does not apply to constitutional officers and their employees-the separate local option noted above is applicable.
- The potential for a one-time, contingent bonus to state employees of up to 2 percent in FY 2012 does not apply to constitutional officers and their employees.
- No other funding of future salary increases for constitutional officers and

their employees is included.

- No additional positions or funding were provided to meet staffing standards for constitutional officers.

**Sheriffs and Regional Jails**

- Additional funding totaling \$1,285,233 and 92 positions was provided in FY 2012 for the staffing of the expansion project in the Blue Ridge Regional Jail (Amherst) funded Jan. 1, 2012.
- Restoration of \$8.3 million in each year to offset reductions to law enforcement and court services available funding that resulted from the failed passage of the Virginia Public Safety Fund fee during the 2010 session of the General Assembly. An original shortfall existed in FY 2012 of \$21.7 million, leaving a remaining shortfall of \$13.4 million in FY 2012.
- No additional funding or positions are included for law enforcement deputies in FY 2012. Based on provisional population data released by the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service at the University of Virginia in January 2010, additional funding of \$3,871,987 and 114 additional positions is needed to meet the FY 2012 cost of additional law enforcement positions due based upon the ratio of 1 deputy per 1,500 of local population.

**Jails**

- Additional inmate per diem funding of \$7.4 million in FY 2011 based on updated inmate population forecasts, and no recommendation for additional funding for per diem payments in FY 2012.

**Commonwealth's Attorneys**

- No additional funds were provided for the conversion of part-time Commonwealth's Attorneys requesting full-time status effective July 1, 2011.

**Circuit Court Clerks**

- The budget reduces \$3.4 million in FY 2011 and \$6.2 million in FY 2012 to the appropriation for the Clerks' Technology Trust Fund to match actual cash balances available and projected revenues.

**Treasurers, Commissioners, and Finance Directors**

- No program specific changes were included in the Governor's Budget Bill

recommendations.

**Administration & Technical Adjustments**

- Reduction of \$14,500 in previously earmarked FY 2010 carryover funding to meet a portion of administrative budget reductions.
- Reduction of \$51,922 in administrative funding of LIDS query and reporting costs.
- Technical adjustments to move \$1,004,500 in appropriated funding for the SAVIN victim notification system support from the administration to the sheriffs and regional jails program and to correct language reflecting an incorrect appropriated funding amount.
- Technical adjustment to distribute the 2010 session \$5.27 million reduction associated with fringe benefits adjustments from the executive management item to the appropriate constitutional officers' programs for FY12.
- Technical adjustment to clarify administrative language providing that Compensation Board supported training programs will be conducted based on appropriated funding.
- All language regarding mandatory reappropriation of prior fiscal year-end balances has been removed from all programs.

**K-12 Public Education**

- The governor made several technical and mandated adjustments (\$52.4 million)
  - Adjust for sales tax revenue: \$40.5 million
  - Standards of Quality Account Updates: (\$43.2 million)
  - Transfer general fund supported programs to Lottery Service Area: (\$33 million)
  - Update costs for Composite-Index Hold Harmless: (\$8.4 million)
  - Updates to categorical and incentive programs: (\$8 million)
  - Update costs for National Board Certification grants: (\$0.3 million)
- New GF Spending
  - Support VRS rate increase of \$53.2 million; the employer teacher retirement contribution rate is - increased by 2 percent - from 5.16

**BUDGET**

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**BUDGET**

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percent to 7.16 percent. (Item 469) The cost is \$53.2 million to the state, and an estimated \$103 million to local governments. (VRS estimates that local governments pay approximately 66 percent of the cost of teacher retirement. The cost to individual localities varies according to the composite index.)

- Establish pilot pay for performance program \$3 million
- GF Reductions (\$57.6 million)

The governor's plan reprograms funds provided for the local composite index (LCI) hold harmless funds used to support teacher retirement and pilot teacher performance pay programs. The 50 percent hold harmless in FY 2012 (\$57.6 million) is eliminated and the money is used to pay the 2 percent increased teacher retirement. Ninety-seven localities were scheduled to receive the hold harmless funding in FY 2012. Additionally, those localities will see the loss of the hold harmless funds and a 2 percent increase in teacher retirement rates. The LCI hold harmless for FY 2011 is decreased by \$8 million, reflecting "policy changes." (Item 132).

**Line of Duty**

The Virginia Retirement System's Board of Trustees has approved an actuarial report setting the cost of benefits under the Line of Duty Act at an estimated \$233 per covered employee.

VRS will provide cities, towns and counties with a list of eligible covered individuals and request that the list be confirmed and returned to VRS. Local governments will be charged a premium based on the number of employees eligible for the benefit beginning in FY12.

The Line of Duty Act provides benefits to certain hazardous duty employees (or their survivors) who are disabled or who die in the line of duty. Employees eligible for benefit coverage under the act include hazardous duty state and local employees and fire department and rescue squad volunteers. These covered individuals may be full time or part time. They include employees receiving benefits under the heart/lung presumption of the Virginia

Workers' Compensation Act, in addition to those who are disabled or who die as the result of a catastrophic event.

Localities that employ eligible hazardous duty professionals on a paid or voluntary basis will contribute to the Line of Duty Act Fund for their respective covered individuals. Localities have the option to establish their own fund rather than participate in the LODA Fund. Localities that choose to establish their own fund will still have to provide the same level of benefits. The state will be responsible for paying for the benefits of state employees eligible for the fund

Up until this year, the state has paid the costs of the Line of Duty benefits for all employees, whether they are local or state employees.

Localities that employ paid and/or volunteer hazardous duty professionals eligible for LODA benefits will receive enrollment packets from VRS in February. The packets will include information about the spring 2011 enrollment period, a sample resolution and guide and the locality's contribution rate should your local governing body elect to participate in the LODA Fund. Local elections are due by no later than June 30, 2011.

For more information about the LODA Fund, contact VRS at [LODA@varetire.org](mailto:LODA@varetire.org). For more information about benefits under the Virginia Line of Duty Act, [click here](#).

**Compensation and retirement**

- The governor proposes requiring all state employees, including those hired before July 1, 2010, to pay the 5 percent member retirement contribution. The budget also includes funding for a 3 percent salary increase for state employees. The budget amendments allow all political subdivisions to require employees (including teachers) hired before July 1, 2010, to pay the 5 percent member retirement contribution, provided that the employees receive a 3 percent salary increase. Under the proposal, both employees and employers would be responsible for FICA and Medicare taxes resulting from salary increases.

**ATL (State aid localities)**

- No funding changes (reductions or restorations of earlier cuts) to local law

enforcement (HB 599) funding

- No language changes that repeal local payments or reductions in ATL categories (\$120 million biennial reduction)
- Partial restoration of reductions in funding to sheriffs' offices (\$4.2 million in FY 2011 and \$3.4 million in FY 2012)
- No funding changes to Recordation Tax or Rolling Stock distributions or TVA payments

**Health and Human Resources**

- Department of Social Services (\$17 million)

- Includes a 7.7 percent cut to overall administration and efficiencies realized by bringing the department's training program in-house: (\$1.5 million)

- Supplant general fund dollars: (\$14.6 million); continued support for the impacted programs, which include child care, Healthy Families, and domestic violence grants, will be contingent upon the availability of nongeneral funds in the 2012 - 2014 biennium. (\$17 million)

- Comprehensive Services Act (\$17.4 million)

- Equalization of match rates for all residential services by returning therapeutic foster care to the residential categorization: (\$7.5 million).

- Equalization of match rates for all services provided in the public schools by reclassifying all services in the public schools as educational services: (4 million)

- Controlling costs by eliminating non-mandated services: (\$5 million); these services are not required to be funded by either statute or budget language. Only 60 percent of all localities have chosen to access these funds.

Please visit our Web site for additional budget reporting on Community Economic Development, Agriculture and Forestry, State Board of Elections.

**NOTE:** Any figures in parentheses represent a negative adjustment.

VACo will continue to provide additional analysis throughout the session or as information becomes available.

## **EPA releases final TMDL for Chesapeake Bay and accepts Virginia's Watershed Implementation Plan**

By Larry Land  
lland@vaco.org

Last week the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued its final Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the entire 64,000 square mile Chesapeake Bay watershed.

A TMDL is also known as a "pollution diet" that establishes limits on any pollutant a waterway can receive and still meet water quality standards. The three pollutants targeted in the final Chesapeake Bay TMDL are nitrogen, phosphorus and sediments.

To date, more than 40,000 TMDLs have been issued for streams and rivers across the United States, but - according to EPA - the Chesapeake Bay TMDL is the largest and most complex of them all.

One chief purpose of the TMDLs is to ensure that all pollution control measures necessary to restore water quality in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries are in place by 2025. Under EPA's 15 year schedule, 60 percent of the actions in the TMDL must be completed in each state of the Chesapeake Bay watershed by 2017.

These six states are New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia, and Delaware along with the District of Columbia. Progress toward reaching these goals will be evaluated every two years. This "accountability framework" involving the two-year "milestones" (as EPA calls them) will allow for adjustments to be made when implementing a Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP). Each state's WIP is subject to EPA's review and approval.

The WIP's chief purpose is to serve as a comprehensive blueprint to guide a state's effort to improve water quality on a watershed-wide basis.

With some caveats, EPA also accepted the final version of Virginia's "Phase 1" WIP. The chief "source sectors" affected by the WIP are wastewater treatment plants, urban stormwater management systems,

agricultural operations, and onsite wastewater treatment facilities.

The issuance of the final Chesapeake Bay TMDL, and EPA's approval of Virginia's Phase 1 WIP come at the end of a series of challenging negotiations between EPA and the Commonwealth.

Virginia's final Phase 1 WIP was submitted to EPA on November 29 following a series of revisions requested by EPA to an original draft version of the WIP submitted to EPA last September. According the final version of Virginia's Phase 1 WIP, estimated costs in the Commonwealth for implementing the Chesapeake Bay cleanup plan through 2025 will be \$7 billion.

EPA's acceptance of Virginia's Phase 1 WIP came with a number of caveats, one of which is expressed in the following statement:

- If (Virginia's) statewide rule and/or the Phase 2 WIP do not provide additional assurance regarding how stormwater discharges outside MS4 jurisdictions will achieve nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment reductions proposed in the final Phase 1 WIP and assumed within the TMDL allocations, EPA may shift a greater portion of Virginia's urban stormwater load from load allocation (affecting nonpoint sources) to wasteload allocations (affecting wastewater treatment plants and other point sources).

Last week's issuance of the final TMDL begins a new chapter in Chesapeake Bay restoration efforts.

In this challenging new chapter, efforts will center on what is expected to be the highly complex, locality-specific development of the "Phase 2" WIP.

Under EPA's framework, Virginia's chief environmental agencies (Department of Conservation and Department of Environmental Quality) will be working with localities in the Chesapeake Bay watershed to produce localized plans to meet certain pollutant reduction goals for each area of the basin.

It is not yet clear how this process



will unfold, but VACo will closely monitor the situation. Under EPA's original deadline, the final Phase 2 WIP was to be completed by November 1 of this year.

However, after receiving many comments from local governments (and VACo), EPA is now considering an extension of that deadline and will be making an announcement later this winter about a possible new deadline.

The final TMDL document asserts that the actions prescribed in it to meet the specific water quality improvement goals constitute "enforceable" requirements.

Furthermore, failure by states to meet federal expectations contained in the TMDL could result in the following consequences: expanding coverage of the NPDES permits to sources that are currently unregulated, increasing oversight of state-issued NPDES permits, requiring additional pollution reductions from point sources such as wastewater treatment plants, increasing federal enforcement and compliance in the watershed, prohibiting new or expanded pollution discharges, redirecting EPA grants, and revising water quality standards to better protect local and downstream waters.

More information about that Chesapeake Bay TMDL (and the TMDL document itself) is available at this web link.



## Pulaski's Thomas McCarthy receives state award

By Melinda Williams  
Southwest Times Editor

Pulaski attorney Thomas J. McCarthy Jr., has been recognized with a state award for exemplary service as a member of the New River Community College Local Board.

At a recent meeting of the Virginia State Board for Community Colleges held at the Boar's Head Inn in Charlottesville, McCarthy was presented the 2010 Chairman's Award for College Board Member Exemplary Service.

Nathaniel X. Marshall, Virginia Community College System (VCCS) board chair, announced the award and introduced McCarthy to the audience of presidents, administrators and board members from Virginia's 23 community colleges.

McCarthy has served the NRCC local board in three different decades (1980-88, 1996-2004 and at present, having been re-appointed earlier this year). He also has served on the NRCC Educational Foundation Board.

"Tom has served as both chairman and vice chairman of the board, and has consistently been a key contributor,

providing insightful leadership, while demonstrating loyal and passionate support for both the college and the state's community college system," says Dr. Jack Lewis, NRCC president. "We are very pleased that Tom McCarthy is being recognized by his peers in this way."

McCarthy is a partner in the Pulaski law firm of Gilmer, Sadler, Ingram, Sutherland & Hutton. He was nominated for the award by NRCC board member Hugh W. Huff, III, and board chair, Dr. Linda Petrie.

A lifelong resident of Pulaski County, he has long been an active participant in community life in the New River Valley. He joined the law firm in 1970 and became a partner in 1975. Some of his affiliations have included Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce, Pulaski County Rotary Club, Pulaski County Democratic Committee and Elks Club. He has also been active in a number of professional associations including the Pulaski County Bar Association, Virginia Bar Association, Virginia Law Foundation and member of the Virginia State Bar.

On the state level, he is a member of the Virginia Council of School Attorneys and served as chairman of



that group in 2008-2009.

McCarthy is affectionately known as "Mr. Board" for his long-standing, dedicated and multi-faceted service both on the NRCC local board and NRCC Educational Foundation Board. In addition to serving the college on boards, he consistently supports other college-related activities, including attending graduation ceremonies, scholarship events and planning workshops.

In his nominating remarks, Hugh Huff states, "I have been impressed with his outstanding leadership capabilities. I think he has proved to be an 'ideal' board member... demonstrating a genuine passion for serving students and the community."

## Roanoke's Greenway Planner, Janet Scheid, retires

Janet Scheid began her career with Roanoke County 22 years ago when she came to work as a Planner in the Planning Department.

In 2008 she moved to the Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department to become the County's Greenway Planner. Prior to her work with Roanoke County, Scheid spent nine years with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

In retirement, Scheid and her husband plan to spend time hiking, camping, kayaking and sailing, as well as traveling to visit family and friends in Lake Tahoe, Nevada and Bermuda. Scheid has a son who is a sophomore at High Point University, N.C.

Lindsay Blankenship, currently a Planner in the Community Development Department, will become the new Greenway Planner on Jan. 1.





**Employment Opportunities**

Employment ads are edited due to space considerations.

To view the full versions, visit [www.vaco.org](http://www.vaco.org) and click on the employment link on the top left corner.

**Executive Director/West Piedmont Planning District**

**SALARY:** Negotiable DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. Submission deadline: 5 p.m., Feb. 15. WPPD conducts area-wide planning programs in econ dev, transportation, land use, hazard mitigation, environmental management, other local/regional needs including grant writing, statistical research, and GIS services. Agency serves as admin agent for Metropolitan Planning Organization. Job requires experience managing budgets and personnel; inter-governmental communication; administering federal programs. Must have excellent written/verbal communications and decision-making skills. Degree in urban/regional planning, public administration, or related field; advance degree desirable. Minimum 5 years experience in planning or public administration in regional, local government, or private sector. Full ad can be found at [www.wppdc.org](http://www.wppdc.org). Submit resume with cover letter/salary history to: WPPDC Executive Director Search Committee, P.O. Box 5268, Martinsville, VA 24115.

**Assistant County Administrator/Southampton County**

We are seeking an experienced, dynamic leader to provide executive-level managerial support to the County Administrator and to advise and supervise assigned department heads in their daily operations. The successful candidate must be able to work in a complex, fast-paced environment, and have the ability to function both independently and as a team player. He/she should possess the equivalent of a bachelor's degree in public administration, business administration, planning, or a related field, with at least five years of progressively responsible experience in

a comparably-sized locality. Starting salary in the mid-60's, DOQ. Submit letter of interest, resume, salary history and work-related references in confidence to: Michael W. Johnson, County Administrator, P. O. Box 400, Courtland, VA 23837; (757) 653-3015. Review of applications will begin Jan. 24. Position open until filled.

**County Administrator/Louisa County**

The Louisa County Administrator is the Chief Administrative Officer for a growing county of 33,000 citizens and over 500 square miles in the heart of Central Virginia. Louisa County is an award-winning county and a destination location for outdoor enthusiasts, boaters and fishermen. In addition to agri-business, wineries, and forestry; Louisa County also features an airpark, aquatic center, active Chamber of Commerce and fully accredited public schools. For complete details, please visit our Web site at [www.louisacounty.com](http://www.louisacounty.com).

**Director of Economic Development/Spotsylvania County**

Spotsylvania County Government seeks candidates for the position of Economic Development Director with extensive experience in local, state, and/or regional government economic development. Requires education and/or experience equivalent to a Bachelor's degree in marketing, economics, communications, business administration, public administration and 6 to 9 years of experience in marketing, real estate, economic development, and public relations management. Please submit a cover letter, resume and writing sample with a County application online at [www.spotsylvania.va.us](http://www.spotsylvania.va.us). Salary Range: \$80,662 to \$104,861 (salary dependent on qualifications). Deadline Jan. 14, 2011. Department of Human Resources P.O. Box 605, Spotsylvania, VA 22553 (540) 507-7290

**Paralegal/Powhatan County**

County Attorney's Office  
Grade 11  
Salary Range \$36,783-\$57,381

Powhatan County is currently recruiting for the position of Paralegal for the County Attorney's Office. This position is full-time, exempt, and eligible for benefits. Duties include paraprofessional work and executive administrative assistance to the County Attorney; conducts legal research, drafts legal documents including resolutions, ordinances, reports, legal briefs and other forms for litigation. Applications and a complete job description may be obtained at the Powhatan County Administration Office located at 3834 Old Buckingham Road, Powhatan, Virginia. Applications can also be downloaded from [www.powhatanva.gov](http://www.powhatanva.gov). Position closes Friday, January 14, 2011 at 5 p.m.

**Chief of Police/Town of Mount Jackson**

Seeking experienced and progressive law enforcement executive to replace retiring chief. Lead police department of four sworn officers. Manage annual department operating budget. Desire a community leader with high ethical standards and ability to build/maintain effective working relationships with citizens, staff, elected officials, and surrounding law enforcement agencies. Position appointed by Town Council and functions as member of management team reporting to the Town Manager. Compensation: DOQ/DOE plus benefits. FLSA-exempt position. Applications available at the Town of Mount Jackson, P.O. Box 487, 5901 Main Street, Mount Jackson, VA 22842 or at [mountjackson.com](http://mountjackson.com). Completed applications are due by 4 p.m. on Jan. 28.

**Assistant County Attorney/Gloucester County**

Full-time opportunity for experienced Attorney with proven work history in local government environment or other relevant experience. Duties include advising various County boards, agencies, and offices on legal matters and representing the County in court when

**EMPLOYMENT**

Continued from page 12

necessary. Must be a member in good standing of the Virginia State Bar. Salary range \$60,436 - \$90,654/yr. We offer an excellent benefit package and competitive salary – commensurate with experience. For details interested candidates should visit us online at [www.gloucester.va.jobs](http://www.gloucester.va.jobs). Position open until filled.

**Director of Public Works/Town of Appomattox**

**SALARY:** DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. The Town of Appomattox (pop. 1,761) is seeking to fill the full-time position of Director of Public Works. Applications and a complete job description are available at the Appomattox Town Office, 210 Linden Street, PO Box 705, Appomattox, Virginia, 434-352-8268 or e-mail [fguill@appomattoxva.gov](mailto:fguill@appomattoxva.gov). DMV issued driving record must accompany your application. The position remains open until filled. EOE

**Director of Human Resources/ Albemarle County**

Full-Time, 12 Months  
The Director of Human Resources is responsible for providing strategic leadership, management and direction of the human resources functions, including but not limited to recruitment and selection, classification and compensation, employee training and organizational development, employee benefits, safety and wellness programs.  
**SALARY:** \$85,826-\$137,320/annual based on background and experience  
**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS:** Jan. 21, 2011

**APPLY:**

**External Applicants:**

Apply online at [www.albemarle.org](http://www.albemarle.org)  
Please submit cover letter and resume with online application.  
Application terminals are available at the Albemarle County Office Building 401 McIntire Rd.

Charlottesville, VA 22901

**Internal Applicants:**

Please submit cover letter and resume to Davra Miller, Human Resources [dmiller@albemarle.org](mailto:dmiller@albemarle.org)

**Economic Development Coordinator/ Town of Ashland**

**SALARY:** Starting Range \$43,861-\$58,489 DOQ/DOE (+) benefits. The Town of Ashland seeks an experienced professional to coordinate activities related to economic development, expansion, recruitment and retention in the rapid growth I-95 corridor in the Richmond metro area. Knowledge of the economic development process and experience working in an economic development related environment is preferred. The successful applicant will establish and maintain effective and cooperative relationships with the existing business community and the general public. Work involves the production of confidential, comprehensive, and customized proposals using a variety of media. The individual maintains information on competitive business assistance programs, economic trends, demographics, labor, etc. Submit resume to: Town of Ashland, Wanda Cornwell, Assistant to the Town Manager, P.O. Box 1600, Ashland, VA 23005 or via e-mail at [wcornwell@town.ashland.va.us](mailto:wcornwell@town.ashland.va.us). Info at [www.town.ashland.va.us](http://www.town.ashland.va.us). Open until filled.

**Superintendent of Maintenance/ Hanover County**

The Superintendent of Maintenance works within Hanover County's Department of Public Utilities and supports four wastewater plants, one water treatment plant and the County's water distribution and sewer collection systems. This is a supervisory, professional position responsible for managing utility supervisors and technicians. Primary duties include but are not limited to: For more information and to apply please visit [www.hanovercountyjobs.com](http://www.hanovercountyjobs.com) or call 804-365-6489 (TDD# 365-6140). EOE/MFDV.

**Senior Real Estate Appraiser/ Gloucester County**

Virginia real estate appraisal license required and the incumbent must be available to work flexible hours and/or overtime during deadlines and extremely busy times. Salary Range: \$40,193-

\$60,290/yr. Competitive Salary, Depending on Qualifications with an excellent benefit package; County pays the entire cost of participation in the Virginia Retirement System (VRS). To be considered, please submit an official Gloucester County application, cover letter, and resume to: Gloucester County Human Resource Department, 6467 Main Street, Gloucester, VA 23061. (804) 693-5690. EOE M/F/D. For information, visit [www.gloucester.va.jobs](http://www.gloucester.va.jobs). The application deadline is 4:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 7, 2011.

**Director of Budget and Finance/ Orange County Public Schools**

Responsible for all financial operations of the school system including administration of the budget, fiscal planning, accounting, purchasing, health and risk management insurance program.  
**REPORTS TO:** Superintendent of Schools  
**QUALIFICATIONS:** To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill, and/or ability required. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions. Bachelor's degree in accounting or business management; CPA preferred.

**City Arborist/City of Falls Church**

The City of Falls Church Planning Division has an immediate vacancy for a full-time City Arborist. Responsibilities include creating and following urban forestry management plan, conservation and protection of City arboreal resources, maintenance of trees growing on City owned land and regulation of owner/developer actions on trees growing on private property, which are subject to the City Code.  
**HOURS:** 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. **SALARY AND BENEFITS:** \$54,042 +, Depending on Qualifications, plus excellent benefits package. **TO APPLY:** Send resume to City of Falls Church, HR Div, 300 Park Ave, Falls Church, VA 22046 or [hr@fallschurchva.gov](mailto:hr@fallschurchva.gov). For a complete job posting see [www.fallschurchva.gov](http://www.fallschurchva.gov).



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VACo exists to support county officials and to effectively represent, promote and protect the interests of counties to better serve the people of Virginia.

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