

WESTERN VIRGINIA WATER AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
September 10, 2025

The Board of the Western Virginia Water Authority (WVWA) met on Wednesday, September 10, 2025, at 24 Franklin Rd, Roanoke, Virginia. Board Chair Mike Loveman called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Loveman welcomed representatives from Authority jurisdictions and other organizations within the Authority's service area.

Mr. Loveman declared a quorum present.

BOARD ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Michael Loveman, Harvey Brookins, Richard Caywood, Don Halliwill, Randall Hancock, Shirley Holland, Valmarie Turner and Hunter Young ----- 8

ABSENT: ----- 0

Mr. Halliwill participated in the meeting remotely by phone from his vehicle traveling for business.

Board Chair Loveman called for a vote to approve the remote participation of Mr. Halliwill for business reasons. Ms. Turner made a motion to approve the remote participation and Mr. Hancock seconded the motion. The motion was passed by voice vote.

STAFF PRESENT IN PERSON:

Mike McEvoy, Executive Director; Scott Shirley, Chief Operating Officer Water Quality; Leana Stoltz, Chief Operating Officer Customer Operations; Gayle Shrewsbury, Board Secretary; Will Bulloss, Chief Strategy Officer; Tammy Lawfield, Director of Finance; Sarah Baumgardner, Director of Public Relations; Tesha Okioga, Director of Engineering Services; Neil Norris, Director of Human Resources; Stephen McGloughlin, Director of Information Technology; Smriti Sinha, Program Manager; Bryan Thompson, Special Conservator of Peace; Cassie Altice, Assistant Director of Environmental Programs; Kathleen Johnson, Program Manager; and Laura Schirmer, Public Relations Specialist.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jeremy Carroll, Counsel for the Authority; Sam Verrelli, Cardinal News; Henri Gendreau, Roanoke Rambler; Mason Adams, WVTF; Gary Larrowe, Botetourt County Administrator; David Moorman, Botetourt County Deputy County Administrator; Steve Sandy, Franklin County Deputy Administrator; Luke Campbell, Botetourt County Project Manager; Nicole Pendleton, Director Community Development Botetourt County; John Hull, Executive Director Roanoke Regional Partnership; Mayor Joseph Cobb, Roanoke City Mayor; Phazhon Nash, Roanoke City Council; Nick Hagen, Roanoke City Council; Evelyn Powers, Roanoke City Council; Peter Volosin, Roanoke City Council; Marc Nelson, Director Roanoke City Economic Development; Laura Carini, Roanoke Deputy City Attorney; Phil North, Roanoke County Board of Supervisors; Chris Whitlow, Franklin County Administrator; Lorie Smith, Franklin County Board of Supervisors; Dominic Harden, representing Delegate Sam Rasoul’s office; Adam Murphy, Citizen; and Misty Vickers, Citizen.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: Adam Murphy and Misty Dawn Vickers expressed concerns about the proposed Google data center in Botetourt County and impact on the Roanoke Valley region. Mr. Loveman added that an email was received from Evan Austin with a request for his notes to be included as part of the recorded meeting minutes.

Mr. McEvoy recognized individuals crucial to the project which was presented to the board for vote: Mr. Jeremy Carroll for his complex agreement preparation; Mr. Will Bulloss for his extensive engineering input and working closely with those involved with the project; Mr. Gary Larrowe and his team for their efforts, and Mr. Mike Lockaby.

RESOLUTION NO. 509 – WATER SUPPLY AND INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH BOTETOURT COUNTY: Mr. McEvoy presented Resolution No. 509. A copy of this report is attached to the approved minutes.

Mr. Young moved to approve Resolution No. 509, Mr. Hancock seconded the motion and it was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Brookins, Caywood, Halliwill, Hancock, Holland, Turner, Young, Loveman ----- 8
NAYS: ----- 0

RESOLUTION NO. 510 – UTILITY SERVICES FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH HELIO CAPITAL, LLC: Mr. McEvoy presented Resolution No. 510. A copy of this report is attached to the approved minutes.

Mr. Young moved to approve Resolution No. 510, Mr. Hancock seconded the motion and it was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Brookins, Caywood, Halliwill, Hancock, Holland, Turner, Young, Loveman ----- 8

NAYS: ----- 0

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS: Mr. Caywood commended Mr. McEvoy and the Authority staff for their extensive work and analysis on the complex agreements, and expressed appreciation for the project updates and Mr. McEvoy’s leadership.

Mr. Hancock noted that the Board has thoroughly reviewed these matters to ensure the best possible outcome for the Authority’s citizens and customers.

Mr. Brookins thanked the elected officials and acknowledged the foresight of leaders 20 years ago who initiated the regional collaboration between Roanoke City, Roanoke County, and later Botetourt County and Franklin County. He emphasized that the current agreement would not be possible without the regionalism support that the Water Authority provides citizens and economic development opportunities. He expressed appreciation for the continued support of municipal representatives in promoting regional efforts such as the Water Authority.

Ms. Turner thanked Mr. McEvoy, his team and Mr. Carroll, for working not only with the board but also with the local municipalities. She also expressed appreciation of the Mayor and the Roanoke City Council members for support and guidance as all the different iterations of the contract were worked through. She stated her excitement to be there and believes in regionalism, thinking this is the way to go.

OTHER BUSINESS: The regularly scheduled September 18, 2025 Board meeting was cancelled.

Mr. Loveman thanked all in attendance and adjourned the Board meeting at 4:21 p.m.

APPROVED: October 16, 2025



Gayle Shrewsbury

Gayle Shrewsbury, Secretary
WVWA Board of Directors

From: Evan Austin <reach.e.austin@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, September 9, 2025 10:19 PM

To: Sarah Baumgardner <Sarah.Baumgardner@WesternVaWater.org>

Subject: Public comments for Google datacenter

Caution: This email originated from an outside source.

Hello Ms. Baumgardner,

I understand the board will be convening tomorrow, 9/10/25, to conduct a vote on the Google datacenter proposal. In lieu of a town hall being held, I conducted a regional poll over the past month to gather public sentiment. I would like to submit these results for the record as a comment from the public. I would have done so sooner, but I only just learned about the meeting.

Here are some highlights from the poll:

- 81% oppose; 13% in favor; 6% unsure
- 83% agreed that 'I'm concerned our local freshwater sources won't be able to keep up with demand'
- 78% agreed that 'I'm less likely to support any elected official who backs this plan'
- 67% of all respondents agreed that 'I'm frustrated the community wasn't consulted earlier.'
- 75% agreed that 'I'm concerned this project could increase water or electricity rates'

I've attached screenshots of the exact results for your reference.

Thank you very much,
Evan

—

Evan Austin
peopleofroanoke.org