

**Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board
Tuesday, September 15, 2026
Hunt and Company Restaurant and Catering
Chatham, VA**

TIME AND PLACE

The meeting of the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board took place at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at Hunt and Company Restaurant and Catering in Chatham, Virginia.

VIRGINIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

John Schick, Chair	Nick Thomas, Vice Chair
Robert Mills	Kevin Dunn
Kevin Tate	Leigh Pemberton
Stephanie Cornnell	Nate Aker
Dr. Edwin Martinez, NRCS	Dr. Dan Goerlich, VCE

VIRGINIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Jason De La Cruz

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION STAFF PRESENT

Nikki Rovner, DCR Director
Sarah Spota, DCR Deputy Director
James Martin, Director, Division of Soil and Water Conservation
Christine Watlington Jones, Policy and District Services Manager
Breanne Lindsey, Board and Constituent Liaison
Blair Gordon, District Operations Coordinator
Andrea Henry, Chief Engineer
Nico Robichaud, Policy and Program Assistant
Carl Thiel-Goin, DCR
Becky Hubble, DCR
Angela Ball, DCR
Seth Mullins, DCR
Denney Collins, DCR
Sara Bottenfield, DCR

OTHERS PRESENT

Kendall Tyree, VASWCD
Jake Tabor, Virginia Farm Bureau Federation
Gary Cross, Chowan Basin SWCD
J. Wyatt Cox, Chowan Basin SWCD
Jennifer Coker, Chowan Basin SWCD
Granville Maitland, Appomattox River SWCD

Buck Tharpe, SSWCD
Charles Newton, Shenandoah Valley SWCD
Austin Magruder, Peanut SWCD
Courtney Coleman, Peanut SWCD
Robert Waring, Colonial SWCD
Luke Longanecker, TJSWCD
David Massie, Culpeper SWCD
Jessy Lacks, Pittsylvania SWCD
Amber Eanes, Pittsylvania SWCD
Stephen Bartz, VCE
John Womack, NRCS

ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

With eight (8) members of the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board present a quorum was established.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Schick called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked for introductions. He expressed appreciation to Board member Robert Mills for hosting the Board, staff, Districts, and stakeholders at Briar View Farms on September 14 for a farm tour, and he thanked the Association for providing dinner.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JULY 24, 2026

BOARD ACTION

Mr. Pemberton moved to approve the July 24, 2026, Board meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Mills seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by: Aker, Cornell, Dunn, Mills, Pemberton, Schick, Tate, and Thomas.

OFFICER ELECTIONS

Mr. Schick opened nominations for the position of Chair of the Soil and Water Conservation Board. Mr. Mills nominated Mr. Schick. Mr. Pemberton seconded the nomination, and the motion was unanimously approved by: Aker, Cornell, Dunn, Mills, Pemberton, Schick, Tate, and Thomas.

Mr. Schick opened nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board. Mr. Pemberton nominated Mr. Thomas. Mr. Mills seconded the nomination, and the motion was unanimously approved by: Aker, Cornell, Dunn, Mills, Pemberton, Schick, Tate, and Thomas.

As Chair, Mr. Schick appointed Mr. Pemberton to join the Audit Subcommittee. Additionally, Mr. Thomas will Chair the Audit Subcommittee.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Nikki Rovner, DCR Director

Director Rovner informed the Board that she will provide an update on the JLARC report later in the meeting. She also noted that the Deputy Director for Flood Resilience will be announced later in the week, a role created through the restructuring of the position previously held by Darryl Glover, former Deputy Director for Water Resources. She further stated that the Director of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation, James Martin, will continue to report directly to her moving forward.

APPROVAL OF BOARD BYLAWS – *Christine Watlington Jones, Policy and District Services Manager*

Ms. Watlington Jones informed the Board of the updates made to the Bylaws, including revisions to meeting notices and meeting agendas to ensure compliance with FOIA requirements. She also noted the change in terminology, replacing “Chairman” with “Chair.”

BOARD ACTION

Mr. Pemberton made the following motion:

The Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board approves the Board By-laws as presented by the Department.

Ms. Cornnell seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by: Aker, Cornnell, Dunn, Mills, Pemberton, Schick, Tate, and Thomas.

APPROVAL OF COMMENDING RESOLUTIONS – *Christine Watlington Jones, Policy and District Services Manager*

The Board considered the resolution for Charles Newton.

Resolution to

Charles Newton

WHEREAS, Charles Newton has faithfully and diligently served as a member of the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board since September 2018; and

WHEREAS, Charles Newton has devoted generously of his time, talent, and leadership to the Board; and

WHEREAS, Charles Newton served as Chair of the Board from September 2023 through the remainder of his term on the Board; and

WHEREAS, Charles Newton has endeavored at all times to render decisions with fairness, good judgement, and in the best interest of the Board; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Newton has served the Shenandoah Valley Soil and Water Conservation District as an elected Director since 2008, including service as Treasurer and Chair of its Finance Committee, and has further devoted himself to the conservation of Virginia’s natural resources through a distinguished career with the National Park Service and through his service to the Page County Planning Commission, the Page County Water Quality Advisory Committee, and the Page County Tree Board; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board wishes to acknowledge its gratitude and deepest appreciation for his services to this Board, recognizing with gratitude his contributions and dedication to protecting the quality of the land and water resources of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board this fifteenth day of September 2026 that Charles Newton be given all honors and respect due him for his outstanding service to the Commonwealth and its citizens and the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be presented to him and be made a part of the official minutes of the Board so that all may know of the high regard in which he is held.

The Board considered the resolution for Adam Wilson.

Resolution to

Adam D. Wilson

WHEREAS, Adam Wilson has faithfully and diligently served as a member of the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board since December 2017; and

WHEREAS, Adam Wilson has devoted generously of his time, talent, and leadership to the Board; and

WHEREAS, Adam Wilson served as Vice-Chair of the Board from 2019 through September 2025; and

WHEREAS, Adam Wilson has endeavored at all times to render decisions with fairness, good judgement, and in the best interest of the Board; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wilson has demonstrated his commitment to agriculture and conservation through his service as Chairman of the Clinch Valley Soil and Water Conservation District and as a member and Treasurer of the Holston River Soil and Water Conservation District; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wilson's agricultural leadership and stewardship have been recognized through honors including the Clean Water Farm Award and Progressive Farmer's Best Young Farmers and Ranchers Award; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board wishes to acknowledge its gratitude and deepest appreciation for his services to this Board, recognizing with gratitude his contributions and dedication to protecting the quality of the land and water resources of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board this fifteenth day of September 2026 that Adam Wilson be given all honors and respect due him for his outstanding service to the Commonwealth and its citizens and the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be presented to him and be made a part of the official minutes of the Board so that all may know of the high regard in which he is held.

BOARD ACTION

Ms. Cornnell made the following motion:

The Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board approves the resolutions for Charles Newton and Adam Wilson with deep appreciation for their significant contributions to this Board.

Mr. Pemberton seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by: Aker, Cornnell, Dunn, Mills, Pemberton, Schick, Tate, and Thomas.

REPORT FROM AUDIT SUBCOMMITTEE – *John Schick, Former Audit Subcommittee Chair*

Mr. Schick provided an update to the Board summarizing the overall assessments for 2026.

Ms. Watlington Jones presented information on the Subcommittee's recommendation regarding the Holston River SWCD.

BOARD ACTION

After discussion, Mr. Pemberton moved to accept the recommended motion for the Audit Subcommittee, which states: The Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board (Board) directs the Holston River Soil and Water Conservation District (District) to reimburse the Department for the payments made for Contract 23-26-0011 as these practices were ineligible to receive cost-share funding in accordance with the guidelines contained in the Program Year 2026 Virginia Agricultural Cost-Share (VACS) BMP Manual. The required reimbursement amount is \$94,160 (\$83,327 for the practice implementation costs and \$10,833 in related technical assistance funding). The District is not authorized to utilize existing VACS Program costshare or FY2027 technical assistance funds to provide reimbursement for this Contract.

Mr. Thomas seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by: Aker, Cornnell, Dunn, Mills, Pemberton, Schick, Tate, and Thomas.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE COVER CROP SUBCOMMITTEE REGARDING APPROVAL OF COVER CROP VERIFICATION PROCEDURES – *Christine Watlington Jones, Policy and District Services Manager*

Ms. Watlington Jones provided an overview of the information discussed by the Cover Crop Subcommittee at its meeting on September 14, 2026. The Subcommittee offered guidance on training requirements and when verifications must be conducted by Districts, noting that improvements to these procedures will be needed in the future. She also presented a line-by-line review of the "Verifying Cover Crop Percent Cover" document, which outlines the requirements to be followed for the current year.

BOARD ACTION

After reviewing the information, Mr. Pemberton moved to adopt the "Verifying Cover Crop Percent Cover" document as guidance for Districts for the current year's Cover Crop procedures. Mr. Dunn seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by: Aker, Cornnell, Dunn, Mills, Pemberton, Schick, Tate, and Thomas.

OVERVIEW OF JOINT AUDIT LEGISLATIVE AND REVIEW COMMISSION (JLARC) REPORT – *Nikki Rovner, DCR Director*

Director Rovner began by providing an overview of JLARC to give the Board background on its role in relation to the General Assembly. She explained that JLARC is responsible for conducting program evaluations, policy analyses, and oversight of state agencies on behalf of the General Assembly. She noted that while JLARC is formally composed of members of the General Assembly, its studies and evaluations are carried out by JLARC staff.

A study resolution adopted on December 16, 2025, authorized JLARC to conduct this evaluation. The study examined:

- The nonpoint source assessment conducted biennially by DCR;
- The criteria and processes used to allocate cost-share and technical assistance funds to SWCDs;
- The criteria and processes used by SWCDs to select agricultural landowners and operators to receive cost-share funds;
- The contract development process for specific cost-share awards, including cost assignments and determination of award amounts;
- The quality of technical assistance provided; and
- DCR and SWCD efforts to verify compliance with program guidelines and requirements.

The study's overall findings indicated that, when evaluated against the characteristics of an effective incentive program, VACS is largely functioning effectively. However, the study also identified several areas for improvement, including aligning funding levels more closely with the program's actual capacity and strengthening certain aspects of program design, implementation, and oversight.

Director Rovner provided an overview of JLARC's recommendations and the policy options currently under consideration by DCR. She noted that, in general, it is appropriate to give serious consideration to JLARC's recommendations, and that several of the items identified align with ongoing efforts within DCR to improve or implement program enhancements. She added that some recommendations would require additional funding to carry out. Staff are reviewing the recommendations to determine which actions may be feasible to implement.

DAM SAFETY DIVISION REPORT – *Andrea Henry, Chief Engineer*

Ms. Henry provided an update on recent dam safety activities. The Board was informed that the primary spillway pipe at Olde Mill Golf Club Dam in Carroll County failed on August 2, resulting in the reservoir draining and causing downstream crop and property damage. DCR is working with the owner's engineer on emergency measures and long-term compliance requirements.

She reported on the 2024 FEMA High Hazard Potential Dam (HHPD) grant awards, noting that eight dams remain under FEMA review and one was deemed ineligible. FEMA has indicated that two construction projects may not be funded due to work beginning before final review; DCR is seeking ARPA funds to replace one of these awards.

The NOIRA approved in June 2026 is progressing through public comment, with a regulatory advisory panel expected to convene in late October.

DCR has applied for the 2026 HHPD grant for geotechnical investigations and final design work at Burke Dam and Laurel Bed Dam, with FEMA award decisions expected by October 2026. DCR also applied for the 2026 National Dam Safety Program grant to support staff, training, and development of a risk-based prioritization system.

Staff will present to the Southampton County Board of Supervisors in September to address local concerns about dam enforcement actions. There are currently no enforcement efforts underway in the county.

Michael Wang has been promoted to Region 1 Dam Safety Engineer, and all six regional engineer positions are now filled, though the transition from five to six regions is delayed due to DSIS development needs.

Ms. Henry reported that there are currently 25 dams on DCR's pre-enforcement list and two under formal enforcement.

DAM SAFETY, FLOOD PREVENTION, AND PROTECTION ASSISTANCE FUNDS

Deobligation of Certain Project Funds

Ms. Watlington Jones provided the following background information:

There are numerous projects that were awarded funds from the Dam Safety, Flood Prevention, and Protection Assistance Fund that have not fully expended the awards. Awardees may not have returned grant agreements or requested their projects be cancelled; projects may have cost savings; or in some instances, the project timeline may have expired but no communication was received from the awardee. The Department is recommending the Board rescind previous approvals of these projects and unobligates the funding associated with those projects – \$1,626,481.11 in funds provided through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and \$947,210.65 in state funds.

BOARD ACTION

After consideration, Mr. Pemberton made the following motion:

The Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board approves the rescission of these projects and unobligates the funding associated with these projects.

Mr. Thomas seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by: Aker, Cornell, Dunn, Mills, Pemberton, Schick, Tate, and Thomas.

Reobligation of Funds

Ms. Watlington Jones provided the following background information:

Beaverdam Creek Dam (Inventory #019003) is owned by the Western Virginia Water Authority in Bedford County. At the June 26, 2024 meeting, the Board awarded \$1,041,247.30 from the Dam Safety,

Flood Prevention and Protection Assistance Fund for a construction remediation project that includes a spillway alteration, slope stability measures, and the installation of a toe drain.

This project was also expected to receive funding from an HHPD (high hazard potential dam) grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in the amount of \$852,964.26. Due to a recent change in the interpretation of language in the Notice of Funding Opportunity, this project is unlikely to receive funding.

In order to ensure all available federal funds are utilized and to ensure the project is fully completed, the Department is requesting the use of unobligated ARPA funds to replace the anticipated HHPD funds for this project. The total estimated cost of the project is \$4,706,999 and the project is currently substantially complete.

In order to utilize these funds, Western Virginia Water Authority agreed that construction will be completed and a record report will be submitted to the Department by December 2026.

BOARD ACTION

After consideration, Mr. Mills made the following motion:

The Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board approves \$852,964 in funding received from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 for the Beaverdam Creek Dam (Inventory # 019003). This grant will be made on a reimbursement basis and will be governed by a Grant Agreement that details the timeframe for completion of the project, submission of any necessary documentation, and other requirements related to the use of these funds.

Mr. Pemberton seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by: Aker, Cornnell, Dunn, Mills, Pemberton, Schick, Tate, and Thomas.

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DIVISION REPORT – *James Martin, Director, Division of Soil and Water Conservation*

Mr. Martin provided an update on the Conservation Application Suite (CAS). He reported that infrastructure and modernization efforts for both CAS and DSIS were completed on June 16, 2026, allowing deployment of the systems on a scalable nine-server environment with dedicated reporting tables and test systems. He noted that Phase Three of the CAS rebuild began on August 27, 2026, addressing the main dashboard, general assistance, and mapping modules, along with a code upgrade. The first CAS training session was held on August 16, 2026. Phase Four of the update is progressing through the VITA approval process, and Phase Five, focused on nutrient management, is scheduled for 2027, contingent on implementation of the new nutrient management regulations.

Mr. Martin reported that the Agricultural Needs Assessment Group met on August 6, 2026. The updated assessment, based on implementation progress through 2025 and Chesapeake Bay Phase III targets, identified funding needs of \$243 million for cost-share and \$36.4 million for technical assistance in program year 2028, followed by a significant reduction in 2029 due to the assumption of full implementation by 2028. He noted that future needs are likely to increase because the Bay agreement

now reflects commitments to complete implementation by 2030, with additional reductions required by 2040, and federal funding trends continue to fall short of assessed needs.

REVISIONS OF VACS BMP MANUAL TO CONFORM WITH NRCS-DEPARTMENT PROCEDURES – *Christine Watlington Jones, Policy and District Services Manager*

Ms. Watlington Jones informed the Board that to strengthen existing partnerships and improve project delivery, the Department has been coordinating with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) over the past several months to more clearly define protocols for jointly funded (“piggy-back”) projects. A joint memorandum outlining the updated process will be distributed to all Soil and Water Conservation Districts, NRCS staff, and Department staff.

BOARD ACTION

After consideration, Mr. Pemberton made the following motion:

The Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board (Board) approves these revisions to the 2027 Virginia Agricultural Cost-Share BMP Manual.

Mr. Thomas seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by: Aker, Cornell, Dunn, Mills, Pemberton, Schick, Tate, and Thomas.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION REGULATIONS (4VAC50-85) – *Christine Watlington Jones, Policy and District Services Manager*

Ms. Watlington Jones highlighted several revisions made during the proposed stage of the regulatory process. Certain definitions - grid soil sampling, micronutrient, secondary nutrient, and shall - were intended to be marked for removal and have now been properly stricken, and a correction was made at line 1082 to replace “and” with “or.” Overall revisions include substantial updates to the Virginia Nutrient Management Standards and Criteria incorporated by reference, as well as updated definitions to reflect current agricultural practices, ensure statewide consistency, and align with existing permit requirements. Fee provisions were amended to authorize recovery of payment processing costs, and reporting requirements were streamlined to account for data available through the Department’s Nutrient Management Module in CAS. Requirements for nutrient management plans were updated to include components for precision and transfer plans. Throughout the regulations, minimum requirements were clarified, purely recommended language was removed, and outdated implementation dates were stricken to reduce confusion. Staff noted that guidance documents will be developed to address recommendations, with input from technical experts, and meetings are expected to begin in mid- to late October. A flowchart of the regulatory process was provided as an attachment.

BOARD ACTION

After consideration, Mr. Pemberton made the following motion:

The Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board (Board) authorizes the Department to submit proposed revisions to the Nutrient Management Training and Certification Regulations (4VAC50-85). The Board directs the Department to conduct these activities in accordance with the Administrative Process Act,

Executive Order 17 (2026), and all other applicable laws, policies, and procedures. Additionally, the Board authorizes the Department to coordinate, as necessary, with the Department of Planning and Budget, the Secretariat of Natural and Historic Resources, and the Governor's Office to develop any additional documents needed to submit these proposed regulations.

Further, the Board authorizes the Department, in consultation with the Office of the Attorney General, Department of Planning and Budget, the Secretariat of Natural and Historic Resources, or the Governor's Office, to make nonsubstantive changes to include formatting and stylistic changes as necessary to the proposed regulations.

Mr. Mills seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by: Aker, Cornnell, Dunn, Mills, Pemberton, Schick, Tate, and Thomas.

REPEAL OF GUIDANCE DOCUMENT RELATED TO FOIA REQUIREMENTS FOR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANS PROGRAM – *Christine Watlington Jones, Policy and District Services Manager*

Ms. Watlington Jones reported on the proposed repeal of the guidance document related to FOIA requirements for the Resource Management Plans Program. The guidance, originally developed in 2015 and revised in 2018, is no longer appropriate for use by this Board. Districts with questions regarding FOIA compliance should consult the FOIA Council or the Office of the Attorney General. Staff noted that the Department issued best-practice procedures for Districts in July, including suggested motions for approval of RMPs and BMPs within RMPs, which have historically been an area of concern during program reviews. Motions for closed meetings continue to follow guidance from the Office of the Attorney General.

BOARD ACTION

After consideration, Mr. Mills made the following motion:

The Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board approves the repeal of the guidance document "Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board Guidance Document on Freedom of Information Act Requirements for Resources Management Plans Program Implementation by Soil and Water Conservation District Boards and Technical Review Committees".

Mr. Pemberton seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by: Aker, Cornnell, Dunn, Mills, Pemberton, Schick, Tate, and Thomas.

APPROVAL OF DISTRICT DIRECTOR APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS – *Christine Watlington Jones, Policy and District Services Manager*

Regular Appointments

The Board reviewed the following Soil and Water Conservation District appointments and resignations:

Appomattox River

Appointment of Ms. Hannah Bishop, of Dinwiddie County, effective 9/15/2026, to fill the vacant Extension Agent Director position (term of office expires 12/31/2028).

Colonial

Appointment of Mr. Robert Jeremiah, of James City County, effective 9/15/2026, to fill the vacant At-Large Director position (term of office expires 12/31/2026).

Mr. Jeremiah currently serves the Colonial SWCD as an active Associate Director.

Resignation of Mr. Robert Lund, of James City County, effective 12/31/2026, Elected Director position (term of office expires 12/31/2027).

Appointment of Mr. Robert Jeremiah, of James City County, effective 1/01/2027, to fill the vacant Elected Director position (term of office expires 12/31/2027).

New River

Appointment of Ms. Allison Brown, of Carroll County, effective 9/15/2026, to fill the vacant Extension Agent Director position (term of office expires 12/31/2028).

BOARD ACTION

Mr. Thomas made the following motion:

The Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board approves the appointments of the individuals being recommended.

Mr. Pemberton seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by: Aker, Cornell, Dunn, Mills, Pemberton, Schick, Tate, and Thomas.

At-large Appointments

The Board reviewed the following Soil and Water Conservation District appointments

Henricopolis

Anne-Marie Leake

Ms. Leake served as an elected Director on the Henricopolis SWCD from 2020-2023 and has been serving as an Associate Director since 2024. She is very involved with the VASWCD, currently serving as the Marketing Committee Chair and was previously the VASWCD Area III Chair.

Colonial

Robert Lund

Mr. Lund currently serves as an elected director for Colonial SWCD. He serves as a member of the Districts Urban Committee and actively promotes the VCAP program within the service area and adjacent localities.

Piedmont

J. Colin Whittington

Mr. Whittington is the owner/operator of Featherstone Farm Seed, a family operation specializing in seed production. He has worked in the agricultural field for over 20 years with a special interest in conservation farming, including no-till, cover crops, and cattle management. He currently serves on the VA Soybean Checkoff Board and has previously served on the VA Crop Improvement Board of Directors and as Chairman of the VA Soybean Association. In his spare time he enjoys farming, coaching basketball and softball, fishing, and hunting.

Tazewell

Harry Phipps

Mr. Phipps has been an Associate Director for Tazewell SWCD for many years and sits on the Executive and Conservation Education committees. He has been an Earth Team Volunteer as was awarded the Earth Team Volunteer Award for Russel County in 2001. His hobbies include gardening, farming, four wheeling, bird watching, and traveling.

BOARD ACTION

Mr. Thomas made the following motion:

The Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board approves the appointments of the individuals being recommended.

Mr. Mills seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by: Aker, Cornnell, Dunn, Mills, Pemberton, Schick, Tate, and Thomas.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business for the Board to consider.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business for the Board to consider.

PARTNER REPORTS

Natural Resources Conservation Service – Dr. Edwin Martinez

Dr. Martinez gave the report for the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services – Christine Watlington Jones on behalf of Darrell Marshall

Ms. Watlington Jones gave the report for the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Virginia Cooperative Extension – Dr. Dan Goerlich

Dr. Goerlich gave the report for the Virginia Cooperative Extension. VCE Pittsylvania representative, Stephen Bartz, provided a locality update related to VCE's work.

Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts – Dr. Kendall Tyree, VASWCD Executive Director

Dr. Tyree gave the report for the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Virginia Farm Bureau Federation – Jake Tabor

Mr. Tabor gave the report for the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Granville Maitland thanked staff for the update on the JLARC report and appreciated the detailed information provided.

Bucke Tharpe confirmed the Board's meeting date taking place in December.

NEXT MEETINGS

The Board was provided dates for upcoming meetings:

- December 10, 2026; Hotel Roanoke, Roanoke, VA
- Thursday, March 25, 2027
- Tuesday, April 20, 2027
- Thursday, May 27, 2027

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:11 p.m.