



Mathews County Board of Supervisors

Regular Meeting

Mathews County High School Auditorium
9889 Buckley Hall Rd., Mathews, VA 23109

Thursday, July 17, 2025 at 6:00 PM

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. INVOCATION

- A. The Rev. Dede Parrish is expected to provide the invocation.
Rev. Dede Parrish provided the invocation.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. ROLL CALL / ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Board of Supervisors Members Present:

Supervisor Mike Walls
Supervisor Dave Jones
Chairperson Tim Doss
Supervisor Janice Phillips
Vice-Chair Tom Bowen

Board of Supervisors Members Absent:

Team Members Present:

Ms. Ramona Wilson, County Administrator, Clerk
Ms. Judi Green, Senior Executive, Deputy Clerk
Ms. Ashley Hubbard, Accounting Analyst
Ms. Andrea G. Erard, Esq., County Attorney

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: On Motion of Tom Bowen, seconded by Janice Phillips, the Mathews County Board of Supervisors voted 5-0-0 as follows: Mike Walls, Dave Jones, Tim Doss, Janice Phillips, Tom Bowen - aye; None - nay; to amend the agenda as follows; move line items 12B and 12C to line items 7A and 7B, and remove from the agenda line items 11C and 11D.

Roll Call Vote:

Tom Bowen, Vice Chair - Aye
Mike Walls, Supervisor - Aye
Dave Jones, Supervisor - Aye
Janice Phillips, Supervisor - Aye

Tim Doss, Chairperson - Aye

MOTION: On Motion of Janice Phillips, seconded by Mike Walls, the Mathews County Board of Supervisors voted 5-0-0 as follows: Mike Walls, Dave Jones, Tim Doss, Janice Phillips, Tom Bowen - aye; None - nay; to approve the agenda as amended to I move that the public portion of this meeting stop at 900 p.m. to allow the board to enter a closed meeting and that the closed meeting terminates at 9:45 so that the board has time to certify the closed meeting prior to 10 p.m., when the meeting shall automatically be adjourned, and to continue any and all matters that have not been disposed of on July 17th, 2025 agenda until Thursday, July 31st, 2025, at 6:00 PM in the historic courthouse.

Roll Call Vote:

Tom Bowen, Vice Chair - Aye

Mike Walls, Supervisor - Aye

Dave Jones, Supervisor - Aye

Janice Phillips, Supervisor - Aye

Tim Doss, Chairperson - Aye

6. HOLE IN THE WALL DISCUSSION

Chairperson Doss explained the decision to close the Hole in the Wall on July 10th, 2025.

Supervisor Phillips was opposed to the action taken because I do not think it was properly done, and the amount of time spent on this topic is disconcerting.

Vice-Chair Bowen explained the documents submitted regarding the history of the leases for 384 Old Ferry Rd.

Supervisor Jones provided an explanation of the email correspondence between the tenant and 384 Old Ferry Rd., as well as a member of the board.

Supervisor Walls asked Supervisor Bowen for an explanation of his one-on-one contact with the leaseholder at 384 Old Ferry Rd. The leaseholder is aware that the rent is due on June 1st each year and that it should have been paid. Pump and haul charges are separate from the lease payment.

A. Documentation

7. SUPERVISORS' REPORT

Supervisor Doss, our county suffered a horrific event this past week. Thank you to all of our first responders and law enforcement.

Supervisor Walls, no matter what side of this topic you are on, I appreciate everyone coming here tonight. Buoy #4 has been installed. Thank you to all involved in the beautification of the memorial. Supervisor Jones - I have suggested viable solutions in the past to fix the septic system problems over there.

Vice-Chair Bowen - the law is not black and white; there can be a lot of gray in the law. This should have been submitted to the courts first for breach of lease, not a self-help action taken by the board.

Supervisor Phillips, I admit I do not have the legal experience my fellow supervisors have; however, I do have something. It may be legal, but is it ethical? I try to always go by that, and it has always led me in the right direction.

Supervisor Jones, I received a call from the former tenant, Mr. Galuzzi, and I asked him to explain why his lease was not renewed when he was the tenant.

Supervisor Walls - I would like to comment on what Ms. Hudgins said earlier. There is an equitable way to fix this.

County Attorney Andrea Erard stated that she is having conversations with the attorney for the tenant, and they are working on a solution to get the restaurant back open.

MOTION: On Motion of Tom Bowen, seconded by Janice Phillips, the Mathews County Board of Supervisors voted 4-1-0 as follows: Mike Walls, Tim Doss, Janice Phillips, Tom Bowen - aye; Dave Jones - nay, to Approve the Emergency Procurement for Managed IT Services.

Roll Call Vote:

Tom Bowen, Vice Chair - Aye

Mike Walls, Supervisor - Aye

Dave Jones, Supervisor - Nay

Janice Phillips, Supervisor - Aye

Tim Doss, Chairperson - Aye

MOTION: On Motion of Tom Bowen, seconded by Mike Walls, the Mathews County Board of Supervisors voted 5-0-0 as follows: Mike Walls, Dave Jones, Tim Doss, Janice Phillips, Tom Bowen - aye; None - nay; to authorize the County Attorney to send a termination letter to Alliance for managed IT Services.

Roll Call Vote:

Tom Bowen, Vice Chair - Aye

Mike Walls, Supervisor - Aye

Dave Jones, Supervisor - Aye

Janice Phillips, Supervisor - Aye

Tim Doss, Chairperson - Aye

8. OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZEN COMMENTS *(One opportunity of 3 minutes per speaker, alternating between in-person and written comments)*

Sheriff April Edwards

Explained the hardship and risk factors by providing one school resource officer for all three schools. There is a grant available; however, it requires a locality match.

Jenna Rowe

Cobbs Creek, VA

Opposed to closing the Hole in the Wall

Dr. David Daniel

MCPS Superintendent

Echoed the sentiments of Sheriff Edwards

Amy Bohannon-Stewart

11150 Buckley Hall Rd.

In support of Sheriff Edwards' request

Mari Gibbs

MCPS Board Chair

In support of Sheriff Edwards' request

John Craig Lewis

Port Haywood, VA

Encouraged everyone to attend the Battle on Cricket Hill presented by the VA250

Jonathan Lewis

Mathews, VA

Opposed to closing the Hole in the Wall

John Sawyer
East River Rd.

Opposed to closing the Hole in the Wall

Courtney Poole
North, VA

Opposed to closing the Hole in the Wall

Mac Casale
HITW Owner

Dee Russell
Hudgins, VA

Opposed to closing the Hole in the Wall

Stan Grice
Cobbs Creek, VA

Opposed to closing the Hole in the Wall

Robb Riddle
Port Haywood, VA

Opposed to closing the Hole in the Wall

Craig DeRemer
Gwynn, VA

Opposed to closing the Hole in the Wall

Dan Hill
Gwynn, VA

I ask the board members to remember that they were elected for the betterment of the citizens of Mathews county. Please remember that.

Carrie Cullison
Mathews, VA

I love the Hole in the Wall. I do not agree with selling the land that was a gift to the county.

Penny Pastiva
Hudgins, VA

Does not agree with selling the land.

Matt Jenkins, Attorney
Mathews, VA Landowner

Opposed to closing the Hole in the Wall

Vicky Armentrout
Gwynns Island, VA

Does not agree with selling the land and agrees with the termination of the lease.

Glenn Gwynn
Gwynn, VA
Agrees with the decision the board made.

Ruth Machen
Foster, VA
Opposes selling the land at 384 Old Ferry Rd.

Ms. Mary Valdrighi
Mathews, VA
I wanted to provide some clarification on the pictures shared. There was a hurricane that devastated the Island and the buildings.

Dan Desmond
Opposed to closing the HITW.

Donna Machen
Foster, VA
The restaurant should be moved to a different location.

Peter Clendenin
Former BZA Member
The board should rely on a strong county management system to solve these problems.

Sharon Frye
Port Haywood, VA
The tenant should have paid his rent on time.

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. A PROPOSED LEASE FOR AN EXTENDED TERM OF TOMPKINS COTTAGE TO THE MATHEWS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, WHICH IS LOCATED AT 43 BRICKBAT ROAD IN MATHEWS COUNTY, VIRGINIA.
MOTION: On Motion of Mike Walls, seconded by Janice Phillips, the Mathews County Board of Supervisors voted 5-0-0 as follows: Mike Walls, Dave Jones, Tim Doss, Janice Phillips, Tom Bowen - aye; None - nay; to approve the lease as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Tom Bowen, Vice Chair - Aye
Mike Walls, Supervisor - Aye
Dave Jones, Supervisor - Aye
Janice Phillips, Supervisor - Aye
Tim Doss, Chairperson - Aye

The open portion of the meeting ended, so the board could enter a closed meeting as amended in the agenda. The rest of the agenda items will be heard on July 31st, 2025, at 6:00 PM in the Historic Courthouse.

10. CONSENT AGENDA

11. REPORTS AND REQUESTS OF BOARDS, DEPARTMENTS, COMMISSIONS AND AGENCIES

12. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Emergency Procurement re: Managed IT Services
- B. Authorization to Advertise RFP re: Managed IT Services

13. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

14. OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZEN COMMENTS *(One opportunity of 3 minutes per speaker)*

15. CLOSED MEETING *(if necessary)*

MOTION: On Motion of Tom Bowen, seconded by Janice Phillips, the Mathews County Board of Supervisors voted 4-0-1 as follows: Dave Jones, Tim Doss, Janice Phillips, Tom Bowen - aye; None - nay; to Enter Closed Session

Roll Call Vote:

Tom Bowen, Vice Chair - Aye
Mike Walls, Supervisor - ABS
Dave Jones, Supervisor - Aye
Janice Phillips, Supervisor - Aye
Tim Doss, Chairperson - Aye

MOTION: On Motion of Tim Doss, seconded by Dave Jones, the Mathews County Board of Supervisors voted 5-0-0 as follows: Mike Walls, Dave Jones, Tim Doss, Janice Phillips, Tom Bowen - aye; None - nay; to certify the closed meeting

Roll Call Vote:

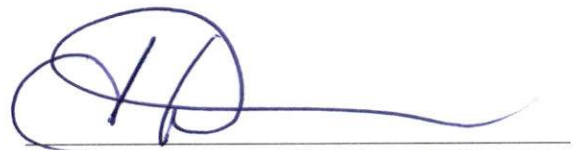
Tom Bowen, Vice Chair - Aye
Mike Walls, Supervisor - Aye
Dave Jones, Supervisor - Aye
Janice Phillips, Supervisor - Aye
Tim Doss, Chairperson - Aye

16. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: On Motion of Dave Jones, seconded by Mike Walls, the Mathews County Board of Supervisors voted 5-0-0 as follows: Mike Walls, Dave Jones, Tim Doss, Janice Phillips, Tom Bowen - aye; None - nay; to Adjourn

Roll Call Vote:

Tom Bowen, Vice Chair - Aye
Mike Walls, Supervisor - Aye
Dave Jones, Supervisor - Aye
Janice Phillips, Supervisor - Aye
Tim Doss, Chairperson - Aye



Tim Doss, Chairperson
Mathews County Board of Supervisors

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ramona Wilson", written over a horizontal line.

Ramona Wilson, PE, MPA
County Administrator, Clerk to the Board

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Judi Green", written over a horizontal line.

Judi Green, Senior Executive,
Deputy Clerk to the Board

Good Evening
Dee Russell
276 Yeiser Lane
Hudgins, Virginia

Tonight, I stand before you not as an adversary, but as a concerned citizen whose faith in this Board is deeply shaken. The foundation of any governing body rests not on power or authority, but on the pillars of honesty and integrity—qualities that, I am compelled to say, have been profoundly eroded within this community.

It pains me to recall a time, not so long ago, when our Board's words carried weight because they were rooted in truth. When decisions were guided by a clear moral compass, and promises made to the public were honored, not just with rhetoric, but with action. Now, too often, we witness selective truths, convenient omissions, and a reluctance to accept accountability. The fabric of trust that once united this community is fraying, thread by thread.

You were elected, not merely to govern, but to embody the values you pledged to uphold. And yet, recent actions—and inactions—have left the people questioning your commitment to transparency and justice. When honesty is sacrificed for expediency, when integrity yields to self-interest, the consequences ripple far beyond the BOS meetings. Confidence is lost. Cynicism takes root. The very legitimacy of your leadership is called into question.

This is not a mere critique. It is a plea for you to remember the weight of your oaths, the gravity of your responsibility. The challenges our community faces which demand courageous leadership guided by principle, not politics. We cannot afford more empty assurances or carefully crafted narratives. We need leaders who will speak plainly, admit mistakes, and make decisions with the greater good in mind.

It is not too late to reclaim what has been lost. Honesty can be restored, integrity reaffirmed, but only if you choose to act. Let today be the turning point. Let your actions speak louder than your words. Prove to us—and maybe even yourselves—that you are worthy of the trust that was once placed in you.

Thank you.

Dee Russell
2/17/25

*Public
comment*

Mac Casale
7.17.2025

Propaganda is a powerful tool when only one side is heard.

Most of what you've been told about me is incorrect and not just about HITW.

Citizens were informed that I had my hand in the pockets of the taxpayers, which was never true. There was never anytime that the County paid more money than they took in from Hole In the Wall.

As a result of how negatively I've been brought up in every single meeting for the last 26 months, why hasn't the County let me tell my side of the story. You'd think the County would relish the opportunity to ask me questions in a public form and get the truth out, but that's not what certain members want at all.

Why has the County chosen P&H instead of fixing the septic? There were grant money out there to fix it for free, yet the County never applied for it not once.

The septic fix which has always been the County's responsibility in the lease would have been a much cheaper option than P&H.

The County is the ones in breach not me.

Do you remember when the then board had a public hearing to tell the citizens that it was gonna take \$362,000 to fix Hole In the Wall. People were so upset that one commenters said I should be hauled out and shot. This was all due to the counties misinformation campaign to the citizens. Isn't it interesting how quietly that supposedly large issue was fixed for \$7,700. Did the County ever advise the citizens of the correction.

For the BOS members that are up in arms about what I pay for rent. Do they know that the former tenant for 30 plus years paid \$300 a month and the tenant that was there before I took over only paid \$500 a month and that was without a \$200K capital investment. Yet nobody was outraged at what a sweet deal they got.

I had hoped we could work in good faith to reach a resolution and thought we were mutually working towards that goal. I realize now all the County was doing was stringing me along to push me past the 30 days so they could falsely put me in breach of my lease contract.

The County admits to looking for a new tenants, not working with their current tenant, wouldn't the new tenants have the same problems as me. Unless their whole purpose was just to get me out as a tenant.

This is never been about what's best for Mathews. This is always been about greed, jealousy and the insecurity of certain BOS members. Plain and simple.



Office of the Sheriff

County of Mathews

Sheriff April L. Edwards



Thursday, July 17, 2025

To: Sheriff Edwards

From: P. J. Graham, Major

Ref: Sheriff's Office Statistical Update: 2024–2025 Mid-Year Comparison

Attached is a summary comparing key law enforcement statistics for the Mathews County Sheriff's Office from January through June of 2024 and 2025.

Felony Arrests:

In the first half of 2024, there were 29 felony arrests. During the same period in 2025, that number increased to 41—representing a 41% increase in felony arrests.

Misdemeanor Arrests:

Misdemeanor arrests decreased slightly, from 75 in the first half of 2024 to 67 in the same timeframe in 2025.

Year-to-Date Totals (as of June 2025):

In 2024, the Sheriff's Office made a total of 57 felony arrests and 156 misdemeanor arrests.

As of June 2025, we have recorded 41 felony arrests and 67 misdemeanor arrests.

Violent Crime Trends:

We are seeing a rise in violent crime, including homicides. There were homicides in 2024, and unfortunately, we have already experienced two in 2025.

Responding to the most recent homicide has placed a significant operational demand on our staff. One investigator has logged over 80 hours in the past 7 days, with other deputies also working extended hours to support the investigation.

These trends underscore the growing demands on our department and the need for continued support as we respond to increasingly complex and serious criminal activity in our community.