



VIRGINIA: A SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE SURRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HELD IN THE GENERAL DISTRICT COURTROOM OF THE SURRY COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2025, AT 6:00 PM.

PRESENT: SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR., CHAIRMAN
SUPERVISOR BREYON PIERCE, VICE-CHAIR
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM T. CALHOUN
SUPERVISOR WALTER HARDY
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE ZARIAH HARRELL

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: MS. MELISSA ROLLINS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
MR. DAVID HARRISON, DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
MS LOLA PERKINS, COUNTY ATTORNEY
MS. ROBIN FAULKS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATION
MR. DELON BROWN, DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR FOR OPERATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE
MS. RENEE CHAPLIN, DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
MR. RAY PHELPS, DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION
MS. SHARNA WHITE, REGISTRAR

Invocation

The invocation was given by Pastor Andrew Cypress of Runnymede Holiness Church.

Call to Order/Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance/Adopt Agenda

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Elliott, who then asked for a moment of silence. Following the moment of silence, he asked those present to stand and recite the pledge of allegiance. Chairman Elliott asked for Motion to accept the agenda. Supervisor Calhoun made a motion to accept the agenda and Supervisor Pierce seconded the motion. All present voted affirmatively. (Approved)

SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.	AYE
SUPERVISOR BREYON PIERCE	AYE

SUPERVISOR WILLIAM (TIM) CALHOUN AYE
SUPERVISOR WALTER HARDY AYE

Consent Items

1. Approval of Draft Minutes – 7/2/2025
2. Resolution – Sackler Opioid Settlement
3. Resolution 2024-25 Revision
4. Accounts Payables – May 2025
5. Accounts Payables – June 2025
6. RSAF Memo

Chairman Elliott read the items listed for consent and asked Board members if any items needed to be pulled for discussion. There being none, Supervisor Calhoun made a motion to approve the consent items as enumerated. Supervisor Hardy seconded the motion.

Vote (Approved):

Ayes: Mr. Pierce, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Calhoun, Mr. Elliott

Nays: None

Absent: None

Public Comments

1. Helen Eggleston, Dendron District, expressed concern regarding the current state of debt and finances of Surry County and staff turnover in Finance.
2. Mike Eggleston, Dendron District, expressed concern regarding safety issues with multiple derelict buildings in Surry.
3. Robert Chandler, Bacon's Castle District, stated that there had been several articles and news broadcasts in the past few months about the YMCA allowing transgendered people into bathrooms according to their gender. He asked what Surry County would do to prevent that.
4. Susan Corvello, Claremont District, suggested posting public hearing notices on the electronic billboard on large projects and on the County's homepage under the "News" section. She also asked about Bid Postings page on the Finance section of the website.
5. Dr. Daniel Shaye, Surry District, expressed his appreciation to the candidates for Dendron District Supervisor. He also thanked local businesses, families, public servants, farmers, and other upstanding citizens.
6. Royal Reynolds, Surry District, stated that he had lived in the area for about five years and was eager to get more involved in local issues.

Public Hearing

1. **YMCA – Authorization of Lease of County Property & Approval of Documents** – The Board of Supervisors will consider a resolution authorizing the execution of the proposed lease-financing documents for and the execution of a lease of County real property located on Enos Farm Drive, known as Parcel ID # 27-32, in connection with a bank lease financing to develop and construct YMCA facilities.

I. Call to Order

- II. Presentation by Staff – Melissa Rollins, County Administrator, provided background information on the item.
Mr. George Scruggs, Bond Counsel with Kutak Rock, LLP, stated that he was available to respond to public comments and Board questions.
- III. III. Open Floor for Public Comments – Chairman Elliott opened the public hearing.
1. Mike Eggleston, Dendron District, asked why they were spending \$24 million on a recreational facility rather than a place for people to work in Surry.
 2. Susan Corvello, Claremont District, asked for clarification regarding Exhibit A, which referred to the real estate under consideration. She asked for more information regarding Schedule 1.1, which referred to the lease payments. She expressed concern that the Fiscal Year 23-24 and FY24-25 audits had not been completed before moving forward with this project. She asked if there would be a separate public hearing for the lease agreement with the YMCA and any other proposed changes for the FY25-26 budget.
 3. Dr. Daniel Shaye, Surry District, stated that the YMCA would be offering many programs that would certainly be of interest to people, but he was concerned about how the programs would be paid for. He was disappointed that there were so few people in attendance at tonight's public hearing, which he attributed to people feeling like their input did not matter. He hoped the Board would encourage more public input in the future, prior to making important decisions.
- IV. IV. Close Floor to Public Comments – Chairman Elliott closed the public hearing.
- V. V. Closing Staff Comments – Mr. George Scruggs, Bond Counsel with Kutak Rock, LLP, explained that the financing structure for this project was lease financing, which included three primary documents. There was a prime lease, in which the County leased the Tax Map Parcel 27-32 to the bank. The bank then simultaneously leased that parcel back to the County, which allowed the County to construct the YMCA building. This was pursuant to the lease acquisition and financing agreement. The third document was a lease hold deed of trust, which provided security for the financing. He noted that this financing was subject to appropriation, meaning that the County was required to consider an appropriation to make the payments in each year the debt financing was due; the lender could not require the County to make the payment, so they relied on the deed of trust to encourage the County to make payments in order to use the property. If the County did not make their payments, they risked being dispossessed of the property. He reviewed the loan payment structure of the \$5 million loan from Huntington Bank.
- VI. VI. Board Discussion – There was no further discussion from the Board.

Board Action: Chairman Elliott asked for a motion on Resolution 2025-14, authorizing the execution of the proposed lease-financing documents for and the execution of a lease of County real property located on Enos Farm Drive, known as Parcel ID # 27-32, in connection with a bank lease financing to develop and construct YMCA facilities.

Supervisor Pierce moved for approval of **Resolution 2025-14 as presented**, seconded by Supervisor Hardy.

Vote: 4:0 (Approved)

Ayes: Mr. Pierce, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Elliott
Nays: Mr. Calhoun
Absent: None

New Business

There was none.

Unfinished Business

1. Appointment of Interim Supervisor – Dendron District

Lola Perkins, County Attorney, stated that Supervisor Amy Drewry had submitted a letter of resignation on July 4, 2025. Staff proceeded to plan for a special election with the Circuit Court, which would take place on November 4, 2025, the same day as the general election. Additionally, pursuant to Virginia Code, the Board had the ability to appoint an interim supervisor until that special election occurred. On July 31, 2025, at their special meeting the Board announced there were two candidates: Cameron Drew and Kenneth Bell. Since that announcement had been made, an appropriate amount of time had passed and the Board could now appoint either Mr. Drew or Mr. Bell to fill that interim position until the special election determined who would fill the position. She noted that the Board was required to make the appointment prior to August 18, 2025.

Board Action: Chairman Elliott asked for a motion to make the interim appointment.

Mr. Calhoun moved to appoint Mr. Kenneth Bell as the Interim Supervisor for the Dendron District, seconded by Mr. Pierce.

Vote: 4:0 (Approved)

Ayes: Mr. Pierce, Mr. Calhoun, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Elliott

Nays: None

Absent: None

2. Opioid Agreement for Mobile Overdose Response Unit

Ms. Rollins provided a brief summary of the item. She said that The Cooperative Agreement between the Counties of Surry, Prince George, Dinwiddie and the City of Hopewell sets out the responsibilities of the participating jurisdictions for the Cooperative Project of a Mobile Overdose Response Unit. The Virginia Opioid Abatement Authority awarded the participating jurisdiction funds for the project. The Board was asked to approve the agreement as presented.

Board Action: Chairman Elliott asked for a motion to approve the Opioid Agreement for the Mobile Overdose Response Unit.

Mr. Calhoun moved to approve the Opioid Agreement for the Mobile Overdose Response Unit, seconded by Supervisor Hardy.

Vote: 4:0 (Approved)

Ayes: Mr. Pierce, Mr. Calhoun, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Elliott

Nays: None

Absent: None

County Administrator's Report

1. David Harrison, Deputy County Administrator, announced that the County had won a 2025 Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) Achievement Award for their 55+ Community Initiative. This initiative aimed to provide robust offerings for events and programs for Surry County citizens ages 55 and older. This began as a way to enhance social connections and engagement with Surry County's elder population in response to the challenges they faced during the COVID-19 pandemic. They brought together the expertise of the Surry County Department of Social Services and Department of Parks and Recreation to support elder people's overall health and wellbeing. He thanked staff for all their hard work and dedication to make this initiative a success.
2. Ray Phelps, Chief of Emergency Management, provided the Board with an update on Tropical Storm Erin. He explained that while the storm was currently predicted to stay off the coast, there was always potential that it could change direction and come to shore. In that case, they expected it to make landfall this Wednesday or Thursday. The storm was expected to reach Category 3 hurricane status by Tuesday and may intensify from there. He encouraged the public to make emergency plans, including communication, evacuation routes, and designated meeting places. He had hurricane guides available for anyone who needed them, which were always available at the Emergency Services Office. Additionally, they expected to receive 2-4 inches of rain tonight and there may be flash flood warnings in effect.

Reports

1. Surry County Inspection Performances by District and Pass/Fail Rate – June 2025
2. Surry County Building Official's Office Monthly Report – June 2025
3. Surry County Building Official's Office Yearly Report – July 2024 – June 2025
4. Surry County Building Official's Office Monthly Report – July 2025
5. Surry County Inspection Performance By District and Pass/Fail Rate – July 2025

Board Comments

Supervisor Hardy – congratulated Mr. Bell for his appointment as interim Dendron District Supervisor, and wished luck to whoever was running in the special election. He commended Mr. Drew for his dedication and desire to serve his community as well. He expressed his excitement for the YMCA being established in the County, which would provide a much-needed recreational space for the entire community. He stated that it was a worthwhile investment for the County.

Supervisor Calhoun – thanked everyone who came to tonight's meeting and made public comments. He was glad Mr. Bell would be joining the Board of Supervisors in their meetings through November. He applauded Mr. Drew for stepping up to serve their County as well, and he hoped he would continue to do so. He stated that regarding the YMCA, he wanted to see the YMCA come to fruition. However, he remained concerned about the financial aspect of borrowing funds and fundraising, neither of which were finalized.

Supervisor Pierce – thanked everyone for joining the Board for tonight's meeting, whether they were here in person or watching the meeting at home. He thanked the citizens for their public

comments, which were great to hear in regards to the Board's decisions. He wanted to ensure his decisions were made in the best interest of the citizens of Surry County and responsibly took care of business. He stated that he would continue to work tirelessly for his constituents. He gave his thanks to the YMCA, who had recently partnered with volunteers from the Sheriff's Office, School Board, Board of Supervisors, County staff, and School Division staff to take some local kids back-to-school shopping. He congratulated Mr. Bell on his appointment, and expressed his deep gratitude to Mr. Drew for applying and showing his dedication to his County. He thanked everyone involved with the 55+ Initiative, which was a great asset to their community. He additionally thanked all of Surry County's farmers, who were now in their harvest season. He asked that Surry County citizens please be aware that they may encounter more farm equipment on the roads in the coming weeks and months. He also asked everyone to please be aware that school buses would be on the roads starting Monday. Finally, he thanked their local Ferry employees for their resilience and dedication to that important local transportation service.

Student Representative Zariah Harrell – thanked the Board on behalf of Dr. Monroe, herself, and the rest of the school for their partnership with YMCA in the Bright Beginnings Program. They had 20 students who partnered with school and community leaders to go shopping for the new school year. She reminded their parents and guardians that the first day of school was Monday, and she asked that they all support and encourage their students this school year as they all started on a new slate. She congratulated Mr. Bell on his appointment, and encouraged Mr. Drew to continue to work hard; she had looked up to him as a great role model and would continue to do so.

Chairman Elliott – stated that he was deeply impressed with Mr. Drew for his dedication and eagerness to take on responsibility. He asked that he continue to push forward and wished him godspeed in his endeavors. He thanked Mr. Bell for his willingness to fill the Dendron District seat until November. He expressed his gratitude to both of them for being part of what made Surry County such a special place. He stated that he wanted to tell the citizens of Surry that there had been many comments made in concern of the costs associated with the YMCA project, but he wanted to ensure them that this was not a flippant decision; the County staff, their financial advisors, and the Board of Supervisors had spent a long time deeply analyzing the financial aspects, and the way they had chosen to finance it would not increase the tax rate for Surry County citizens whatsoever. He stated that they did not want to put the County in any unfavorable financial circumstance, and he wanted their citizens to keep this information in mind. He said that regarding the audit, he understood there was a desire to get the information out to the public, but the County had made lawful extensions in response to internal filing and computer issues. He noted that this was the first time the County had ever been late in getting the audit done, but it was now expected to be finished by the end of this month.

For Your Information

1. Annual Food Drive – Commissioner of the Revenue Association

Adjournment

Chairman Elliott asked for a motion for adjournment to September 11, 2025, 6:00 p.m. for a regular meeting.

Supervisor Hardy moved, and Supervisor Calhoun seconded.

Vote (Approved):

Ayes: Mr. Pierce, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Calhoun, Mr. Elliott

Nays: None

Absent: None

The meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

This meeting can be viewed in its entirety through the Surry County Government Website:

<https://www.surrycountyva.gov/387/Watch-A-Meeting>