

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
STAFFORD COUNTY, VIRGINIA
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
September 3, 2024

CALL TO ORDER – A regular meeting of the Stafford County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Meg Bohmke, Chairman, at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 3, 2024 in Board Chambers, George L. Gordon, Jr. Government Center, 1300 Courthouse Road, Stafford VA.

ROLL CALL – The following members were present: Meg Bohmke, Chairman; Tinesha O. Allen, Vice-Chair; Deuntay Diggs; Darrell E. English; Monica L. Gary; Dr. Pamela Yeung

Absent was Supervisor Crystal L. Vanuch.

Also in attendance were Craig Meadows, Interim County Administrator; Rysheda McClendon, County Attorney; Julia Holmes, Deputy Clerk; various staff members; and other interested parties.

INVOCATION

Mr. Diggs led the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Allen led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

CHAIR REMARKS

Ms. Bohmke said that today marked the second meeting they were holding under their new meeting schedule. She said that as an A day, they would begin at 5:00 p.m. She said that today's agenda included approving the consent agenda, hearing public presentations and reports from Board members, the County Attorney, and the County Administrator, as well as listening to presentations and reports by agencies and considering action items.

Ms. Bohmke said that there would be no public hearings today. She said that all public hearings would take place on B days. She said that they would continue to clarify this meeting process as they progress until everyone was well-acquainted with it. She said that for more information, they could visit their website at www.staffordcountyva.gov, which provided full details on their meeting schedule.

Ms. Bohmke said that they recently celebrated the opening of Amazon's inbound cross dock facility, a warehouse where goods were quickly transferred from incoming trucks to outgoing trucks without long-term storage. She said that Governor Glenn Youngkin and Secretary Karen Merrick were present, emphasizing the significance of this facility and similar ones. She said that Stafford County had strategically designated this area in Centreport Parkway as a logistics and

distribution hub, and it certainly was. She said that the new facility was the second Amazon distribution center to be located there. She said that the first, a delivery station, had already created 500 new jobs in their area.

Ms. Bohmke said that these two facilities demonstrated Amazon's long-term commitment to their community and their vision for their region's economic future. She said that she was grateful to see years of planning and collaboration on Stafford's part come to fruition. She said that she wanted to thank her colleagues. She said that she had been out of state for that event, and she wanted to thank her colleagues for attending. She said that Mr. Diggs and Ms. Gary were present, so she thanked them for attending.

Ms. Bohmke said that they would hold their annual 9/11 Ceremony on Wednesday, September 11, at 10:00 a.m. near the marker in front of the Government Center. She said that it had been 23 years since more than 3,000 innocent people lost their lives on September 11, 2001. She said that she invited everyone to join her for a special bell-ringing ceremony performed by Fire and Rescue.

Ms. Bohmke said that addressing all pet lovers, their animal shelter was facing overcapacity issues. She said that this was a nationwide problem, with animal shelters across the United States experiencing overcrowding since 2019. She said that care was more expensive due to inflation and many renters faced barriers in owning pets. She said that for those who could responsibly care for an animal for its lifetime, she would ask that they consider adopting a dog or cat from their shelter. She said that she also invited those who wished to volunteer and help with the animals while they wait to be adopted to contact the animal shelter. She said that more information could be found at www.staffordcountyanimalcontrol.com.

Ms. Bohmke said that also regarding animals, she would like to announce that August 4 through August 10 was International Assistance Dog Week. She said that Stafford County had several dogs that assisted their employees every day with their jobs. She said that they had comfort dogs, accelerant sniffing dogs, and police dogs, which were all integral to their mission. She said that they had a video to share with the public regarding their important assistance dogs.

ADDITIONS – DELETIONS AND APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR AGENDA

Dr. Yeung motioned, seconded by Mr. Diggs, to adopt the agenda as presented.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea: (6) Allen, Bohmke, Diggs, English, Gary, Yeung

No: (0)

Absent: (1) Vanuch

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Allen motioned, seconded by Mr. Diggs, to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented.

Dr. Yeung said that she would like to pull Items 16 and 20 from the Consent Agenda.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea: (6) Allen, Bohmke, Diggs, English, Gary, Yeung

No: (0)

Absent: (1) Vanuch

Dr. Yeung said that regarding Item 16, she appreciated the IT Department for providing essential infrastructure and maintenance. She said that she understood the rationale behind the Hampton contract. She said that her question pertained to the authorization of funds exceeding \$200,000. She said that she wanted to know if there was a cap on the authorized funding for EPlus technology. She said that she wanted to know who determined the upper limit of this authorized funding.

Andrew Spence, Chief Director of Information Services, said that the contract actually extended up to \$600,000. He said that whenever they spent over \$200,000 on a contract, they had to return to the Board for authorization of the remaining amount. He said that this contract would conclude in June, and they were requesting up to that \$600,000.

Dr. Yeung asked if the request was from \$200,000 to \$600,000 for FY2025 and FY2026. She asked if there was information regarding the reason for the increase.

Mr. Spence said that it was to continue the contract. He said that they did not know how much they would use them for; they planned an appropriate amount based on the services they had to use them for. He said that when they went over that planned amount, they had to increase the spend. He said that they were not necessarily going to spend \$600,000, but they were setting that as the spending limit.

Dr. Yeung asked if the \$600,000 was inclusive of FY25 and FY26 spending.

Mr. Spence said that that was correct.

Dr. Yeung motioned, seconded by Ms. Allen, to approve Resolution R24-279.

Ms. Bohmke said that she wanted to discuss the language that Dr. Yeung mentioned, which originated from the Procurement Department. She said that it pertained to the requirement that if expenditures exceeded \$200,000. She said that this language was introduced in April or May, so it was somewhat new to everyone. She said that she appreciated Dr. Yeung for bringing this to their attention.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea: (6) Allen, Bohmke, Diggs, English, Gary, Yeung

No: (0)

Absent: (1) Vanuch

Dr. Yeung said that regarding Item 20, on September 5 of the previous year, they had authorized a certain amount. She said that this was RFP 3-007-5001SB, and there were four categories, and

so each vendor that was selected, she knew it was specialized in certain things. She said that her question was about the funds needed. She said that she wanted to know if they were out of compliance, or if this was just normal expenses for VDH and DEQ.

Chris Edwards, Director of Utilities, said that he believed the reason this matter was being brought back to the Board was that they were nearing or had exceeded the spend amount for one of the five or six contracts with ICSC. He said that typically, ICSC handled all the electrical, SCADA, and telemetry work throughout the year. He said that they had bought in for \$1 million, so instead of allocating the expenditure by contract, they had combined it so that if they had to go to one contract or more, they had that availability.

Dr. Yeung asked if Mr. Edwards could provide the specific amount.

Mr. Edwards said that for the past year, they had allocated approximately 2.7 million dollars, to this initiative. He said that they were not imposing a strict cap; rather, they were recommending that they typically spend around \$3 million annually. He said that if they encountered an expenditure exceeding \$200,000, they would return to the Board for review. He said that other than that, they would proceed with utilizing these services as necessary.

Dr. Yeung asked if staff would provide information regarding which vendor would be used when bringing the request back to the Board.

Mr. Edwards said that that was correct.

Dr. Yeung motioned, seconded by Ms. Gary, to approve Resolution R24-243.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea: (6) Allen, Bohmke, Diggs, English, Gary, Yeung

No: (0)

Absent: (1) Vanuch

ITEM 1. COUNTY ADMINISTRATION; APPROVE AUGUST 20, 2024 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES

ITEM 2. COUNTY ADMINISTRATION; R24-242; AUTHORIZE THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO ACCEPT A VIRGINIA OPIOID ABATEMENT AUTHORITY COOPERATIVE PARTNERSHIP GRANT AWARD FOR MOBILE MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT AND CRISIS STABILIZATION FOR OPIOID ABATEMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 AND TO BUDGET AND APPROPRIATE THE GRANT FUNDS

ITEM 3. BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT; R24-273; BUDGET AND APPROPRIATE RAPPAHANNOCK REGIONAL LANDFILL (R-BOARD) BOND PROCEEDS AND ASSOCIATED INTEREST TO BE TRANSFERRED TO THE R-BOARD

ITEM 4. BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT; R24-276; BUDGET AND APPROPRIATE DEDICATED LANDFILL PROFFER FUNDS TO THE RAPPAHANNOCK REGIONAL LANDFILL (R-BOARD)

ITEM 5. COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY; R24-259; ACCEPT GRANT FUNDING FOR THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES FY25 VICTIM/WITNESS GRANT, AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF THE AGREEMENT, AND BUDGET AND APPROPRIATE THE ADDITIONAL GRANT FUNDS

ITEM 6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT; P24-09; PROCLAMATION HONORING AND RECOGNIZING INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE DOG WEEK

ITEM 7. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT; P24-13; PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 15 TO OCTOBER 15, 2024 AS NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

ITEM 8. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT; P24-14; PROCLAMATION TO RECOGNIZE SEPTEMBER 17-23, 2024, AS CONSTITUTION WEEK

ITEM 9. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES; R24-280; AUTHORIZE THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM THE VIRGINIA RESOURCE AUTHORITY THROUGH THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION COMMUNITY FLOOD PREPAREDNESS FUND TO DEVELOP A FLOOD RESILIENCE PLAN

ITEM 10. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES; R24-281; PETITION VDOT TO ACCEPT ROUTE 813 WITHIN THE SECONDARY SYSTEM OF STATE HIGHWAYS AS PART OF THE RURAL ROAD ADDITION PROGRAM

ITEM 11. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES; R24-282; PETITION VDOT TO MAKE CHANGES TO COURTHOUSE ROAD, WYCHE ROAD, FLORIDA ROCK DRIVE, OLD COURTHOUSE ROAD, AND HOSPITAL CENTER BOULEVARD WITHIN THE SECONDARY SYSTEM OF STATE HIGHWAYS

ITEM 12. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES; R24-284; PETITION VDOT TO INCLUDE OLD POTOMAC CHURCH ROAD AND CREEK BOTTOM PLACE WITHIN THE POTOMAC CHURCH FARM SECTION 1 SUBDIVISION INTO THE SECONDARY SYSTEM OF STATE HIGHWAYS

ITEM 13. FINANCE; R24-265; AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION SCHOOL BONDS TO BE SOLD TO THE VIRGINIA PUBLIC SCHOOL AUTHORITY (VPSA) TO SUPPORT THE CONSTRUCTION OF APPROVED CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR SCHOOLS

ITEM 14. FIRE AND RESCUE; R24-272; AUTHORIZE THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO APPROVE ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURES AND RATIFY THE

CONTRACT WITH AIR-CARE, INC. TO PURCHASE AN AIR COMPRESSOR, AIR TESTING, AND PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS

ITEM 15. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY; R24-34; BUDGET AND APPROPRIATE UTILITIES AND GENERAL FUND PRIOR YEAR FUND BALANCE FOR THE INSTALLATION OF FIBER OPTIC CABLE TO BRING HIGH-SPEED INTERNET SERVICE TO MULTIPLE COUNTY FACILITIES

ITEM 16. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY; R24-279; RATIFY THE CONTRACT WITH EPLUS TECHNOLOGY, INC. FOR AS-NEEDED SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES AND AUTHORIZE THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO APPROVE ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURES

ITEM 17. PLANNING AND ZONING; R24-277; AUTHORIZE THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A PURCHASE AGREEMENT AND DEED OF EASEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS (PDR) ON TAX MAP PARCEL NO. 25-38, AND BUDGET AND APPROPRIATE GRANT FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE

ITEM 18. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS; R24-292; APPROVAL OF THE PERFORMANCE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE RAPPAHANNOCK AREA COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD (RACSB) AND THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES (DBHDS)

ITEM 19. UTILITIES; R24-198; AUTHORIZE THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A REPLACEMENT VACUUM TRUCK

ITEM 20. UTILITIES; R24-243; AUTHORIZE THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO APPROVE ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURES FOR ELECTRICAL AND SUPERVISORY CONTROL AND DATA ACQUISITION (SCADA) SERVICES

ITEM 21. UTILITIES; R24-268; AUTHORIZE THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A WATER PRO-RATA AGREEMENT WITH NP AUSTIN RIDGE, LLC

ITEM 22. UTILITIES; R24-269; AUTHORIZE THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH SAGRES CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION FOR THE DUFF GREEN PARK WATERLINE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

PRESENTATIONS BY THE PUBLIC

1. Nancy Rueter, Garrisonville District, said that she was reminded of a time when she purchased a power tool, a piece of furniture, a kitchen gadget, or appliance that she rarely or no longer used. She said that specifically, she was thinking of kitchen gadgets like bread makers, toaster

ovens, air fryers, and panini makers. She said that she had recently bought a skillet, which was quite expensive, complete with extra holders to prevent burns. She said that she had used it just last week, but it was too large for her kitchen, often taking up space in her oven.

Ms. Rueter said that this skillet reminded her of the proposed idea of bringing Buc-ee's to Stafford. She said that while some people believed it would be beneficial, she saw it as too big and potentially disruptive to their community-friendly space. She said that she hoped that Stafford County and their representatives would prioritize the needs of Stafford residents and invest in land that benefited their community.

2. Peter Stencavage, Garrisonville District, said that there was a poem called "Pretty Good" by Charles Osgood. He said that they should aim for more than just "pretty good." He said that while Buc-ee's may bring in tax revenue and jobs, he suggested they should also consider other businesses that could contribute similarly to the community. He said that they should also consider the potential traffic congestion and the long-term viability of such a large establishment. He said that he urged the Board to strive for something better, something that truly benefited their community in the long run.
3. Cindy Simpson, Garrisonville District, said that she was a resident of Austin Ridge. She said that she wished to discuss the proposed Buc-ee's travel center and its potential impact on their local neighborhoods, including Austin Bridge, Westgate, and Embrey Mill. She said that these neighborhoods had been carefully planned and began development over 25 years ago, with specific characteristics and community-focused amenities in mind. She said that the residents had chosen these areas based on their unique attributes and the sense of community they fostered.

Ms. Simpson said that at the time, there was an understanding that the types of development permissible in these areas would align with the original vision and plans. She said that a large-scale facility like Buc-ee's was not part of that vision, nor should it be today. She said that the introduction of such a massive travel center posed significant concerns. She said that beyond the expected increase in traffic congestion, noise, and environmental impacts, there were profound implications for the safety and quality of life for their residents.

Ms. Simpson said that with an expected traffic volume of over 20,000 vehicles a day on a typical day, and over 2,100 vehicles per hour on busy days, pedestrian safety, particularly for children, and the quiet enjoyment of their homes and neighborhoods would be endangered. She said that for instance, her own grandchildren, who regularly visited, attended a daycare in Embrey Mill just a short distance from the proposed site. They would be directly affected as they went out on walks, had picnics, walked to get pizza for lunch, and more with their daycare provider.

Ms. Simpson said that the safety of residents and the safety of other local families who called these neighborhoods home should have been a primary consideration in making this decision. She said that the principles of smart growth advocated for a balanced approach to development

that respected the needs of existing residents while accommodating for future growth. She said that this approach aimed to enhance rather than undermine the community fabric.

Ms. Simpson said that however, the Buc-ee's proposal appeared to conflict with these principles, as it seemed unlikely to complement the established character and planning of their neighborhoods. She said that she urged the Board to thoroughly evaluate the broader implications of this development for their community. She said that the decision should reflect a commitment to the well-being of the residents who had chosen to make this area their home, rather than imposing a project that could disrupt the very essence of their community.

Ms. Simpson said that the construction of this travel center would cause property values to drop, residents to leave, and communities to change dramatically. She said that all districts in the County would be affected in numerous ways. She said that she was not opposed to the construction of Buc-ee's in Stafford, if that was critically important to the County, but she was strongly against the location. She said that as their representatives, the Board should also be against it.

4. Charlie Blackledge said that he had a few quick statistics to share. He said that he had attended the Board's meetings a couple of times and appreciated the opportunity to hear residents' opinions, especially during their beginning prayer that emphasized open hearts and minds and safety. He said that he believed that these values could not coexist with the development of a Buc-ee's. He said that he would share some statistics for consideration. He said that the distance from the hospital to the elementary school in his district was 6.8 miles, which translated to an average travel time of 16 minutes.

Mr. Blackledge said that with the potential influx of tens of thousands of new vehicles, they must consider the impact on road congestion, emergency response times, and overall safety. He said that these concerns directly related to his campaign promise of enhancing safety in schools. He said that as they approached the upcoming vote, he urged the Board to reflect on the words of those who had spoken with sincerity and to consider the long-term implications of their decision.

5. Caitlin Goodale-Porter, Garrisonville District, said that she brought graphic training aids, as they were referred to in the Army. She said that she wanted to thank all of the Board members for listening to her in May. She said that it was a wonderful opportunity to initiate an effort that saved the Virginia Military Survivors Independence Education Program for two years. She said that now, they must start working immediately to secure a constitutional amendment in Richmond to ensure its funding beyond the current budget cycle.

Ms. Goodale-Porter said that the responsibilities of being a veteran in Virginia never ceased. She said that it was a seven-month effort, seven days a week, almost 18 hours a day at times. She said that as a result, she was feeling a bit worn out. She said that when she read an article a few weeks ago about the costly issue of veterans' tax breaks, which quoted Stafford County's Commissioner of the Revenue Scott Mayausky, she lost her patience.

Ms. Goodale-Porter said that she urged them all to listen, and she hoped they could collaborate, as that was the positive outcome she had from those seven months working with legislators and various state entities, primarily in Richmond. She said that she believed they could bring about change. She said that she believed they could witness positive outcomes emerge from uncomfortable discord, and in fact, she believed they could unite in a very bipartisan manner and do the right thing.

Ms. Goodale-Porter said that they still had work ahead of them, and this issue had led to an incredibly wonderful meeting the previous Friday with Mr. Mayausky. She said that there were three veterans, two staff members from her office, and she believed they had convinced staff that there was an issue in this case that had not arisen when the schools had been complaining, whining, and crying about the education program.

Ms. Goodale-Porter said that they needed to unite and act promptly to ensure a favorable outcome. She said that one approach could be to establish a veterans roundtable group, rather than relying on another veterans group, which might have its own agenda. She said that it was essential to work diligently to maintain Stafford as a wonderful place for veterans, acknowledging that they were an integral part of their community and would not leave.

Ms. Goodale-Porter said that she was working with Senator Carol Foy right now in Prince William County to reinstitute the Women's Veterans Group; however, they needed a gender-inclusive group in Stafford. She said that when they sent out cards for the Veterans Day Ceremony in Stafford in two months, she suggested that on the day before that ceremony, which should be on a Friday, they could have an evening event upstairs after the Board meeting so that Supervisors could talk with real veterans about veterans' issues in Stafford County.

6. Jim Jatras, Griffis-Widewater District, said that he was the parish warden, or in other words, the president of the community, at St. Hermann Orthodox Church, located at 60 Clifton Chapel Lane, near Widewater. He said that he understood that there would be a recommendation made at some point during the meeting regarding a historic designation for their church property. He said that they had only recently been informed of this matter.

Mr. Jatras said that a letter had been sent to their physical address on July 9, which they had only received a few days ago. He said that they were currently trying to understand the implications and their position on this. He said that they had not requested this designation and, at this time, they did not support it. He said that they were unsure of the next steps. He said that they looked forward to continuing their engagement with the Board and staff in the County to determine their next course of action.

7. Kristin Maxson, Falmouth District, said that Constitution Week, which runs from September 7 to the 23, was important and emphasized the Stafford community's right to be informed about transparency concerns. She urged the consideration of the Bill of Rights for the Stafford people. She said that there was an add-on attachment to R24-257 that was not presented to the public during the utility billing discussion. She said that the handout was not reviewed during

the public hearing. She said that a question was raised about who will be responsible for the high utility bills, with the suggestion that it may eventually be the phone users.

Ms. Maxson said that during the August 20, 2024 public presentation by the first speaker, it was stated that a \$2.4 million property was sold for \$300,000 near Celebrate Virginia. She said that a \$2.7 million assessment property sold for \$100,000 just south of this parcel, near English Creek. She said that these figures have significantly reduced the value of 26 acres of land. She said that this parcel was assessed for 26 acres valued at \$238,000. She said that it was prime land located on Warrenton Road, which contributed to the value of nearby homes.

Ms. Maxson said that Stafford County was upset due to the perceived price dumping and lack of transparency in land value pricing. She said that there was another parcel assessed at \$2.7 million, which was sold for \$130,000. She said that these figures were consistent with those found north of the first statement. She said that this second parcel was situated south of English Creek Run, where tax numbers should have been unique. She said that despite this, they were not. She said that this information was found on page 23 of the packet distributed that day.

Ms. Maxson said that the Commissioner of Revenue could see the transparency of these numbers and their impact on home and landowners. She said that the Commissioner had acknowledged the concern about the values and potential price dumping to landowners. She said that regarding data centers, there was quote from the Financial Times, which reported that U.S. tech companies were consuming more water than was available in their data centers, a situation that was reported in August.

REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Diggs – reported that he attended the SERVE recognition event recently. He said that SERVE was a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that combats food insecurity in Stafford County and surrounding jurisdictions. He said that he was delighted to meet Ms. Jerry, who had opened the doors to the organization 45 years ago. He said that despite everyone telling her it would not work, she had stayed true to her vision that she said God had placed on her heart. He said that as a result, the organization had helped thousands of families over the years. He said that if they had the opportunity, they should volunteer for this wonderful organization. He said that they never knew when they might need help or they might be down on their luck.

Mr. Diggs said that regarding the George Washington District in the White Oak area, he was aware of the angst about Dunkin' Donuts, whether it was coming or not. He said that staff was looking into it. He said that he would have more information for constituents in the coming days. He said that finally, on Wednesday, September 25 at 6:00 p.m., he would be holding his third town hall at Stafford High School. He said that he encouraged people to come out and engage and let him know what their concerns were.

Mr. English – expressed his gratitude to Katie Carpenter and Matt Good from Fire and Rescue for their assistance in distributing water to families on Crop Road who were affected by a severe storm

on Thursday night. He said that the 500 block of Crop Road had been intermittently closed due to the situation. He said that he had been working on resolving this since Sunday, and he had received confirmation that the road should be reopened within a few hours.

Mr. English said that there was a planned water outage on Berea Church Road between Truslow and Berea Church Road, scheduled to start on Thursday, September 5, at 8:00 a.m., and conclude on Friday, September 6, at 4:00 p.m. He said that this maintenance work involved connecting water lines and was expected to impact around eight or ten residents. He said that notices would be posted in advance to inform the affected residents. He thanked Mr. Diggs for filling in for him with Amazon last week while he was not feeling well.

Mr. English said that he wished to extend his condolences to the family of Robert Burton. He said that Robert Burton was a respected community member and a veteran of the Vietnam War, who also ran Burton's Automotive. He said that he also wished to give condolences to the family of George McWhirt, who was a dedicated farmer and a veteran of the 172nd Infantry Regiment, Company H, 43rd Infantry Division of the United States Army. He said that his daughter, Tina McWhirt, was the first woman to serve as a deputy in the Stafford County Sheriff's Department, and he appreciated his family's history in serving the County.

Ms. Gary stated that she unfortunately was not able to attend the SERVE event due to family commitments. She said that she wanted to express her gratitude to Mr. Diggs for his presence and echoed his encouragement for people to volunteer if they were able. She said that she had been actively working to enhance fundraising efforts.

Ms. Gary said that if they were fortunate enough to have food for their family, she urged them to consider the many who did not when they were shopping next time and purchase extra nonperishable foods to donate to SERVE or any other local food banks. She said that she had heard from friends who volunteered that the quantity and quality of donations had lessened considerably, so she requested that anyone who could afford to donate food to please do so.

Ms. Gary said that she attended the meeting that Dominion had in Aquia Harbor last week. She said that there was significant frustration, but she wanted to encourage them to seek any available funds to plant new screening when they cleared out some of their easements for grid upgrades. She said that she encouraged the residents in Aquia Harbor to communicate their needs to the State Corporation Commission, as they would be the ones ultimately approving or denying Dominion's application.

Ms. Gary said that September was National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. She said that the Suicide Crisis Lifeline was 988. She said that it was also National Recovery Month, which was closely linked to suicide prevention. She said that their community had a lot of mental health issues, and it was important for them all to be kind to one another and acknowledge that they never knew what someone else was going through. She said that she also wanted to extend her thanks to the first responders for their continued presence with people during difficult moments.

Ms. Gary said that she wanted to urge everyone to continue working on improving the situation and funding services so that people could receive the help they need, rather than burdening law enforcement. She said that she wanted to inform everyone that the landfill would be accepting debris free of charge from residents affected by the recent storm until September 8. She said that the next backyard composting 101 class was scheduled for September 26.

Dr. Yeung – welcomed Sandra Gore as her Chief of Staff. She said that she had several meetings with Ms. Gary for their Bylaws Committee, where they reviewed the bylaws and made progress over the summer. She said that she wanted to thank Attorney McClendon for all the hard work she had put in so far. She said that it was a lot of work, but she did an excellent job. She said that they had an upcoming work session coming up. She said that she also attended the Fredericksburg Alliance Committee, which met on July 1, where they continued to work on the initiatives for the Fredericksburg Regional Alliance Executive Board, which met on August 12, where staff provided updates from the newly revised drafted strategic plan.

Dr. Yeung said that the planning committee would present a new plan to the Board as soon as it was completed. She said that the workforce study would be updated in FY25 and would be presented to the Fredericksburg Regional Alliance Board in October. She said that the King George Board of Supervisors had decided not to renew their membership with the Fredericksburg Regional Alliance Board. She said that however, the King George EDA had offered to contribute, which may become an issue in the future.

Dr. Yeung said that there was a Housing Committee meeting and a ribbon-cutting event for Drip Bar, which aimed to enhance community health and wellness through intravenous IV therapies. She said that this facility was not a bar but a health-focused establishment. She said that she expressed her gratitude to her colleagues who attended the Night in the Caribbean event. She said that the event successfully raised \$4,000 for Goodwill, a non-profit organization that she was passionate about.

Dr. Yeung said that Goodwill provided support to individuals reentering society from prison by providing job opportunities and assisted the community in need of clothing. She said that she had recently purchased a suit from Goodwill for her son. She said that the transportation issue persisted. She said that she was uncertain if during their previous discussion, the Board had agreed to request the School Board to provide an after-action report addressing some of the issues and to determine if they had proposed any resolutions.

Dr. Yeung said that one of the matters that she considered important was the update of the system, the bell schedule, opt-in, opt-out, and the hubs to the specialty schools. She asked if the Chair could poll the Board to consider this matter. She said that the Housing Committee meeting discussed the fact that the community continued to require affordable workforce housing for teachers, firefighters, and young professionals. She said that she was aware that many of the Board members had received an email from Molly.

Dr. Yeung said that she wanted to emphasize that the comprehensive plan's median income was based on a family, not on an individual seeking housing. She said that she wanted to mention Dana,

whom she had met previously regarding their children's housing needs. She said that they did not want their adult children returning to their basements. She said that therefore, she would like for the Board to schedule a meeting to discuss housing. She asked if the Board was willing to consider receiving an after-action report and a housing meeting.

Ms. Bohmke said that a work session regarding housing could be scheduled for a C-day in the future.

Dr. Yeung asked if they could schedule it for a specific date.

Ms. Allen asked if the Housing Committee was still meeting regarding this topic.

Ms. McClendon said that the Board was currently working through bylaws amendments to handle that particular committee. She said that if the Board wished to take action as a whole, they could do that.

Ms. Bohmke asked if the work of the Housing Committee was completed at this time.

Ms. Allen said that if the committee was still active, she suggested that instead of having the entire Board present, this matter could be referred to a subcommittee for further examination. She said that they would then present their recommendations to the full Board for action. She said that this approach would be similar to what they had done previously. She said that she just wanted to confirm if this route was still viable considering the committee bylaws.

Ms. McClendon said that she believed the work of that committee had concluded. She said that the committee had returned with a report, and she believed that it had concluded the work of the ad hoc committee at that time. She said that she believed the report was completed somewhere near the end of 2023.

Ms. Gary said that after the Board established a standing committee for workforce and affordable housing at the end of the year, it had yet to conduct any work. She said that they needed to amend the bylaws to gain staff support, which was brought up at their last meeting. She said that Ms. Vanuch suggested that this issue be addressed in a work session as she had additional questions. She said that since Ms. McClendon provided the updated proposed bylaws changes, it was hoped that they would all review them before the work session. She said that this would enable them to address this matter effectively.

Ms. Bohmke said that she did not have a problem with the committee, but she did have a problem with where they would obtain the resources within their existing staff. She said that this issue was going to be very challenging because they did not have the bandwidth right now.

Dr. Yeung asked if the Board could discuss the topic in a work session.

Ms. Gary said that she proposed that they include Dr. Yeung's suggestion in the upcoming work session that Ms. Vanuch had suggested for discussing the bylaws. She said that she believed that it would come up in any case.

Ms. Bohmke asked Ms. Krauss if they had the capacity to add this topic to their work session agenda on September 27.

Donna Krauss, Deputy County Administrator, said that on September 24, which was their C-Day, they would be discussing the bylaws. She said that they had removed some items from the agenda because they believed that this discussion may take some time for the Board due to the nuances involved. She said that one of the items on the agenda was the establishment of the standing committee for Workforce and Affordable Housing. She said that their next C-Day work session in October would focus on the fiscal five-year financial plan, followed by budget discussions and some other matters.

Ms. Allen said that based on the calendar and to maintain continuity with what was already scheduled, as Ms. Gary had mentioned, if they were already going to be discussing the committees, then perhaps afterwards, depending on the Board's decision after that conversation, they could transition into a conversation about housing. She said that this was because at that point, they would know if there was support or what the legalities with their bylaws or formalities of that committee were. She said that it would not make sense to have that conversation then and come back in October.

Ms. Bohmke said that she would like to provide a brief report on the joint schools meeting they had recently had. She said that one of the significant topics discussed was the school debt, specifically the school meal debt, which currently amounted to approximately \$250,000. She said that the schools were struggling to recover the meal expenses for children who did not pay. She said that this issue had grown over the past few years, exacerbated by inflation and the increasing difficulty for families to pay. She said that in the past, children who forgot their lunch money would receive a cheese sandwich, but this practice had been discontinued due to concerns about meal shaming.

Ms. Bohmke said that all schools were currently on schedule, which was excellent news. She said that they mentioned an upcoming groundbreaking for the new elementary school 18, scheduled for Wednesday, September 18. She said that Sandra had sent that information. She then asked if there was anything else she was missing. She said that they had discussed fleet maintenance plans, including where they could place a joint fleet maintenance center in the County. She said that no decisions were made, but it was a good discussion.

Ms. Bohmke said that she missed an R-Board meeting, but she wanted to announce that Hope Mickelson, their Community Outreach Supervisor for the R-Board, had announced that they had won a Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) Award for composting. She said that the County had started a composting program in January of the previous year. She said that they had participated in a big compost-a-thon in July of 2023, which really launched the program. She said

that there were little buckets available if one wanted to compost their scraps. She said that if one was interested in a larger composting bin, those were available as well.

Ms. Bohmke said that the initiative had won an environmental award. She said that if anyone had ever been to any of the farmers markets, there was a gentleman there named Jonathan Stevens who educated them about composting and even provided buckets if they were interested. She thanked Mr. Stevens for his dedication and numerous volunteer efforts. She said that if anyone was interested in picking up the composting bins, they could be found at the Landfill Administrative Office, located at 473 Eskimo Hill Road.

Ms. Bohmke said that she also wanted to acknowledge the Interim County Administrator, Craig Meadows, who had been with them for almost six months. She said that she appreciated his stability, leadership, and daily collaboration with staff. She said that she understood that the position could be demanding, but she was grateful for his commitment. She said that as they approached their next meeting, they would welcome Bill Ashton as their new county administrator. She said that the Board wished him the best as he returned to Montgomery County to be with his family.

Dr. Yeung said that she had said her goodbyes to Mr. Meadows over lunch on Friday.

Ms. Allen said that she wanted to express her gratitude to Mr. Meadows. She said that she appreciated him coming to them at a time when they were dealing with a lot of instability, and she appreciated him taking on that leadership role with them. She said that she understood it was not always easy, especially considering his distinguished career, to navigate between his life in Appalachia and returning here, making that journey, and being a source of reference and stability for their staff.

Ms. Allen said that as much as it had been turbulent for them at times, it had been just as much for their organization. She said that being able to steady the ship and finding someone that the Board agreed and felt was the right path forward, they were indebted to him. She said that they wished him nothing but the best for him and his family, and hopefully, he would always stop by and visit them at Stafford.

Ms. Gary said that she wanted to give Mr. Meadows a quiet goodbye because of his demeanor. She said that she appreciated him and had given him a gift and a note as a farewell present.

Mr. Diggs said that he would like to echo what his colleagues had said. He thanked Mr. Meadows for the leadership that he had brought to Stafford County, even though it had been a short term. He said that he believed he had a servant's heart, and he had enjoyed their communication and engagement. He said that Stafford County had benefited from having him there for this period of time.

Mr. Meadows thanked the Board and said that he would miss all of them.

REPORT OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY

Rysheda McClendon, County Attorney, said that she had a brief report for the Board. She said that she wanted to take this opportunity to introduce the Board to the newest attorney who had joined their office. She said that Ms. Caitlin Peters was an Assistant County Attorney with the County Attorney's Office. She said that Ms. Peters had a diverse background, having worked in various public service roles, including serving as a magistrate for the 16th Judicial District of Virginia and as a public defender in the Fredericksburg region.

Ms. McClendon said that Ms. Peters was born and raised in Stafford County, and she was excited to bring her experience and an opportunity to serve in her childhood home. She said that Ms. Peters would be providing legal advice, support, and services, and that she would be working closely with the departments under the Capital Projects Functional Area, specifically on land and easement acquisition and transportation. She said that they hoped that Ms. Peters would also work with their Human Resources Department in the future. She asked the members of the Board to join her in welcoming Ms. Peters to Team Stafford.

REPORT OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Craig Meadows, Interim County Administrator, said that he had a couple of items to address. He said that Ms. Gary had already mentioned the landfill with the storm debris. He said that there had been a significant storm at the end of the previous week, and there was an opportunity to dispose of that debris at the landfill that week without any charge.

Mr. Meadows said that it was campaign season, and numerous campaign signs were being erected and displayed throughout the community. He said that there were rules and restrictions regarding signage, particularly concerning their placement. He said that if anyone had questions, they could contact the Registrar's Office, which had comprehensive information about signage regulations. He said that there had been an increase in feather signage in the community, and staff had been working hard to address this issue.

Mr. Meadows said that feather signs were not permitted at all, and efforts were being made to rectify this situation. He said that lastly, he had thoroughly enjoyed his five months in Stafford County and had had the pleasure of working with the staff and elected officials. He said that it had been a fun experience post-retirement, despite the physical toll of the four-hour commute each way. He said that he appreciated the opportunity and looked forward to staying in touch.

PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS BY AGENCIES

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION QUARTERLY REPORT; PRESENTED BY KYLE BATES, RESIDENCY ADMINISTRATOR

Kyle Bates, Residency Administrator, said that he would present their standard VDOT report and discuss some of the ongoing projects throughout the area, followed by a few updates at the end. He said that the first slide was depicting the I-95 northbound Rappahannock River crossing and the next slide showed the I-95 FREDEX lanes. He said that both projects were now complete, so

there was not much more to discuss. He said that a lot of the traffic congestion on Route 17 had been alleviated due to those projects. He said that on Route 1, the Falmouth Bridge, Cambridge Street over the Rappahannock River, was still undergoing some daytime lane closures.

Mr. Bates said that they were currently conducting surveys, inspections, geotechnical, and concrete testing. He said that once they had more information, they would finalize the construction timeline. He said that the Route 644 bridge replacement over Aquia Creek was currently under a temporary structure. He said that they had installed signals to allow one lane of traffic over the bridge to assist first responders with their response time. He said that they had posted their willingness on January 15, and there had been no request for a public hearing. He said that therefore, they would not be holding one.

Mr. Bates said that the project construction was set to begin in 2026 and was expected to be completed in the spring of 2027. He said that during this time, there would be a closure. He said that the approved detour would not pass through any subdivisions. He said that they were currently working on the secondary six-year plan, in collaboration with County staff. He said that they had prioritized an epoxy overlay for the existing temporary bridge to address traction concerns. He said that this work was scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2025.

Mr. Bates said that the next project was the widening of Leland Road between Walnut Drive and Julian Drive, which would include a two-way left turn lane. He said that the sidewalks would be provided from Deacon Road to Julian Drive, connecting to the existing asphalt path through Leland Estates. He said that construction for this project was planned to start in 2028. He said that they were planning to install a pedestrian crossing at Perth this fall.

Mr. Bates said that on Route 648, the Shelton Shop project aimed to widen the road from 610 down through Courthouse to Mountain View. He said that they had reduced the scope of this project, now considering only one roundabout at Mountain View, with the other two intersections at Winding Creek and Courthouse Road to be signalized traditional intersections. He said that they were also considering shoulder improvements throughout the area to potentially reduce the shared use path. He said that lastly, on Route 752, Richards Ferry, they were addressing concerns raised by Mr. English's constituents regarding this project.

Mr. Bates said that the project they were undertaking involved spot improvements on some narrow sections of Richards Ferry Road, between Jack Ellington and the end of state maintenance. He said that this work, which was part of the secondary six-year plan prioritized through Stafford County, was set to begin that week and was expected to be completed within two to three weeks. He said that there were other small projects in the pipeline. He said that the shoulder widening program was currently underway, with Brent Point Road and Decatur Road having been completed that year.

Mr. Bates said that this program, which had been discussed over the years, involved identifying funding and working with staff to select roads. He said that ultimately, VDOT would add these routes to their existing resurfacing program, including the widening. He said that the process involved milling out an area, widening it, and then applying an overlay with a slurry seal. He said

that although the construction process could be messy due to dust, the end result was a high-quality surface. He said that next year, they were considering Stefaniga as another project.

Mr. Bates said that the next project involved a modular roundabout at Celebrate Virginia and Banks Ford. He said that this intersection was a high-traffic area with a lot of asphalt and moving vehicles at high speeds. He said that the project aimed to address crash data and improve safety at this intersection. He said that the intersection was wide enough to install a modular roundabout, which was significantly less expensive than a traditional roundabout. He said that although this type of roundabout was not currently included in any plans, they were able to implement it with state forces for under \$700,000, utilizing some prioritized proffer funds from Stafford County.

Mr. Bates said that their state employees, rather than contractors, were constructing this project. He said that they had drilled over 4,000 holes into the ground, and their specialty crew was diligently working on it. He said that they aimed to complete this project by the end of October, which was slightly later than initially anticipated. He said that however, progress was steady. He said that they were preparing to enter the second phase on Thursday, as planned.

Mr. Bates said that during this phase, drivers would transition from a four-way stop to navigating the Maintenance of Traffic Plan (MOT) and then into the actual roundabout. He said that to inform drivers of the ongoing construction and the upcoming change in traffic patterns, they would display message boards and had issued a press release. He said that if drivers drove through the intersection, they would be entering a roundabout movement starting Thursday. He said that additionally, the signage material used for this project was crafted from over one million recycled plastic milk jugs, making it a unique and eco-friendly component of the project.

Mr. Bates said that next he would discuss a small project that they intended to complete this season, but they encountered issues with the right-of-way. He said that Stafford County had passed the right-of-way acquisition to VDOT, and they were in the process of setting up a right-of-way phase. He said that the project on Forbes Street at Harrell Road involved widening the radius, and they had created a new Unified Project Code (UPC) for this project. He said that they were now entering the right-of-way acquisition phase, with next summer being the anticipated start of construction.

Mr. Bates said that there were other small projects in the area, such as Route 727 Monroe Farm, which was transitioning from a gravel road to a tar and chip hard surface. He said that this project was substantially complete, and they planned to tar and chip the road before winter. He said that they had identified several locations for rectangular rapid flashing beacons, prioritized through the secondary six-year plan. He said that these included Primmer House at Switchyard Court, Plantation Drive at England Run, and Woodcutter Road at Mill Race Road.

Mr. Bates said that they were also considering pedestrian improvements along Parkway Boulevard, with some funding already identified through the secondary six-year plan. He said that regarding maintenance, it was important to note that political signs should not be placed in the right-of-way, as they needed to be removed before every mowing cycle. He said that this task consumed time and resources, as crews and contractors spent their time picking up litter throughout the area.

Mr. Bates said that they had completed seven cycles of the manicure mowing program on selected roads, with funding identified by Stafford. He said that these areas now looked fantastic, and they would continue this program. He said that Brook Road was another area where they had completed slope repair between Camp Geary and Marlboro Point, where a temporary signal was installed. He said that the slope repair was now complete. He said that they had plans to resurface the section that appeared to fail due to slope failure.

Mr. Bates said that they had not yet executed this plan because GSI, the contractor responsible for the soil nail operation, suggested a 30-day waiting period to allow for some settling. He said that after this period, they would resurface the final asphalt surface and striping. He said that this work was scheduled to be completed sometime that month. He said that regarding the maintenance of the commuter lots, they had resurfaced many of them in this area and had even restriped Staffordboro.

Mr. Bates said that the back of the Route 17 lot was now closed, as it was being used for a new salt storage facility for FREDEX and some of the I-95 lane miles. He said that if one rode through that area, they would notice a new structure in the back of the lot. He said that in 2024, they were making significant progress on resurfacing. He said that they had completed many high-volume routes in Stafford County, including sections of Poplar, Primmer House, Layhill, Morton, Forbes, Hartwood Church, Enon Road, and Town & Country Road.

Mr. Bates said that they had focused on one area to keep costs down. He said that the Augustine subdivision had also been completed. He said that they were currently working on a section of Route 1, Route 17, and Courthouse Road to the east. He said that they were also working on a section of Route 17 southbound and North Hampton Boulevard, which was set to start within the week and should be completed in the next two weeks.

Mr. Bates said that he wanted to draw the Board's attention to new information that had not yet been shared. He said that typically, their resurfacing schedules awarded contracts in April, with work finishing by November. He said that however, they were trying a new approach with some lower volume subdivisions. He said that last year, only one subdivision in Stafford County was resurfaced, despite having many high-volume lane miles.

Mr. Bates said that contracts had been awarded for four subdivisions: Willows, Blake Farm, Winslow Heights, and the Cascades. He said that these contracts could start as early as October and must be completed by November 2025. He said that these were the only subdivisions awarded at this time. He said that as they awarded the next year's paving schedule, he would provide updates. He said that currently, they had a compiled list of routes, but these were the only ones awarded for the upcoming year. He said that Augustine was the only one in all three counties they maintained.

Mr. Bates said that they had made progress on lower volumes and they hoped this trend would continue. He said that before moving on to individual updates, he wanted to mention the Virginia Public Rail Authority (VPRA) was holding a public hearing on September 18 at 5:00 p.m. at

Conway Elementary. He said that he encouraged those interested to attend, as the VPRA planned to replace the Leland Road bridge over the rail as part of their third track project.

Mr. Bates said that he wanted to provide some updates on a few matters. He said that firstly, regarding 66 Bristol Court, they had identified areas where the curb and gutter were low. He said that they had shot grades and received an estimate from the contractor. He said that the correction would be completed within the next 30 to 60 days, ensuring that the water intended for the gutter pan remained there. He said that this would address the issue of water seeping into the property.

Mr. Bates said that the property would still get water into their property, but VDOT would ensure their curb and gutter was at the appropriate grade. He said that efforts were underway to reopen Crop Road. He said that they would get to the bottom of what exactly happened out there and find out why they did not know the line was across the road. He said that in the meantime, they were clearing brush and Verizon was working to remove the line so it should be reopened this evening.

Mr. Bates said that the Sheriff's Department and school transportation were collaborating with VDOT to find alternative school bus stops near the Fauquier County line. He said that they were considering options such as building a pull-off. He said that more details would be provided in the future. He said that they would begin sweeping 610 starting from Thursday night over the next few weeks. He said that this was in response to recent complaints. He said that he would continue to address these issues and provide further updates as necessary.

Mr. Bates said that they would address the concerns in the northern part of the County and then proceed southward, as was their usual practice. He said that he was aware that there had been inquiries regarding the gutter pan. He said that they were currently evaluating that area and considering their next steps. He said that they had successfully patched the pothole using spray injection at Castle Rock and Galveston. He said that although it was not asphalt, they had managed to resolve the issue for now. He said that they would continue to monitor the situation.

Mr. Bates said that in response to Mr. Diggs's constituent's concerns, they were planning to install hot sticks around the curve where Route 3 turned onto Naomi. He said that this measure was intended to prevent vehicles from cutting the curve, which could endanger pedestrians. He said that this area was frequented by pedestrians, especially since it led to the Chatham Bridge. He said that lastly, they were resurfacing the eastern portion of Courthouse and would install a new crosswalk at Stafford Avenue. He said that all of the necessary infrastructure was already there, so they would install the sidewalk as part of the resurfacing work.

Ms. Gary asked if they were still on track with accepting and completing Camp Geary simultaneously with the work on Brook Road.

Mr. Bates said that he was uncertain if he could say that it was on track, but they were working through the final stages of billing according to the agreement, so that they could secure the funding from Stafford County to commence work. He said that it was very close.

Ms. Gary asked if his staff was waiting for communication from the County staff.

Mr. Bates said that ultimately, County staff had been awaiting information from his staff, which they had just recently received. He said that they were currently working through this with all involved staff. He said that they had billed, but they could only bill at specific times of the month. He said that therefore, they were waiting to get the funding program into the UBC, and then they would proceed with the work. He said that it would be completed before winter arrived.

Dr. Yeung said that she noticed that Augustine was younger than Aquia, Settlers Landing, and Hampton Oaks. She said that she was curious about the criteria they used for comparison.

Mr. Bates said that it was preventative maintenance. He said that it was not a full asphalt mill fill. He said that this particular one had to be within a certain rating window. He said that they had preventative maintenance treatments, which were thin treatments that required the existing condition to be fairly good. He said that in Clearview Heights, they could never perform this maintenance because the condition there was not as good as in Augustine. He said that the ability to perform such maintenance depended on the existing ratings in that subdivision.

Dr. Yeung said that she would send Mr. Bates a follow-up email.

Mr. English asked how far they were paving Route 1.

Mr. Bates said that it was the north end of Potomac Creek to Hospital Center Boulevard.

Mr. English asked if VDOT could install signs on Poplar Road to signify that there was a hill with reduced visibility.

Mr. Bates said that he would look into it.

Ms. Allen said that she wanted to express her gratitude for the improvements made at the 610 and Mine Road intersection, as it had significantly enhanced traffic flow. She said that she had heard positive feedback from individuals who had experienced the changes firsthand. She said that she wanted to discuss the ongoing conversations about repaving and widening Telegraph Road. She said that she believed it was essential to initiate a process to explore this possibility further, as it could potentially address concerns related to school safety and bus routes.

Ms. Allen said that she wanted to draw attention to the issue of narrow roads between Woodstock and Route 1, particularly the challenges faced by buses making turns or navigating the road safely. She said that she was interested in exploring potential solutions, such as widening the road, to improve safety and traffic flow in this area. She said that she hoped these points could be taken into consideration for future discussions and planning.

Mr. Bates said that he believed there was a locally administered project there.

Ms. Allen said that she knew of the local project, but she could not recall if the entire road was being widened. She said that she suggested widening the intersections at opposite ends to help offset the issue. She said that buses often had to back up to allow them to turn into Woodstock.

Mr. Bates said that he could review it and see if they could implement an interim solution.

Mr. Diggs asked if Mr. Bates could discuss a project for getting from the east side to the west side of Chatham Heights.

Mr. Bates said that it would be a great project. He said that it would provide an opportunity through the TAP program. He said that there was currently no funding available for this project. He said that it would be a substantial project due to the right-of-way where there were existing businesses. He said that he was aware that the County staff had this project on their list of potential future TAP projects and Smart Scale applications, among other avenues. He said that at this time, there was no funding for it, but from his perspective, they would support it.

Mr. Diggs thanked Mr. Bates for being so responsive to concerns raised by citizens.

RECESS

The Board recessed at 6:30 p.m. and reconvened at 6:53 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS (CONTINUED)

PLANNING AND ZONING; HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROJECTS AND UPDATES

Nancy Kotting, Cultural Resource Specialist, said that she wanted to just take a moment to thank all of them for funding this position. She said that no one had held this position for 12 years, so she had spent the last year and a half identifying gaps and getting to work in helping this County embrace, protect, and leverage their cultural resources. She said that they had two recommendations from the Architectural Review Board (ARB) for Historic Resource Overlay Districts.

Ms. Kotting said that they were looking to have the Board of Supervisors discuss these and choose to refer to the Planning Commission or take no action. She said that the first recommendation was Sherwood Forest Farm, located at 971 Kings Highway, Route 3, heading towards King George. She said that the total acreage for the tax map parcels, as recommended by the ARB, was 540.94. She said that the entire parcel's ownership extended beyond 800 acres, with two additional pieces to the north of these three.

Ms. Kotting said that the zoning was A1 and the election district was George Washington. She said that the ownership was private and the owner had been notified via letter. She said that the ARB recommended this property in 2023. She said that provided on the screen was a map of the three parcels in question to give them a better understanding of the situation. She said that the

architectural resources were marked by blue arrows. She said that the residential resource was located with the uppermost arrow.

Ms. Kotting said that the cemetery parcel was circled in a blue circle. She said that the blue arrow to the south indicated the location of the agricultural resources that contributed to the property's significance. She said that the entire property was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in 1994, primarily due to architectural quality and research potential. She said that she was delving deeper into the history of Sherwood Forest Farm post-Civil War.

Ms. Kotting said that ongoing research had revealed that the supervisor for Stafford County Schools and King George Schools at the time resided at this property. She said that this discovery had led to the property becoming a stop on the upcoming Stafford County African American Heritage Trail, which would be discussed in the future. She said that this was a picture of the viewshed, which was currently covered in vegetation. She said that during its period of significance, the Civil War era, this area offered an open view to the water.

Ms. Kotting said that on May 23, the Architectural Review Board had recommended to the Board of Supervisors that a historic resource overlay district zoning classification be placed on Sherwood Forest Farm. She said that the action for the Board's consideration was to refer a rezoning application to the Planning Commission for public hearing and recommendation back to the Board to add the historic resource overlay district and act as the applicant.

Dr. Yeung asked how the Stafford County African American Heritage Trail related to the University of Mary Washington.

Ms. Kotting said that the Stafford County African American Heritage Trail was a project being undertaken by an independent 501(c)(3) organization, Discover Stafford, in collaboration with the Department of Historic Preservation at Mary Washington College. She said that they were developing a GIS-based navigation system to be used for the tour. She said that for County staff, her position's role was to review content for accuracy and proper accreditation.

Ms. Kotting said that she had contributed to the development of two specific stops for this trail, utilizing pre-existing research. She said that this was an historic African American Heritage Trail, a project not directly of the County, but with some County support. She said that the Tourism Department was also supporting it.

Dr. Yeung said that she wondered if they should approve or send it down to Planning and Zoning before she finished her research, or if they should wait for her to complete her research. She said that she wondered if she had completed what she thought was necessary.

Ms. Kotting said that regarding the request from the Architectural Review Board for the Overlay District, she possessed both a physical and digital file concerning Sherwood Forest Farm. She said that this property had been the focus of a group convened in 2013, which included representatives from the State Historic Preservation Office, the National Park Service, Mary Washington College professors, and Stafford County staff members.

Ms. Kotting said that the current property owners, who had been heavily involved in the group, received a preservation award from the Stafford County Historical Commission for their \$180,000 investment in stabilizing the structures. She said that the research on Sherwood Forest Farm was extensive, particularly concerning the slave dwellings, which had been identified as a research gap for Virginia plantations in Stafford County. She said that there was extensive research completed regarding the item on the agenda today.

Ms. Allen asked if the entire designation within the overlay, or was it only the parcels indicated by the arrows.

Ms. Kotting said that she appreciated their question very much, as it was a very important subject due to the potential value of the property as a development site. She said that the property had undergone review in 2006, during which there had been significant activity. She said that currently, the Architectural Review Board was requiring including all three parcels in the Historic Resource Overlay District. She said that the cemetery was a clear choice for inclusion.

Ms. Kotting said that however, the 35-acre residential parcel had been created as a separate entity. She said that the 500-acre parcel encompassed both the viewshed, which held historical significance and provided context for the historic resources, and the agricultural buildings, which contributed greatly to the property's significance.

Ms. Kotting said that when defining the boundaries of a Historic Resource Overlay District, they must consider existing boundaries. She said that these boundaries were what the Architectural Review Board based their work on. She said that it was entirely possible to create additional parcels, such as a fourth, which would include the agricultural structures and exclude the larger, more development-ready parcel from the overlay.

Ms. Kotting said that this could be achieved through a boundary line adjustment with the owner's cooperation. She said that the County, acting as the applicant, could commission a survey to delineate the historic resources to be protected by the overlay, as well as a protective buffer. She said that it was important to note that placing a historic resource overlay district on these parcels would not prevent the property owner from constructing new buildings.

Ms. Kotting said that the ordinance specified that the Architectural Review Board would review construction plans and issue a certificate of appropriateness if they met the established criteria, which included considerations of site, massing, scale, materials, and the potential impact on the resource. She said that while the future of the property remained uncertain, this information provided some insight into the regulatory framework.

Ms. Gary asked what kind of development could possibly occur on this site.

Ms. Kotting said that the development proposed in the early 2000s was residential. She said that she was not aware of any current plans of development for this property, as she had not been officially briefed.

Ms. Gary asked the property was currently being considered for development.

Ms. Kotting said that the nature of the ownership of this property was that it belonged to a land speculation company, which maintained a portfolio of properties. She said that it was supported by a global investment pool. She said that their primary objective was to buy, hold, and sell at some point in the future. She said that it was fairly easy and rational to extrapolate that this property would be a candidate for development in the future.

Ms. Gary asked if Sherwood Forest Farm was originally a plantation.

Ms. Kotting said that that was correct. She said that Sherwood Forest Farm was associated with the Washington family. She said that they never lived on the property. She said that they owned and farmed it. She said that the property was later purchased by the Pratt family, who were industrialists and had worked for General Motors in Detroit. She said that the Pratt family chose to reside at a property they owned in Falmouth, and they managed Sherwood as an agricultural property, with their nephew in charge.

Ms. Gary asked if the Pratt family owned it while it was still a plantation.

Ms. Kotting said no. She said that they owned it after that time period. She said that historians had done significant research on the individual who owned it. She said that unfortunately, she was unable to recall the owner's name at the moment. She said that regardless, they had uncovered extensive research on the nature of the owner and his relationship with the enslaved laborers.

Ms. Gary asked for clarification that the laborers were enslaved.

Ms. Kotting said that that was correct.

Ms. Gary said that she did not feel ready to recommend any action on this item yet. She said that she would like to see more information regarding the research on this property. She said that she had a lot more questions she would like to ask.

Ms. Kotting said that she would be glad to answer any questions from the Supervisors.

Mr. Diggs said that as the sitting district Supervisor, he would have appreciated some advance notice of this development and additional information. He said that he was not prepared to make a decision tonight. He said that he was aware of the potential for development and some of the ideas that had been discussed previously. He said that he would support the idea of splitting it up and protecting certain portions of this area. He said that he wanted to gather more information and avoid rushing into a decision.

Kathy Baker, Assistant Director of Planning and Zoning, said that to clarify, tonight's presentation was to share information with the Board before bringing it back for action at a future meeting.

Mr. Diggs said that he apologized for the confusion on his part.

Dr. Yeung said that she would like to see this item come back in a work session in order to receive more information and discuss it more in-depth.

Ms. Bohmke said that at one point, a developer had wanted to place 2,000 homes with quarter-acre lots on the property. She said that there was certainly a lot of history related to this parcel and she did not want to see it developed. She said that the benefit of implementing the historic overlay district was that it gave the property additional protections from development. She said that the Board may also consider whether it was appropriate to develop the area. She said that she personally supported creating an overlay district for the area based on what she had learned about this property in the past.

Ms. Allen said that her recommendation would be to consider a variety of scenarios, including the possibility of dividing the property into significant pieces while maintaining continuity. She said that this approach would prevent the property from being fragmented like in an overlay, which could result in a disjointed appearance. She said that she was not particularly in favor of the entire property being subjected to an overlay, as she was more concerned with the potential for other economic development opportunities that were previously presented.

Ms. Allen said that instead of dedicating a work session to this issue, she would prefer a one-on-one conversation with the supervisors to gain a better understanding of the situation and to present their ideas and feedback. She said that this approach would allow for a more comprehensive discussion and ensure that all parties had the opportunity to contribute to the decision-making process.

Ms. Kotting said that she appreciated the input from everyone. She said that next, she had their second recommendation for a resource overlay district from the Architectural Review Board. She said that it had been approximately 15 years since the last historic resource overlay district was established in Stafford County. She said that in addressing these gaps, she had been identifying properties that were candidates for this level of protection and presenting them to the Board. She said that this particular resource had been somewhat overlooked. She said that it was previously owned by Aquia Church and sold in 2022. She said that it was now known as Clifton Chapel.

Ms. Kotting said that it was located at 60 Clifton Chapel Lane, zoned A2 in the Griffis-Widewater election district, and covered an area of 1.9 acres, with a total square footage of 1,100 square feet. She said that the property was privately owned. She said that provided was a map showing the location, with the blue arrow pointing to the chapel itself, and the address was marked on a nearby gathering building, which appeared to be a fairly new construction. She said that also provided was a historic image of the chapel, which dated back to pre-1850.

Ms. Kotting said that the chapel had undergone restoration following the Civil War in 1869, funded by the community and labored upon by the community out of their affection for the chapel. She said that it had been restored again in 2000-2001, using the same method of community labor and funding. She said that currently, it was owned by St. Hermann of Alaska Orthodox Church and

was utilized for religious purposes. She said that based on her professional research, she believed the chapel was potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Ms. Kotting said that however, a formal determination was required by the Department of Historic Resources, which necessitated owner approval to proceed with the process. She said that she was willing to assist any owner of a historic property in Stafford County to obtain these determinations. She said that there was no associated cost. She said that the owner had to fill out a preliminary information form, as they had done for the Duff Green property, and in that case, Mr. Meadows had approved it. She said that the State Historic Preservation Office also had to evaluate the information and present it to their review board for a decision.

Ms. Bohmke said that she was curious to understand why someone might not want to go through that process.

Ms. Kotting said that when a property was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, it had to meet stringent criteria and was evaluated specifically with regard to those criteria and its merit. She said that eligibility could be based on four different areas of criteria: architecture, its relationship to an event, its relationship to an individual person, and its ability to provide future research for educational purposes, which generally applied to archaeological sites.

Ms. Kotting said that once this determination of eligibility was made, the property was protected from federal impacts, including those from federally funded projects. She said that this protection was automatic and did not require a full nomination and listing process. She said that in her opinion, which she acknowledged might be biased, there was no reason not to pursue this protection. She said that she was uncertain about the downside of not doing so.

Dr. Yeung said that in some of the research she had done regarding the history of slaves and their dwellings, she had learned that although descendants may be aware of a location's historical merits, the location may lack official documentation to prove it to state and federal government entities.

Mr. English said that he assumed that Aquia Church would have wanted this building to be on the National Register of Historic Places because it was already a national landmark. He asked if there had been discussions regarding this proposal.

Ms. Kotting said that she believed Aquia Church was a national landmark. She said that in Stafford County, there were three such landmarks: Aquia Church, Ferry Farm, and Belmont. She said that the status of a national landmark was the highest recognition a historic resource could receive in the United States, surpassing the National Register. She said that the reason why Aquia Church did not pursue this status remained unclear. She said that regarding the establishment of a historic resource overlay district, owner approval was not required.

Ms. Kotting said that this was an important aspect to understand. She said that when they aimed to protect historic resources of this caliber, eligible for the National Register, cultural resources in Stafford County were unique. She said that the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, which

had been amended several times through public law, mandated each state to establish a historic preservation office. She said that their work was to benefit the citizens of Stafford County and those who would relate to Stafford County in the future.

Ms. Kotting said that the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, which included the state historic preservation office, was responsible for identifying and inventorying historic resources throughout the state. She said that their role encompassed the analysis and assurance that criteria were met when processing National Register nominations, a topic they had previously discussed. She said that authority flowed from the federal to the state level, empowering them to create codified ordinances and other measures to preserve significant properties at the local level.

Ms. Kotting said that it was crucial to comprehend that when the Board of Supervisors decided to protect a historic resource, it was not only for the citizens of Stafford County but also for the nation. She said that she took this responsibility very seriously and she was eager to assist in making these decisions in any way possible. She said that it was essential to recognize the responsibility of protecting National Register eligible or listed properties in Stafford County. She said that the Board spoke for Stafford, but it also acted on behalf of the nation. She said that this was the flow of authority.

Ms. Allen said that she was hesitant to take people's property and make unilateral decisions. She said that she understood the charge to preserve America's history, and she acknowledged the double consciousness that existed. She said that she was concerned about how an overlay or other route, as mentioned, would affect the church's ability to modify the property or make changes to meet their governing needs as a body. She said that she believed there was confusion around this issue, and she would appreciate further clarification on this matter.

Ms. Kotting said that there was a substantial body of case law that supported a community's ability to establish and enforce ordinances, such as the one they had mentioned, which empowered the community to participate in discussions when an owner was considering changes to a historic property. She said that in their particular community, with this specific ordinance, they examined exterior modifications to the structure, new construction, demolition, and contextual impacts, which was why they had included the viewshed in a previous case.

Ms. Kotting said that when an owner of a property within a historic resource overlay district wished to make changes, the County, representing both local and national interests, could come to the table to review these proposed changes and ensure they did not compromise the historic integrity that had earned the property its eligibility. She said that it was essential not to remove integrity from a historic property. She said that a certificate of appropriateness was required, meaning the proposed changes had been presented to the Architectural Review Board, filtered through published guidelines, and analyzed for potential harm or benefit to the property.

Ms. Kotting said that the certificate of appropriateness could be granted as submitted, with agreed-upon modifications after a meeting with the ARB, or it could be denied, allowing the owner to resubmit a new proposal. She said that they only considered exterior changes to the property. She said that the concept of taking away an owner's use and enjoyment of the property was something

the ARB aimed to avoid. She said that within her role in the county, she strived to develop partners in preservation when dealing with owners of properties with historic significance.

Mr. Diggs said that he supported historic preservation, but he felt that they should have engaged with the owners of this church beforehand to explain the situation and its potential impact on them. He said that this approach might have garnered more support. He said that as he listened to the discussion, he could not help but feel a sense of urgency and concern, imagining how the parish chaplain might feel. He said that his intention was not to oppose historic preservation or the actions being taken. He said that he advocated for a more considerate and transparent process to ensure those affected were adequately informed and supported.

Ms. Kotting said that, based on her experience with historic districts and similar actions, she understood the importance of involving the property owners in the process. She said that while owner approval was not mandatory, it was a courtesy to notify them. She said that they had attempted to do so via certified mail, but the first attempt was returned due to an incorrect zip code. She said that she corrected this and resent it. She said that unfortunately, it was returned again as undeliverable, this time to the physical location of the property.

Ms. Kotting said that she was just explaining this to ensure that he was aware of the process they respected. She said that they then sent it to the PO Box, where the owner eventually received it and promptly called her. She said that during their conversation, she explained her role in educating the owner about the Architectural Review Board's decision-making process. She said that she was committed to taking as much time as necessary to educate any owner on this process, as well as the Supervisors. She said that she was more than willing to do so at any time.

Dr. Yeung said that she would revisit the points she mentioned earlier. She said that some of her colleagues may not wish for a work session, but she found value in hearing other people's questions, and perhaps they could also benefit from her questions and have new questions to ask. She said that in the past, they had a committee where individuals could come and discuss matters, and the smaller group of supervisors would bring it to the whole Board. She said that she missed that part, but she was willing to adapt and come to them with her questions.

Dr. Yeung said that her primary concern was receiving updates on some of this work. She said that she was interested in land banking, but not necessarily the ones that they all may choose for them. She said that they needed to ensure that there was a benefit for Stafford County, as this was where they lived, and it was her priority to serve her constituents and the district she represented. She said that she served for them and for her colleagues here to ensure that they all had the necessary information to make the best decisions.

Mr. Diggs said that he would support a work session as well, considering the amount of information they had discussed.

Ms. Gary said that she would not support this proposal for this property. She said that she had a deep appreciation for history, and she was a member of the Historical Society. She said that their history was valuable because it allowed them to learn from the past. She said that she believed that

the government should not intervene in matters that faith communities had not requested or desired, simply because it was possible. She said that she could not support this proposal. She said that she understood how the parish chaplain might feel in his community, and she had some reservations about the continued statements that notification was not required and was merely a courtesy.

Ms. Gary said that she did not believe that this was an appropriate way to conduct business, especially when dealing with people they should be collaborating with. She said that she hoped they could find a way forward that made sense and also respected the parish chaplain and his faith community's preferences. She said that they must consider whether they had the capacity should maintain this should something like this happen to them, because they were not welcomed to the table but were rather being dragged to the table. She said that she would not support this particular proposal.

Ms. Bohmke said that this was a lot of information presented to the Board, and the entirety of the context behind the County's historical preservation initiatives could not be covered in 15 minutes. She said that she would recommend that the County Administrator help the Board set up a two-on-two meeting so that this information could be discussed in more depth before bringing it back to the Board for a decision.

Mr. English asked if the items in the report could be discussed on a yearly basis in order to fully discuss the details of each property.

Ms. Bohmke said that she liked the idea. She said that they would confer with staff to determine the best way to proceed with this item. She said that she would appreciate receiving more information regarding the national landmarks and existing overlay districts in Stafford.

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM 23. FIRE AND RESCUE; R24-288; CONSIDER AUTHORIZING IMPLEMENTATION OF AN EMS MEDICATION PROCUREMENT PLAN

Ryland Kendrick, EMS Deputy Chief, said that this action item pertained to concerns about their ability to secure medications necessary to provide treatment for the citizens and visitors of Stafford County. He said that historically, the medications that EMS received came from hospitals. He said that an ambulance transported a patient to the hospital, where the hospital provided the medications to be used. He said that this cycle continued, with hospitals purchasing the medications for EMS. He said that unfortunately, due to significant changes in federal and state pharmaceutical laws, major hospital systems were no longer able to provide these medications.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said that this issue affected the entire commonwealth, not just their department. He said that it presented an existential problem for EMS, as they relied heavily on medications to treat patients, such as diabetics, those experiencing seizures, and allergy patients requiring epinephrine. He said that their proposed solution was to establish a new program within the Fire Department, known as the EMS pharmacy. He said that this program would procure

medications and distribute them to EMS personnel, similar to how they distributed other equipment.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said that due to the controlled nature of these medications, including narcotics, they would need to adhere to numerous federal regulations and implement security measures. He said that they would now provide a brief overview of the laws themselves and address any questions they may have about them. He said that the transition from obtaining a DA license to the next significant steps was quite substantial from a logistical and regulatory standpoint. He said that currently, they were a DA-licensed agency.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said that they had entered into cooperative purchasing agreements with wholesalers to secure medications at the lowest possible cost. He said that a central pharmacy had been established at the PSB to centralize their purchases. He said that they had also conducted research on the necessary equipment to maintain the process. He said that their forthcoming steps were indeed significant. He said that they were planning to hire a logistics coordinator, as this process demanded dedicated staffing with subject matter expertise.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said that this role would be responsible for ordering medications, receiving them, and managing the distribution process, including the physical delivery of medications to their stations. He said that they would need to acquire automated drug dispensing machines, which are secure, computer-controlled devices that ensure accountability of medications, track distribution, and aid in inventory and cost conservation. He said that they would require a van for the logistics coordinator to use for delivering medications. He said that it would be a van with modifications to comply with federal regulations, as they would be transporting secure control medications.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said that they would also need to upgrade the stations they were sending the medications to. He said that their proposal included stations 1, 2, 12, and 14 as satellite distribution pharmacies, each equipped with vending machines in secured facilities that would control the medications at the proper temperature and maintain regulatory compliance. He said that their logistics coordinator would supply these medications to the machines and units, ambulances, and fire trucks would retrieve the medications after transporting patients to hospitals. He said that it was important to note that this approach was new for Virginia, but it was not new in other states.

Mr. English asked if this was because the hospitals no longer wanted to take on this responsibility.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said yes and no. He said that he would provide further details regarding the reasons why. He said that he wanted to first discuss the costs associated with this proposal. He said that one-time expenses included purchasing four sets of machines, which were expensive. He said that they also needed to acquire the vehicle itself and initial medication purchases, including a reserve supply to ensure a reliable supply.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said that upgrading their stations and facilities to accommodate these needs would cost them \$273,000. He said that ongoing expenses included hiring a coordinator as a full-

time employee, which would cost them \$146,000 annually. He said that they also needed to account for the medication usage, which included providing medications to their patients every year and replacing them, as well as disposing of them according to regulated processes. He said that this would cost them \$55,000 annually.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said that lastly, they needed to consider IT support, as they would have to subscribe to every software package available. He said that this would also incur costs that they needed to factor into their budget. He said that their machines ran software, and every year they had to pay for the license to keep those machines running. He said that this totaled about \$212,000 annually. He said that the majority of this expense was borne by the logistics coordinator.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said that to answer Mr. English's question, 10 years ago, the federal government enacted the Drug Supply Chain Security Act, a 10-year phased-in process aimed at enhancing the quality and safety of drugs. He said that everyone involved in the drug supply chain, including manufacturers, suppliers, and pharmacies, had to comply with this law.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said that COVID-19 caused some delays, but the law reached its conclusion approximately two years ago. He said that around this time, hospitals realized they could not comply with the law and continue to supply medications. He said that consequently, their drug supply chain was disrupted because hospitals chose to withdraw from the process. He said that this was evidenced by a letter from major hospital chains stating their intention to cease participation.

Ms. Bohmke asked why Virginia was the last state to implement this law.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said that in the rest of the country, the state EMS agencies and boards had made the decision to purchase their own medications. He said that they had done this for reasons such as anticipating future needs or because their own states did not permit a hospital-based system. He said that the hospital-based system was very convenient for multiple reasons. He said that other systems had come online earlier and Virginia was the last one. He said that these laws forced the change in tandem with regulations from the FDA and DEA.

Ms. Bohmke asked how staff determined the estimated expenses for this program.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said that he had identified the machines required, including quotes from the actual vendors. He said that the vehicle in question was a standard van from their fleet management services. He said that regarding medication purchases, staff had calculated their average medication usage over the past two years and adjusted it slightly to account for their growth, resulting in cost estimates based on the best pricing available.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said that for station facility upgrades, staff had estimated the costs based on the current state of each station to securely accommodate the machines. He said that as he mentioned, the rest of the state was implementing this, so every Office of Emergency Management and every Emergency Medical Services stakeholder was involved in this process. He said that they were all comparing notes, sharing best practices, and discussing what they could do.

Ms. Allen asked if the state had offered any one-time grant funding or similar assistance to help with the transition. She said that she knew that some smaller counties might struggle to afford this. She said that she wondered if there was any assistance available, either from the state or the federal government, to help with staffing costs.

Chief Brian Frankel said that the state was considering the Rescue Squad Assistance Fund Grants to potentially provide some reimbursement. He said that however, in general, the state had very limited grant funds available at the moment. He said that they would have to apply for these funds and would be ranked alongside other counties and the state in receiving grant funds.

Ms. Allen said that their County likely would not be awarded grants because they had too much money. She said that regarding the expenses chart, she would like to know if there was any consideration of fluctuations in medication costs as an ongoing expense.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said that they did not underestimate the costs in any way. He said that it was possible that, similar to the inflation they experienced in recent years, there could be further inflation. He said that based on the past few years where there had been inflation, they had a solid understanding of their medication numbers.

Chief Frankel said that the provided estimates were based on historical retail pricing for medications. He said that that they would be getting onboard with several large consortiums to ensure they got lower pricing.

Ms. Allen said that she wanted to confirm that they would be getting bulk or discount pricing in their purchases of medication.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said that they already had a consortium agreement in place, so those estimates reflected that agreement.

Ms. Allen asked if the agreement was for all available drugs.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said that it was for all of their drugs. He said that they would get the best possible pricing, but it was possible that the prices may increase in the future.

Dr. Yeung asked if the Board must vote on this item today.

Ms. Bohmke said that if the Board did not wish to take action today, the item could be brought back at the next meeting.

Dr. Yeung said that she required more information. She said that hospitals were altering their policy due to the final implementation of the Drug Supply Chain Security Act of 2013. She said that this act was phased in over 10 years, which would have made it 2023. She said that they were in 2024. She said that the deadline was November 27, 2024. She said that she was not criticizing

staff. She said that she understood that they had numerous meetings throughout the year, but she was unsure why they were discussing this today.

Dr. Yeung said that she would have preferred to receive more information. She said that this was an unfunded mandate. She said that the politicians who were advocating for the health and welfare of their constituents evidently did not care because here they were trying to find funds locally. She said that one of her thoughts was that they needed to consider the long-term implications of their decisions. She said that some of her concerns had been addressed, and she said that she appreciated that they had a plan for the date mentioned.

Dr. Yeung said that she was curious if they had considered the potential costs that may arise in the future, such as those associated with Walmart, CVS, and other similar facilities. She said that she was interested in knowing if they had explored alternative plans or compared their approach to those of other areas in Virginia. She said that she believed it was essential to determine if the costs they were proposing were the most cost-effective solution or if there was a more sustainable option available. She said that this was a critical question that needed to be addressed.

Chief Frankel said that regarding the Drug Chain Supply Securities Act (DCSSA), the FDA had notified hospital systems nationwide a year ago that they had one year to comply, and they had been granted an additional year, which was why they were approaching the November deadline. He said that in Virginia, the EMS community had become aware in March and April that hospital systems could no longer support the drug supply program. He said that consequently, the EMS community had petitioned the Board of Pharmacy to amend and revise regulations.

Chief Frankel said that the regulations had been very specific, stating that the only way to become a pharmacy was through hospital systems. He said that this legislation had required time. He said that the governor had signed emergency regulations that amended the Board of Pharmacy regulations, allowing them to become a pharmacy. He said that they could not present this information earlier because they were uncertain whether the regulations would change.

Mr. English said that when ordering these drugs, he understood that staff knew what they were going to use. He said that they were not going to misuse them. He said that they had epinephrine and other necessary items. He said that they knew what they were going to need and that they had to use them. He asked how they would charge for drug runs and other services.

Mr. English said that he wondered whether they would be able to get reimbursed for that, or whether the hospital would bear the cost. He said that when they received drugs from the hospital, they used them on the field, and then the patient was charged by the hospital. He said that the hospital would receive that money because of the drugs they provided. He said that he wondered how it would work when they were administering the drugs.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said that currently, they purchased a specific type of bandage from their medical supplier. He said that they bought it because hospitals did not provide it to them. He said that when they used it on a call, they did not bill the patient directly for that bandage. He said that

they did not ask for \$4.99 for it, but it was included in their overall billing scheme. He said that this was another item that was part of the blanket bill.

Mr. English said that he was wondering, when a patient who has suffered a heart attack is administered various drugs, who was responsible for the billing of these drugs. He said that he would like to know whether the hospital took responsibility for these costs, and if so, whether the hospital ended up paying double for these drugs. He asked how this process would work.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said that how this would work was by continuing what they were already doing, which was documenting every drug they administered in their electronic patient reporting. He said that they were already keeping track of the medications they gave, in compliance with the tracking and tracing law, by maintaining closer control over the medications they dispensed. He said that they recorded this information in their EMS report, and they provided a copy to the hospital. He said that it was important that they retained this record.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said that this process allowed them to electronically update their inventory system, giving them an accurate account of the medications they had used, the timing of their use, and when they replenished them. He said that consequently, they would maintain an ongoing, precise record of the exact number of drugs they had administered, their costs, and the recipients. He said that this was a necessary practice that they had to adhere to.

Mr. Diggs asked if their team would need more personnel than just a single logistics coordinator in order to effectively carry out this new drug supply program.

Chief Frankel said that yes, they were confident that one person, dedicated solely to this task, could manage it effectively. He said that they had a fire logistics system, and their EMS supervisors also provided some logistical support for their EMS. He said that having one individual who focused on the drugs ensured that they met the DEA requirements for accepting drugs into the system. He said that this included a controlled process for accounting for the drugs and restocking the vending machines. He said that based on their experience in a large organization, they had one individual serving an area twice the size of Stafford County, but they would be solely dedicated to this task.

Ms. Allen said that she initially had similar concerns to Mr. Diggs regarding staffing for this program, but then she was informed that the position they were seeking was for someone trained in the nursing or medical field. She said that this alleviated her concern, as she understood that once the initial setup was in place, the responsibilities would mainly involve restocking, maintaining inventory, and ensuring a smooth flow. She said that having one person was sufficient for now, as they could always consider a mid-year hire or incorporate the need for a second person within the budgetary process.

Ms. Allen said that regarding Mr. English's concerns, she understood that the hospitals were no longer involved in the process, and from a fiscal standpoint, they would not have any financial obligations. She said that as a result, the County would bear the brunt of the responsibilities. She said that regarding Dr. Yeung's concerns about notification, staff was being honest about the

situation. She said that she found out in the spring, from their EMS staff, that they would no longer be servicing the Fire Department.

Ms. Allen said that she reached out to the chief to inquire about the truth of the matter, and that was when she was informed about the changing criteria. She said that this information was not released by the hospitals until that year. She said that the timeline aligned with what was communicated to them in the spring, indicating that the decision was made then. She said that this was not a case of the hospitals or staff withholding information and then presenting it to them later.

Ms. Allen said that considering the challenges faced between March and now, including the need to pivot and comply with DEA regulations, she was impressed that they were able to develop a concrete plan and strategy within five months. She said that this demonstrated their capability to navigate complex regulatory environments. She said that she was confident in taking action on this matter today, as she believed in their ability to handle the DEA's stringent requirements, which included frequent reporting and strict adherence to system protocols.

Dr. Yeung asked what security measures were being implemented for this new process.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said that inside the station, there was a secured room with access controlled by an alarm and video surveillance. He said that in this room, there were the vending machines which the DEA considered secure devices.

Ms. Bohmke asked if the drug dispensing machines were audited daily or weekly in order to prevent discrepancies in transactions.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said that it was audited on a real-time basis constantly by the software, which was the advantage of these machines. He said that when he pushed a button, the system recognized it was him, as he had used his access before. He said that he pushed a button, indicating that he administered a drug, and then he used that drug in the hospital for a patient. He said that he input this information into the software for EMS reporting. He said that the system reconciled all the data.

Ms. Bohmke asked if the logistics coordinator would oversee all of that information.

Deputy Chief Kendrick said yes. He said that from the receipt of the medication ordered, its distribution, and ultimately, the medications would either be utilized or, if not, they would need to be returned. He said that they would need to be disposed of by another organization.

Ms. Bohmke asked if staff had asked EMS providers in other states to identify their weaknesses and how systems had been improved since then.

Chief Frankel said that said that before joining Stafford County, he had worked for Prince George County, Maryland, where they had been doing this for many years. He said that the DEA was very specific about how they could move controlled medications. He said that in Maryland, they had

been using a pen and paper system to transfer custody of controlled medications. He said that this system had evolved to now include computer-based and mobile-based applications.

Chief Frankel said that in Stafford County, every day, an ALS provider came in and one went home, and they would transition custody of those medications. He said that this process involved daily auditing to ensure accountability until the medications were delivered to the patient. He said that additionally, monthly, they conducted random audits of medications to meet DEA requirements. He said that they had technology, including inventory management software purchased last year, that allowed them to track all medications from their desks and conduct random audits to comply with DEA regulations.

Ms. Bohmke asked what the Board had previously budgeted for one-time and annual costs for this program.

Chief Frankel said that they did not include this in the budget planning because they did not anticipate it during the previous budget planning period.

Andrea Light, Director of Budget, said that the Budget Office collaborated with Fire and Rescue to develop a plan. She said that within the Fund 220, the Fire and Emergency Medical Services levy, they had budgeted and appropriated funds for ambulances. She said that they did not anticipate using all of these funds for ambulances, so they had one-time money within Fund 220 that could be allocated to the \$273,000 for one-time purchases.

Ms. Light said that upon reviewing Fire and Rescue's budget, they conducted a deep dive to identify any operating savings and discovered that they could cover \$18,000 of the ongoing costs, slightly reducing the total. She said that for the logistics coordinator position, it was believed that vacancy savings from either Fire and Rescue's budget or another general fund budget could be utilized. She said that staff requested the Board to consider the budget appropriation of \$48,000 of one-time money to support the ongoing costs, which would be reflected in the budget for Fiscal Year 26.

Chief Frankel said that it was crucial to acknowledge that Mary Washington had been very supportive throughout this process. He said that they now had their DEA license, and they continued to collaborate with them to ensure a smooth transition. He said that despite some changes in federal regulations regarding the movement of medications, it was important to recognize their efforts in assisting them.

Ms. Allen motioned, seconded by Mr. Diggs, to adopt Resolution R24-288.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea: (6) Allen, Bohmke, Diggs, English, Gary, Yeung

No: (0)

Absent: (1) Vanuch

ITEM 24. PARKS, RECREATION, FACILITIES, AND TOURISM; R24-275; AUTHORIZE THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO APPROVE ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURES AND RATIFY THE CONTRACT WITH ALL RECREATION OF VIRGINIA, INC. TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL AN AGILITY AND EXERCISE COURSE AT JOHN LEE PRATT MEMORIAL PARK

Brion Southall, Director of Parks, Recreation, Facilities, and Tourism, said that he was there to discuss the agility and exercise course. He said that their current playgrounds catered to children aged two to five or five to twelve. He said that this new agility course was designed for children aged thirteen and above. He said that it would provide an activity suitable for their older children. He said that the proposed course would be a significant addition to their facilities.

Mr. Southall said that the course came with an app that guided users on how to navigate the course, and it included a timer feature. He said that he would like to see all Board members participate and share their times on Facebook, challenging their constituents to do the same. He said that the second part of this project involved installing exercise equipment around the perimeter of the plateau in Pratt Park. He said that the stations would be located near the basketball court, with the wooden wall serving as the approximate location for the agility course.

Mr. English asked if Mr. Southall could provide the total cost of this project.

Mr. Southall said that the contract was for \$345,000.

Mr. English said that he had concern regarding the timeline for the implementation of this project. He said that he was worried that it might take an extended period, similar to the Musselman Park project, which took 10 to 20 years to complete. He said that he was eager to know when the project would be completed if they were providing the necessary funds.

Mr. Southall said that the advantage of a playground and exercise equipment was that they were not subject to any code administration. He said that they could proceed with the purchase and installation immediately. He said that if they could secure a purchase order by October 1 and communicate with the vendor, the installation would be completed by the end of the year.

Dr. Yeung asked if there was insurance for this equipment.

Mr. Southall said that they would have insurance for this agility course similar to their basketball courts and playgrounds. He said that they would notify their risk manager about this specific equipment.

Ms. Bohmke said that her question pertained to the way the resolution was phrased. She said that it mentioned \$345,000, and then in the subsequent section, it stated that they anticipated spending \$850,000 for future projects and funding for future contract years. She said that her question was whether the \$850,000 was in addition to the \$345,000. She said that Mr. Morris confirmed that it was, so they were planning to spend \$850,000 on future projects similar to this one. She said that

she was just informing the Board about this expenditure. She said that all of these allocations were subject to the Board's budget and appropriation.

Ms. Bohmke said that in the last paragraph, she found the language to be somewhat confusing. She said that she also consulted with Ms. McClendon, and this resolution now included additional language requiring a \$200,000 procurement in all resolutions. She said that when reading resolutions and seeing this amount, she believed it added to the confusion. She said that this amount seemed unrelated to this specific resolution but was part of the overall recreation programs. She said that this was merely her editorial comment.

Mr. Morris said that to clarify, the \$850,000 was through the year 2031 of the contract.

Mr. English asked if this was a budgeted item for the Parks and Recreation Department.

Ms. Bohmke said that yes, it was included in the CIP.

Dr. Yeung asked if the other projects would be similar to this one and placed in other locations.

Mr. Southall said that other locations in their CIP program had seen playground replacements throughout the County. He said that they had recently completed the project at Willowmere Park, where they had opened up an inclusive playground. He said that in the past year, they had allocated for FY25 a replacement for the playground at Duff. He said that they had other aging playgrounds like Curtis and Smith Lake, which was 20 to 25 years old. He said that during COVID-19, parts of Smith Lake had to be repaired, and it had taken almost a year to get the necessary materials due to backorders.

Ms. Allen motioned, seconded by Dr. Yeung, to adopt Resolution R24-275.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea: (6) Allen, Bohmke, Diggs, English, Gary, Yeung

No: (0)

Absent: (1) Vanuch

CLOSED MEETING

At 9:35 p.m., Ms. Allen motioned, seconded by Dr. Yeung, to adopt Resolution CM24-24 to authorize closed session.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea: (6) Allen, Bohmke, Diggs, English, Gary, Yeung

No: (0)

Absent: (1) Vanuch

Resolution CM24-24 reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Board desires to hold a Closed Meeting for (1) discussion and consideration of the acquisition of real property for public school purposes, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the Board, and (2) discussion and consideration of two specific appointments of the Board, (3) discussion of promotions, salaries, and performance of specific employees of the Board, and (4) discussion of performance of a specific employee of the Board; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711 (A)(1), and (A)(3) such discussions may occur in Closed Meeting;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 3rd day of September, 2024, that it be and hereby does authorize discussion of the above matters in Closed Meeting

CERTIFY CLOSED MEETING - SEC. 2.2-3711 (A)

At 9:52 p.m., Ms. Allen motioned, seconded by Dr. Yeung, to adopt Resolution CM24-24(C) to certify the closed meeting.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea: (6) Allen, Bohmke, Diggs, English, Gary, Yeung

No: (0)

Absent: (1) Vanuch

Resolution CM24-24 (C) reads as follows:

**A RESOLUTION TO CERTIFY THE ACTIONS OF THE
STAFFORD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IN A CLOSED
MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 3, 2024**

WHEREAS, the Board has, on this the 3rd day of September, 2024, adjourned into a Closed Meeting in accordance with a formal vote of the Board and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Freedom of Information Act provides for certification that such Closed Meeting was conducted in conformity with the law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Stafford County Board of Supervisors does hereby certify, on this the 3rd day of September, 2024, that to the best of each member's knowledge (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the Motion by which the Closed Meeting was convened, were heard, discussed, or considered by the Board.

Ms. Gary motioned, seconded by Dr. Yeung, to reappoint Mary Becelia to the Library Trustee Board.

Ms. Gary said that she previously shared information with this Board, which she believed was not communicated as clearly as it should have been. She said that she did not believe that Mary Basilia engaged in any misconduct. She said that therefore, she believed Mary Becelia should be reappointed to the Board.

Dr. Yeung said that she disagreed with the position then, and she still disagreed now that there had been any misconduct. She asked to make a friendly amendment in order to have the word of misconduct stricken from the record of previous minutes.

Ms. McClendon said that it could be included in the motion and be identified as stricken, but the minutes from the previous meetings would still exist.

The Voting Board tally was:

Yea: (2) Gary, Yeung

No: (4) Allen, Bohmke, Diggs, English

Absent: (1) Vanuch

Dr. Yeung motioned, seconded by Ms. Bohmke, to reappoint Mr. Weederman to the Economic Development Authority to represent the Garrisonville District.

The Voting Board tally was:

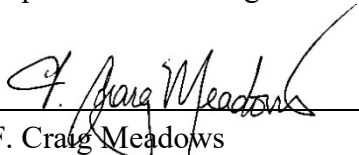
Yea: (6) Allen, Bohmke, Diggs, English, Gary, Yeung

No: (0)

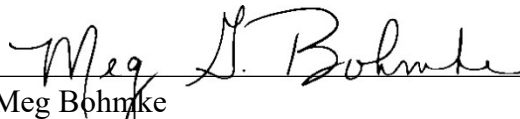
Absent: (1) Vanuch

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:47 p.m., Chair Bohmke adjourned the September 3, 2024 Stafford County Board of Supervisor's meeting.



F. Craig Meadows
Interim County Administrator



Meg Bohmke
Chairman

From: [Wufoo](#)
To: [Mark A. Kaminski](#); [Andrew L. Spence](#); [Cheryl D. Giles](#); [Julia E. Holmes](#)
Subject: Public Comment Form [#93]
Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 2:28:29 PM

Name * Cindy Simpson

Address * ☐ 60 Brush Everard Court
Stafford, VA 22554
United States

Email * vagirl5875@gmail.com

Election District Garrisonville

Topic (please see the Public Hearings page for specific topics coming up) * Buc-ee's

Online Comments: *

Good evening, members of the Board,

I'm here today as a longtime resident of Stafford County to express my strong opposition to the proposed Buc-ee's development at Exit 140, Courthouse Road, and Austin Ridge Drive. While this location might be ideal for the Buc-ee's business model, it is far from ideal for our community.

We already face daily congestion on I-95 and adding an estimated 21,000 additional vehicles per day—potentially over 2,100 vehicles per hour during peak times—will only make things worse. This extra traffic won't stay on the highway; it will spill over onto Courthouse Road, Garrisonville Road, and into our neighborhoods. We've all seen what happens when I-95 backs up—local traffic grinds to a halt. This development would only add to the problem.

Our community will face a range of risks, including safety concerns, environmental impacts, increased noise and light pollution, and a flood of high-volume traffic. We already have three gas stations and multiple restaurants and stores within about a mile of each other, all conveniently located near the highway. We don't need a massive commercial project that could harm our neighborhoods.

In addition, nearly 3,000 homes in the area would see their property values decline, which would also reduce property tax revenue for the county. We need to be smart and transparent in our planning. Let's focus on developments that align with the needs of those who live here, rather than pursuing projects that jeopardize our quality of life.

While I recognize the goal of providing more employment opportunities, we should prioritize businesses that offer good wages and the chance for skills training. Retail and fast-food jobs are already plentiful in Stafford County, and many remain unfilled. What we truly need are businesses that provide sustainable jobs and reduce the need for residents to commute long distances. Buc-ee's, despite its appeal for travelers, does not align with those priorities.

Thank you.
