

Boards and Commissions
Shenandoah County
Board of Supervisors
A Community Guide



The Shenandoah County Board of Supervisors regularly makes appointments to a wide variety of advisory boards, commissions, civic organizations and non-profit services providers. These organizations have some affiliation, mission and/or objective which concerns the people, environment, quality of life or economy of Shenandoah County. Most of the appointments made to these boards and commissions are citizen volunteers who give of their time and energy to promote the greater Shenandoah County community. If you are interested in learning more or serving on any of the outlined boards and commissions feel free to contact the Office of the County Administrator at (540) 459-6165 or any member of the Board of Supervisors (BOS). The following guide is intended to be a brief summary of the organization, its advisory board and length of term. For specific details or questions please contact the Office of the County Administrator.

Agriculture and Forestal Advisory Committee

The Agriculture and Forestal district is a special zoning district established by state law and adopted by the Shenandoah County Board of Supervisors. Subsequent to the adoption of the zoning district the BOS is required by state law §15.2-4304 to appoint an oversight committee to advise the Planning Commission and the BOS in creating, reviewing, modifying, continuing or terminating districts.

The Committee is comprised of four (4) citizen representatives who are engaged in agricultural and forestal production, four (4) land owners within the County, the Commissioner of the Revenue and a member of the Board of Supervisors.

The Committee membership serves at the pleasure of the Board of Supervisors. There are no term lengths or limits established.



Board of Building Code Appeals

The Commonwealth of Virginia requires any unit of local government which has established and adopted a uniform set of building codes, and to appoint a Board of Building Code Appeals. The Shenandoah County Code specifies that the Board of Building Code Appeals shall consist of members who have the ability to render fair and competent decisions regarding the application of the building code and shall have some representation, whether occupational or professional, in the fields associated with construction, repair and the maintenance of buildings. At least one member shall be an experienced builder. In addition, when possible at least one member shall be a licensed engineer or architect.

Members are appointed to five (5) year terms with no term limits.



Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA)

The Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) is a quasi-judicial board appointed by the local Circuit Court based on recommendation of appointments by the Board of Supervisors. Any locality which has established a zoning ordinance is required to establish a local BZA. The BZA is charged with hearing and ruling on appeals of the local zoning administrator's interpretation and application of the zoning ordinance. In addition, the BZA may, rule and authorize a variance, to the established zoning ordinance. The BZA's authority and discretion is outlined in Virginia State Code section 15.2-2308 and 15.2 2309.

The BZA is made up of five (5) members. Appointments are for five (5) year terms with no term limits.



Cedar Creek/Belle Grove National Historical Park Advisory Commission

This 16 member advisory group is comprised of a variety of stakeholders including local government, landowners, the Cedar Creek Foundation, Belle Grove Inc., the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation and ex-officio members from both the National Park Service and National Forest Service. In addition, there are two (2) at large members recommended by the Shenandoah County BOS to represent Shenandoah County with final approval from the U.S. Department of Interior.

There are no term lengths and no term limits established.



Community Policy and Management Team (CPMT)

CPMT is the advisory board which helps distribute services through the Comprehensive Services Act (CSA). When enacted the CSA attempted to coordinate various state and local agencies who provide a myriad of services and care to at risk youth. Youth are considered “at risk” when there is a possibility that due to behavior, condition or family situation that they will be removed from the home, school and/or community and into institutional care. Contributing factors to at risk youth include, but are not limited to emotional, mental, behavioral and criminal justice issues.

Per state code § 2.2-5205: The community policy and management team to be appointed by the local governing body shall include, at a minimum, at least one elected official or appointed official or his designee from the governing body of a locality that is a member of the team, and the local agency heads or their designees of the following community agencies: community services board, juvenile court services unit, department of health, department of social services, and the local school division. CPMT is charged with providing policy oversight to the expenditure and use of CSA funds. CSA funds are derived from state, federal and local sources.

There are no term lengths and no term limits established.

Conservation Easement Authority

The Conservation Easement Authority is established in Chapter 82 of the Code of Shenandoah County through state enabling legislation. The purpose of the conservation easement program is to further the goals of the County's Comprehensive Plan and provide a means to assist County landowners in protecting and preserving farm and forest land, open space, scenic vistas, historic sites, water resources and environmentally sensitive lands as well as the County's rural character. The easement program provides for a means for the county to acquire voluntary conservation easements either through donation or through purchase if funding is available.

The Authority is comprised of seven (7) members to include at least one (1) member of the Board of Supervisors and at least one (1) member of the Planning Commission and five (5) citizen representatives.

Members serve a four (4) year term with no term limits.



Citizens Advisory Committee on the Comprehensive Plan

This committee was established by the Board of Supervisors in 2006. The committee is charged with reviewing the County's Comprehensive Plan on a recurring basis and to propose updates and revisions to the plan based on the Committee's recommendation. The Committee annually reviews County actions and compare them with the stated goals, objectives, strategies and implementation actions outlined in the County's Comprehensive Plan. The report is provided to the Planning Commission.

The Committee may consist of 8 to 14 members: the chairperson of the Planning Commission, or their designee, and the Director of Community Development, or his designee, who will serve as permanent members, and a maximum of two citizens, but not less than one, from each electoral district. District Supervisors will recommend citizens from their respective districts to serve on the Committee. All appointed members of the Committee shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Supervisors and may be removed by the Board at any time. The chairperson will be elected by the committee at largest.

Appointments are for a four (4) year term with no term limits.

County Farm Advisory Board

The County Farm Advisory Board was developed as an ad hoc advisory board in 2009 to provide guidance to staff,



specifically the VT ag extension office, on agricultural best management practices as they relate to use of the county farm property. The advisory board meets on an as needed basis. There are no term lengths and no term limits established.

Department of Social Services Advisory Board

The advisory board monitors a variety of activities associated with the delivery of social services within Shenandoah County. The advisory board oversees the appointment of the local department director. The Board establishes, reviews and revises local policy decisions related to social service delivery. It prepares, in consultation with the Director, the annual budget and reports to local and state government.

Board members are appointed to four (4) year terms and are limited to two (2) term limit.

Industrial Development Authority (IDA)

The Shenandoah County Industrial Development Authority is established through state law §15.2-4901. Across Virginia IDA's are tasked with utilizing various means and methods to induce manufacturing, industrial, governmental, nonprofit and commercial enterprises and institutions of higher learning to locate, or remain within the locality. IDA's can issue debt, acquire property, dispose of property and construct infrastructure to promote economic and industrial development.

The Shenandoah County IDA is comprised of seven (7) members, six (6) from each electoral district and one "at large" member.

Board members are appointed to four (4) year terms with no term limits.



Lord Fairfax Community College Board

Lord Fairfax Community College has an advisory board made up of community representatives from the counties of Clarke, Fauquier, Frederick, Page, Rappahannock, Shenandoah and Warren and the City of Winchester. The Board provides the College's administration with a variety of policy direction on various facets of the institution. Shenandoah County appoints two (2) community representatives.

Board members are appointed to four (4) year terms and are limited to two (2) terms.



Lord Fairfax EMS Council

The Lord Fairfax EMS Council is a regional entity which attempts to bring together various individuals, agencies and units of government who provide for community health through emergency medical services. The agency attempts to coordinate EMS services and provide coordination within the service area represented.

The Lord Fairfax EMS council includes the City of Winchester and the counties of Clarke, Frederick, Page, Shenandoah and Warren. The Board of Directors, known as the Council Board has up to 23 members including three (3) each from each local unit of government. Each member serves a three (3) year term and can serve up to three (3) consecutive terms. Each locality (i.e. city and counties) will be represented by at least one volunteer and one career EMS provider.

Board members are appointed to three (3) years terms and are limited to three (3) consecutive terms.



Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission (NSVRC)

In the 1970's the Commonwealth of Virginia created regional planning districts to facilitate local government cooperation and state-local cooperation in addressing planning and service delivery needs on a regional basis. Shenandoah County along with Page, Warren, Clarke, Frederick counties, the City of Winchester and all the incorporated towns within those jurisdictions are members of the NSVRC. Examples of projects and initiatives undertaken by the Commission include but are not limited to: hazard mitigation planning, water resource planning, solid waste and air quality planning, transportation planning as well as grant writing.

Membership on the Commission is based on population of the jurisdiction represented. Shenandoah County is represented by two elected representatives (members of the Board of Supervisors) and two non elected representatives.

Terms for elected representatives is concurrent with their term on the BOS. Terms for non elected county representatives is four (4) years with no term limits.



Northwestern Community Services Board (CSB) Board

Community Service Boards within the Commonwealth of Virginia establish, maintain, promote and develop programs, initiatives, facilities which address the needs of citizens with mental, emotional and behavioral health, retardation, developmental and substance abuse issues within the community. Examples include, but are not limited to emergency mental health services, case management, inpatient care, outpatient care, residential care, and day support. CSB's provide a continuum of care and act as single point of entry to gain access to care for those in need.

Community Services Boards are established throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. Many are regional in nature representing and serving multiple cities and counties. The Northwestern Community Services Board provide related services to the City of Winchester and the counties of Clarke, Frederick, Page, Shenandoah and Warren.

Shenandoah County has three (3) members on the Northwestern CSB's policy and advisory board. Terms are for three (3) years with no term limits.

Old Dominion ASAP (Alcohol Safety Action Program)

ASAP is a state program designed to provide education, intervention, monitoring of those with alcohol abuse issue. Programs include but are not limited to: ignition interlock monitoring, enrollment, assessment and monitoring of first time and habitual DUI offenders, alcohol/drug education, outpatient treatment for alcohol and drug abuse.

The Old Dominion ASAP regional area includes the counties of Clarke, Frederick, Page, Shenandoah and Warren s and the City of Winchester.

Shenandoah County has one citizen representative on the policy board.

Terms are for three (3) years with no term limits.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee was established to advise the Board of Supervisors, County Administration and the Parks and

Shenandoah County



Parks and Recreation

Recreation Department on policies, programs, personnel, financing, acquisition and disposal of property related to recreation and or the long range planning for recreation needs in Shenandoah County.

The Advisory Committee is comprised of (14) members. There are two members from each voting district, and one member from the incorporated town based on a recommendation, with a concurrence vote, from the governing body of the town. One (1) member from the Board of Supervisors, one (1) member of the school board.

Terms are for three (3) years with no term limits.

Planning Commission



The Shenandoah County Planning Commission is established through enabling state code legislation; specifically 15.2-2210 and 15.2-2200. The Planning Commission is charged with promoting the orderly development of the locality and its environs by advising the local governing body (the BOS) and administrative staff on a variety of laws, regulations and policy issues associated with land use within the County.

The Planning Commission is comprised of seven (7) voting members. Membership is divided to represent the six voting districts within Shenandoah County. In addition, a member of the Board of Supervisors serves as a voting member of the Planning Commission. The Director of Community Development, serves as a non-voting member.

Terms are for four (4) years with no term limits.

Shenandoah Area Agency on Aging (SAAA)

SAAA is a non-profit organization representing, advocating and promoting senior citizens in the northern Shenandoah Valley within Planning District #7. SAAA service area includes the counties of Clarke, Frederick, Page, Shenandoah, Warren and the City of Winchester. Services include, but are not limited to: the Meals on Wheels program, community senior centers, in-home health care and transportation for the elderly.



The SAAA Board of Directors is comprised of 20 members representing the aforementioned jurisdictions. The SAAA Board of Directors is responsible for, but not limited to, the following: appointment of an Executive Director of the agency, policy direction and advocacy, budget formulation and fundraising.

The Shenandoah County BOS appoints three (3) representatives to the SAAA advisory. Members serve four (4) year terms and are limited to two (2) appointment/reappointments.

Shenandoah County Library Board of Trustees



The Shenandoah County Library system is an independent political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia. It is governed by a Board of Trustees under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Shenandoah County Library System consists of the main branch of the library located in Edinburg and a branch serving Orkney Springs/Basye. In addition, the library system includes independent community based libraries located in New Market, Mount Jackson, Fort Valley and Strasburg.

The Board of Trustees is appointed by the Shenandoah County Board of Supervisors. The Board of trustees consists of between 9-13 members with an attempt to represent all communities and libraries within Shenandoah County. Board members serve four (4) year terms and are limited to two (2) consecutive terms. A member of the Board of Supervisors serves as an ex officio member of the Library Board.

Shenandoah Valley Partnership

The Shenandoah Valley is a public and private partnership which provides marketing and business assistance to the central Shenandoah Valley. The regional approach works to enhance cooperation with business, government and educational leaders to provide new investment and strengthen existing businesses. The partnership includes the counties of Augusta, Bath, Highland, Page, Rockbridge, Rockingham and Shenandoah as well as the cities of Buena Vista, Lexington, Harrisonburg, Staunton and Waynesboro.

Shenandoah County is represented by one appointed government representative and one industry/business representative.

Terms are for two (2) years with no term limits.



Tourism Council



The Tourism Council is an advisory board appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The objective of the Tourism Council is to promote and market tourism within Shenandoah County with the primary objective of increasing tourism employment opportunities within Shenandoah County.

The Council is made of up thirteen (13) members representing the following: a representative from each of the five towns (Strasburg, Woodstock, Edinburg, Mt. Jackson and New Market), a representative each from the hotel, restaurant and attractions industries, a representative from the Bryce Mountain area, planning commission, agritourism, at-large Shenandoah County representative with a background/interest in tourism and a member of the Board of Supervisors.

Terms are three (3) years with no term limits.

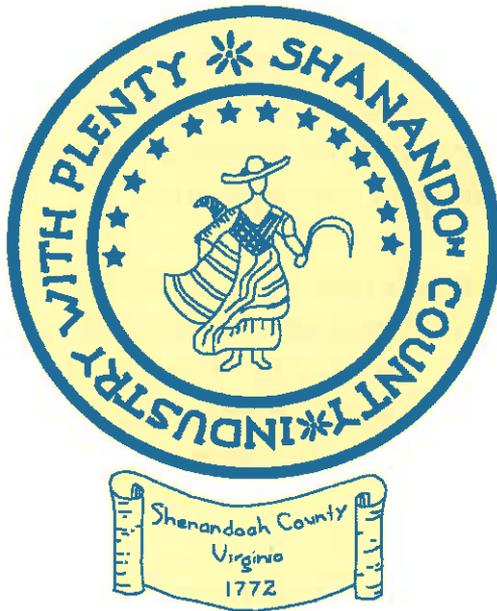
Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC)

Established in the late 1990's WRAC is chartered by and reports to the Shenandoah County Board of Supervisors. Its purpose is to inventory and study the water resources of the County and provide recommendations to the Board of Supervisors concerning those resources, including both water quantity as well as quality.

WRAC is comprised of 12 individuals representing different constituencies, interests and disciplines within the County. They include the BOS, planning commission, agriculture, education, industry, environmental community, public utilities (water/sewer).

There are no term lengths and no term limits established.





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