

Draft Minutes

JOINT MEETING
STATE REVIEW BOARD and BOARD OF HISTORIC RESOURCES
10:00 a.m. June 18, 2026
Reynolds Leadership Center, Virginia Museum of History and Culture
428 N Arthur Ashe Boulevard, Richmond, VA 23220

State Review Board Members Present

Dr. Jody L. Allen
Dr. Eleanor Breen
Dr. Jeffrey Klee
John Mullen
Greg Rutledge
Carol Shull
Dr. Larissa Smith

Historic Resources Board Members Present

Dr. Ken Rutherford, Chair
Aimee Jorjani, Vice Chair
Dr. Ashley Spivey
Martin Townes
David Hartley

State Review Board Members Absent

None

Historic Resources Board Members Absent

Mary Pope Hutson
Jamie Bosket

Department of Historic Resources Staff Present

Roger Kirchen, Director
Elizabeth Tune, Deputy Director
Jennifer Pullen
Michael Pulice
Joanna McKnight
Elizabeth Lipford
Heather Smolka
LaToya Gray-Sparks*
Ivy Tan*
Angel Williams*

Stephanie Williams, Deputy Director
Jolene Smith
Brad McDonald
Aubrey Von Lindern
Sara Wilson
Dr. Jennifer Loux
Troy Baker
Kyle Edwards*
Wendy Musumeci*
Austin Walker

Other State Agency Staff Present:

Andrew Tarne, Office of the Attorney General

**denotes virtual attendance*

Guests Present (from attendees list in Teams and sign-in sheets):

Mary Ruffin Hanbury
Laura Purvis
Julie Langan
Doug Domenech
Leslie West
Bessida White
Veronica Simkins
Cyane Crump
Joi Sheffield
Chancellor Reynolds

Debra McClane
Anita L. Helm
Peter Fowler
Claire Rozdilski
Libby Clark
Katie Gibson
Danielle Worthing Porter
William Landfair
Thomas Eads
Stan L. Thompson

Rita Davis
Faith Helm
Kayla Halberg
Polly Swogger
Carole Nash
Dara Friedberg
Carl Espy
Colby West
Michelle Vance

Board of Historic Resources (BHR)

Chair Rutherford called the Board of Historic Resources to order at 10:03 a.m.

Deputy Director Williams called roll to establish the presence of a quorum for the BHR. Vice Chair Jorjani, Dr. Spivey, Mr. Townes, Mr. Hartley, and Chair Rutherford are present. Ms. Hutson and Mr. Bosket are absent.

Chair Rutherford read the land acknowledgement statement. He then explained the purpose and duties of the BHR. He invited BHR members to introduce themselves and introduced himself.

Chair Rutherford noted that today's meeting is taking place in person and online and is being recorded. He said that some DHR staff members are attending the meeting online as are members of the public.

Chair Rutherford next asked the BHR members if there were any questions about the agenda. Hearing none, Chair Rutherford requested a motion for approval of the meeting format and agenda. Mr. Hartley so moved, and Vice Chair Jorjani seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Chair Rutherford asked for a motion to approve the March 19, 2026, meeting minutes. Mr. Hartley so moved, and Mr. Townes seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Chair Rutherford asked for a motion to approve the virtual meeting policy. Mr. Townes so moved, and Vice Chair Jorjani seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative.

State Review Board (SRB)

Director Kirchen called the State Review Board to order at 10:09 a.m.

Deputy Director Williams called roll to confirm the presence of a quorum for the SRB. Mr. Mullen, Dr. Allen, Ms. Shull, Dr. Klee, Dr. Smith, Mr. Rutledge, and Dr. Breen are present.

Noting that terms for SRB officers had expired, Director Kirchen asked for nominations to serve as Chair and Vice Chair. Ms. Shull nomination Dr. Breen to serve as Chair and Dr. Smith to serve as Vice Chair. Director Kirchen requested a motion to support the nominations. Dr. Klee so moved, and Dr. Allen seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to elect Dr. Breen as Chair and Dr. Smith as Vice Chair.

Chair Breen began by thanking Mr. Mullen and Dr. Allen for their service to the SRB as officers, and she expressed her own excitement for the role. She then explained the purpose and duties of the SRB and the process of Register designation. Each SRB member introduced themselves.

Chair Breen noted that today's meeting is taking place in person and online, and that it is being recorded. She said that some members of the public are attending the meeting online.

Chair Breen next asked the SRB members if there were any questions about the agenda. Hearing none, Chair Breen requested a motion to approve the meeting format and agenda. Dr. Allen so moved, and Dr. Smith seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Chair Breen asked for a motion to approve the March 19, 2026, meeting minutes. Mr. Rutledge so moved, and Mr. Mullen seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Chair Breen asked for a motion to approve the virtual meeting policy. Ms. Shull so moved, and Dr. Klee seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Chair Breen then gave the floor to Director Kirchen.

Director's Report

Director Kirchen began his report by congratulating Chair Breen and Vice Chair Smith on their new roles. He then thanked Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources David Bulova and members of his staff who were in attendance for the meeting, as well as Andrew Tarne from the Office of the Attorney General. He also offered a special welcome to former DHR Director Julie Langan, who was in attendance. He thanked the Virginia Museum of History and Culture for hosting today's meeting, and encouraged those in attendance to visit the test copy of the Declaration of Independence – one of six official reproductions commissioned by Secretary of State John Quincy Adams in the 1820s and one of only two paper copies known to exist – currently on display at the museum.

Director Kirchen next thanked Mr. Mullen and Dr. Allen for their service as the previous Chair and Vice Chair of the State Review Board. He also thanked Chair Rutherford and Vice Chair Jorjani, whose terms on the Board of Historic Resources expire at the end of June.

Director Kirchen informed the Board members of Governor Spanberger's recent resolution honoring DHR's 60th anniversary. He also updated the Boards on several recent facilities upgrades at DHR's Richmond office, including restroom and kitchen renovations and ongoing carpet replacement. He thanked Jen Pullen and Stephanie Williams for their efforts in coordinating these projects.

Turning to the state budget, Director Kirchen noted that there was still no agreement between the House and Senate, with a special joint session scheduled for June 29. He stated that DHR remains hopeful that new easements and grants program positions will remain in the final document. At the federal level, he informed the Boards that the Notice of Funding Opportunity for the latest round of the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) has been released by the National Park Service; funding for the HPF includes \$62 million for State Historic Preservation Offices, with \$1.2 million allocated to Virginia.

Director Kirchen highlighted DHR's program to place state historical highway markers at or near the sites of lynchings that took place in the Commonwealth, noting that two such markers are on the BHR's afternoon agenda. He also informed the Boards that the application process for the latest round of the Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) Historic Preservation Grant Program is underway, with DHR staff approving 75 pre-applications ahead of the full application deadline on July 2. Awards are expected in September 2026.

Continuing with DHR grant programs, Director Kirchen noted the recent approval of six projects to receive Certified Local Government Grants, funding for which is comprised of 10% of the agency's HPF allocation. He also highlighted the approval of three projects to receive Cost Share Survey and Planning Grants, noting that funding requests were down this year due to increasing financial uncertainty at the local level. Finally, Director Kirchen informed the Boards of DHR's recent award of an additional \$2 million in grant funding from the National Park Service's Emergency Supplemental Historic Preservation Fund (ESHPPF) for localities impacted by Hurricane Helene.

Director Kirchen concluded his report by reminding Board members that their next meeting on September 17 will take place at James Madison's Montpelier.

Public Comment

Chair Rutherford introduced and explained the purpose of the public comment period and noted that speakers are asked to limit their remarks to three minutes. He added that the BHR will not take action on any comments presented today but DHR will take the comments under consideration. He requested that speakers limit their comments to a span of three minutes. He added that a second comment period will occur when the BHR meets this afternoon to review Highway Marker and Easement program materials.

Two people signed in to speak in person, while three people attending virtually registered to speak:

1. Anita L. Helm spoke in support of the nomination for First Baptist Church Watson and thanked the Boards for their consideration and their service. She spoke to what the church still means to the community, and thanked Aubrey Von Lindern for her guidance and assistance with navigating the nomination process.
2. Peter Fowler of Preservation Bath spoke in support of the nomination for the Bacova Historic District, noting the excitement within the local community about the district's history and significance.
3. Danielle Worthing Porter of Historic Richmond spoke in support of the nomination for Brookbury.
4. Libby Clark, town manager for the Town of Mount Crawford, was unable to unmute her microphone, but subsequently submitted written comments in support of the nomination for the Mount Crawford Historic District.
5. Carl Espy, IV, town manager for the Town of Halifax, was unable to unmute his microphone, but subsequently submitted written comments in support of the nomination for the Banister River Navigation Improvements Historic District.

Chair Rutherford thanked everyone who spoke today, noted that their comments will receive careful consideration, and said that the public comment period is concluded.

Chair Rutherford called for a brief break at 10:37 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:46 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Eastern Region

1. Mary N. Smith High School, Accomack County, DHR File No. 001-5479 Δ \$
2. Green Bay School, Prince Edward County, DHR File No. 073-5173
3. Downtown Portsmouth Historic District Boundary Increase, City of Portsmouth, DHR File No. 124-5286
4. Brookbury, City of Richmond, DHR File No. 127-0302 Δ **
5. The Virginia Home, City of Richmond, DHR File No. 127-6157 **

Ms. Joanna McKnight presented nominations 1 through 5 as a block.

Chair Rutherford requested a motion to approve the Eastern Region nominations as presented. Mr. Townes so moved, and Mr. Hartley seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the nominations as presented.

Chair Breen requested a motion to approve the Eastern Region nominations as presented. Dr. Smith moved that the nominations be approved. Dr. Klee seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the nominations as presented.

Northern Region

1. Bacova Historic District, Bath County, DHR File No. 008-0014 *
2. David L. Clayton House, Frederick County, DHR File No. 034-1092
3. First Baptist Church Watson, Loudoun County, DHR File No. 053-5087-0009 Δ \$ * **
4. Oakland Baptist Church, City of Alexandria, DHR File No. 100-0211 Δ \$ **
5. Lucius and Mary Stephenson House, Town of Monterey, Highland County, DHR File No. 262-0011
6. Mount Crawford Historic District, Town of Mount Crawford, Rockingham County, DHR File No. 264-0001 *

Ms. Aubrey Von Lindern presented nominations 1 through 6 as a block.

Chair Rutherford requested a motion to approve the Northern Region nominations as presented. Vice Chair Jorjani so moved, and Dr. Spivey seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the nominations as presented.

Chair Breen requested a motion to approve the Northern Region nominations as presented. Dr. Allen moved that the nominations be approved. Dr. Klee seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the nominations as presented.

Western Region

1. Banister River Improvements Historic District, Halifax County, DHR File No. 041-5311 ^
2. Calvary Rural Historic District, Halifax County, DHR File No. 041-5926
3. Gibson Farm, Lee County, DHR File No. 052-5163
4. Presbyterian Cemetery, City of Lynchburg, DHR File No. 118-5737 **
5. Dublin High School, Town of Dublin, Pulaski County, DHR File No. 210-5011

Mr. Mike Pulice presented nominations 1 through 5 as a block.

Chair Rutherford requested a motion to approve the Western Region nominations as presented. Dr. Spivey so moved, and Mr. Hartley seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the nominations as presented.

Chair Breen requested a motion to approve the Western Region nominations as presented. Dr. Smith moved that the nominations be approved. Dr. Allen seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the nominations as presented.

Adjournment

Chair Rutherford asked for a motion to adjourn the joint session of the BHR and SRB. Mr. Hartley so moved, and Vice Chair Jorjani seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the joint session.

Chair Breen asked for a motion to adjourn the joint session of the BHR and SRB. Mr. Mullen so moved, and Dr. Allen seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the joint session.

The joint meeting adjourned at 12:06 a.m.

Register Summary of Resources Listed: Historic Districts: 6
 Buildings: 10
 Structures: 0
 Sites: 0
 Objects: 0
 MPDs: 0

BOARD OF HISTORIC RESOURCES

12:45 p.m., June 18, 2026

Reynolds Leadership Center, Virginia Museum of History & Culture, Richmond, Virginia

Board of Historic Resources Members Present:

Ken Rutherford, PhD, Chair
Aimee K. Jorjani, Vice Chair
David Hartley
Ashley Spivey, PhD
Martin Townes

Board of Historic Resources Members Absent:

Jamie Bosket
Mary Pope Hutson

Department of Historic Resources (DHR)

Staff Present:

Roger Kirchen, Director
Stephanie Williams, Deputy Director
Kyle Edwards
Joanna Wilson Green
Elizabeth Lipford
Dr. Jennifer Loux
Brad McDonald
Wendy Musumeci*
Jennifer Pullen

**denotes virtual attendance*

Other State Agency Staff Present:

Andrew Tarne, Office of the Attorney General

Guests Present from Attendees List at Meeting:

Brooke Vandervelde
Mayo Carter
Beth Wray Evans

Guests Registered in Teams:

Mara Evans

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rutherford called the meeting to order at 12:47 p.m.

Chair Rutherford read the Board of Historic Resources Call to Order of those members present: Vice Chair Jorjani, Mr. Hartley, Dr. Spivey, Mr. Townes and Chair Rutherford.

Chair Rutherford read the following Land Acknowledgement Statement:

The Department of Historic Resources, the Board of Historic Resources, and the State Review Board acknowledge the indigenous peoples of Virginia and express its gratitude for their continued stewardship of her lands and waterways over many generations. We also acknowledge the free and enslaved Africans and their descendants whose labors and contributions on behalf of the Commonwealth have long been overlooked. We commit ourselves to meaningful engagement with all Virginians, past and present, as we strive to fulfill our charge as stewards of Virginia's long and rich history.

Chair Rutherford read the following BHR Purpose Statement:

The Virginia Board of Historic Resources is an official policy-making board of the Commonwealth of Virginia created by the Code of Virginia. Its policies are implemented by the Department of Historic Resources, which day in and day out labors on behalf of our irreplaceable resources in the interest of the citizens of this Commonwealth. The Board is charged primarily with the responsibility for:

- 1. Designating historic landmarks of local, statewide, or national significance;*
- 2. Establishing historic preservation practices for the care and management of our Virginia Historic Landmarks;*

3. *Designating state-recognized historic districts and archaeological sites and zones;*
4. *Approving historical highway markers;*
5. *Reviewing programs and services of the Agency, and making recommendations to the Director of DHR and the Governor regarding programs and services; and in order to preserve important sites and buildings in perpetuity; and*
6. *Accepting voluntarily granted gifts of preservation easements over historic properties to the Commonwealth.*

The Governor of Virginia selects members of the Board from volunteer and professional leaders of Virginia's history, preservation, and museum communities. Votes taken during this meeting are official actions of the Commonwealth of Virginia Board of Historic Resources.

Chair Rutherford acknowledged special guest, Andrew Tarne, from the Office of the Attorney General and asked the Board members to introduce themselves: Mr. Hartley, Dr. Spivey, Mr. Townes, Vice Chair Jorjani and Chair Rutherford. Chair Rutherford read the statement regarding the format of public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Brooke Vandervelde, Amherst County, spoke in favor of the proposal to contextualize the confederate monument at the Amherst County Courthouse. Ms. Vanderbilt acknowledged the efforts at Charlotte Courthouse to contextualize that monument as the guide for the process in Amherst. She summarized the extensive process followed, noted individuals and other localities that they consulted with and stated that she looked forward to the educational aspect of the contextualization marker and future conversations about the history.

Mayo Carter, sponsor for the Rumble highway marker in the City of Fredericksburg, summarized the history of Link Wray and his contribution to the history of rock and roll music, as well as his connection to Fredericksburg.

Beth Wray Evans, daughter of Link Wray, spoke in support of the Rumble highway marker and summarized Link Wray's contribution to rock and roll music with his unique rumble sound technique.

Mara Evans, Vice President of the Bolling Family Association, spoke in support of the Mary Marshall Tabb Bolling highway marker, providing a brief summary of Mary Bolling's biography and contributions.

The Public Comment agenda ended at 1:01 p.m.

Chair Rutherford asked that the meeting agenda be amended to include the Amherst County Confederate Monument Contextualization after the Applications Under Consideration for the September 2026 Board Meeting Cycle. The motion was made by Mr. Hartley and seconded by Dr. Spivey, all members voted in the affirmative.

HIGHWAY MARKERS

Dr. Jennifer Loux presented the following nine (9) New Markers as a block.

New Markers

1. Spanish Jesuit Mission, 1570-1571

Sponsor: Douglas Domenech

Locality: York County

Proposed Location: Penniman Road near the Cheatham Annex gateway

2. The Rev. Robert Hunt (ca. 1569-1608)

Sponsor: James City County Historical Commission

Locality: James City County

Proposed Location: Jamestown Road service road, just east of intersection with Route 31

3. Mary Marshall Tabb Bolling (ca. 1737-1814)

Sponsor: The Bolling Family Association

Locality: City of Petersburg

Proposed Location: N. Madison Street near YMCA

4. Religious Liberty and the Constitution

Sponsor: Goshen Baptist Association

Locality: Orange County

Proposed Location: Constitution Highway at intersection with Clifton Road

5. History of Dawn

Sponsor: Preservation Virginia

Locality: Caroline County

Proposed Location: Baylor Road

6. Hampstead

Sponsor: Tidewater and Big Bend Foundation

Locality: New Kent County

Proposed Location: 5101 Hampstead Lane

7. Hickory Hill School

Sponsor: Renewal of Life Land Trust

Locality: City of Richmond

Proposed Location: 3000 East Belt Boulevard

8. Rumble

Sponsor: City of Fredericksburg

Locality: City of Fredericksburg

Proposed Location: Fall Hill Road east of the intersection with Route 1

9. Gay Alliance of Students

Sponsor: Virginia Commonwealth University, Development & Alumni Relations

Locality: City of Richmond (VCU)

Proposed Location: Grassy area outside of VCU's University Student Commons

Board Comments Summary: Dr. Spivey thanked the sponsors and attendees for the Rumble maker, noting that she first learned about Link Wray's contributions to music at the Pocohontas Revisited Film Festival.

With a motion to approve New Markers #1-9 by Vice Chair Jorjani and a second from Mr. Townes, all members voted in the affirmative.

Dr. Loux presented the following two (2) Lynching Sites Markers:

Initiative to Place Markers at Sites of Lynchings

1. Peter Bland Lynched

Locality: King William County

Proposed Location: 351 Courthouse Road

2. Pinkney Murphy Lynched

Locality: Nelson County

Proposed Location: Oak Ridge Road, Arrington

Board Comments Summary: No comments.

With a motion to approve Initiative to Place Markers at Sites of Markers #1-2 by Dr. Spivey and a second from Mr. Townes, all members voted in the affirmative.

Dr. Loux presented the following three (3) Replacement Markers:

1. Frontier Fort U-32

Sponsor: VDOT

Locality: Patrick County

Proposed Location: US 58 at intersection with Penn Store Road/Route 629

2. Reuben Ford (ca. 1742-1823) V-18

Sponsor: VDOT

Locality: Goochland County

Proposed Location: US 250 at intersection with Shallow Well Road

3. Dix's Ferry U-39

Sponsor: DHR

Locality: City of Danville

Proposed Location: South Boston Road at intersection with Kentuck Road

Board Comments Summary: No comments

With a motion to approve Replacement Markers #1-3 by Mr. Hartley and a second from Vice Chair Jorjani, all members voted in the affirmative.

Dr. Loux presented the following list of applications under consideration for the September 2026 Board Meeting cycle:

Applications Under Consideration for September 2026 Board Meeting Cycle

1. Ernest Judson Wilson (Fauquier County)
2. Southern Aid Life Insurance (City of Richmond)
3. Dr. Rebecca Lee Crumpler (City of Richmond)
4. Amblers House/Emancipation at Jamestown (James City County)
5. Church at the Crossroads (City of Virginia Beach)
6. Hanover Courthouse (Hanover County)
7. Bright Hope Baptist Church and Cemetery (Louisa County)
8. Old St. John's Baptist Church Cemetery (Lancaster County)
9. Lt. Gen. George G. Loving Jr. (City of Lynchburg)
10. Mount Stirling (Charles City County)
11. James E. Jenkins Jr. (1923-2002) (Prince Edward County)
12. Northside High School (Pittsylvania County)

13. Mount Calvary Baptist Church (City of Hopewell)
14. Fearless Thirty-Eight (Virginia Beach)
15. Phi Phi—100 Years of Service (City of Richmond)
16. The Branch House (City of Richmond)
17. Timberlake (Campbell County)

Marker texts for applications #1-9 [Ernest Judson Wilson (Fauquier County), Southern Aid Life Insurance (City of Richmond), Dr. Rebecca Lee Crumpler (City of Richmond), Amblers House/Emancipation at Jamestown (James City County), church at the Crossroads (City of Virginia Beach), Hanover Courthouse (Hanover County), Bright Hope Baptist Church and Cemetery (Louisa County), Old St. John's Baptist Church Cemetery (Lancaster County), and Lt. Gen George G. Loving, Jr. (City of Lynchburg)] will be presented at the September 2026 Board Meeting. #10 [Mount Stirling] is an alternate.

Board Comments Summary: No comments.

With a motion to approve the Applications for the September 2026 Board Meeting Cycle Applications #1-9 by Dr. Spivey and a second from Vice Chair Jorjani, all members voted in the affirmative.

Dr. Loux presented the following Amherst County Confederate Monument Contextualization Marker:

Amherst County Confederate Monument Contextualization

State Highway Marker: 42 inches wide; 50 inches tall

Amherst County Marker: 32 inches wide; 30 inches tall

Board Comments Summary: Vice Chair Jorjani asked when the regulations for the contextualization of monuments were approved and if this was the first marker under those regulations. Dr. Loux stated that the regulations went into effect in November 2025 and confirmed that this is the first marker to be approved under the contextualization regulations.

With a motion to approve the Amherst County Confederate Monument Contextualization Marker by Dr. Spivey and a second from Mr. Hartley, all members voted in the affirmative.

The Highway Markers portion of the agenda ended at 1:20 p.m.

Joanna Wilson Green presented the following Burial Permits update.

BURIAL PERMITS

Between March 19 and June 15, 2026 DHR issued six burial permits on behalf of the Board of Historic Resources. All permits were anticipatory (no purposeful disturbance of buried human remains proposed). Six permits were closed following completion of permit terms and seven permits were extended to accommodate project delays or complications.

Ms. Wilson Green updated the Board recent work at the Governor's Palace Revolutionary War Cemetery in the City of Williamsburg (permit issued October 2025, closed March 2026).

The Burial Permits portion of the agenda ended at 1:24 p.m.

EASEMENTS

New Easement Offers for Consideration

Kyle Edwards presented the following new easement offers for consideration:

1. Morton's Tenement, Chandler Court & Pollard Park Historic District, City of Williamsburg

Easement Applicant: Susan L. Buck, Devisee of Edward Acree Chappell by Will

Offer for ±0.133 acres

The Easement Acceptance Committee recommends acceptance of the Morton's Tenement easement offer subject to the following conditions:

1. Final review of the title work, title commitment, survey, draft easement and other recorded and unrecorded documents affecting title to the property by the Office of the Attorney General. Per this review, counsel may identify additional issues that require documentation or action.

2. Martin Site, Wythe County

Easement Applicant: The Conservation Fund

Easement Donor: The Archaeological Conservancy

Offer for ±16.267 acres

Grant Funding: Virginia Land Conservation Foundation, Virginia Outdoors Foundation Preservation Trust Fund

The Easement Acceptance Committee recommends acceptance of the Martin Site easement offer subject to the following conditions:

1. Completion of tribal consultation to DHR's satisfaction.
2. Final review of the title work, title commitment, survey, draft easements, and other recorded and unrecorded documents affecting title to the Property by the Office of the Attorney General. Per this review, counsel may identify additional issues that require documentation or action.

3. Excelsior Brigade Tract, Mine Run Battlefield, Orange County

Easement Applicant: Friends of Wilderness Battlefield, Inc.

Offer for ±42.3135 acres

Grant Funding: American Battlefield Protection Program, Virginia Battlefield Preservation Fund

The Easement Acceptance Committee recommends acceptance of the Excelsior Brigade Tract easement offer subject to the following conditions:

1. Final review of the title work, title commitment, survey, draft easement and other recorded and unrecorded documents affecting title to the property by the Office of the Attorney General. Per this review, counsel may identify additional issues that require documentation or action.

4. Bracken Tract, New Market Battlefield, Shenandoah County

Easement Applicant: Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation

Offer for ±161.3249 acres

Grant Funding: American Battlefield Protection Program

The Easement Acceptance Committee recommends acceptance of the Bracken Tract easement offer subject to the following conditions:

1. The existing bank barn must be demolished within two years from the date of Board approval. The stone foundation may remain if it is maintained.
2. Final review of the title work, title commitment, survey, draft easements, and other recorded and unrecorded documents affecting title to the Property by the Office of the Attorney General. Per this review, counsel may identify additional issues that require documentation or action.

Board Comments Summary: Chair Rutherford asked where the Bracken Tract was in relation to the VMI museum. Mr. Edwards confirmed that the site was south of the VMI museum.

With a motion by Dr. Spivey to approve New Easement Offers for Consideration #1-4 as presented, and a second by Mr. Hartley, all members voted in the affirmative.

Easement Program Statistics

Brad McDonald presented a summary of annual Easement Program statistics as well as a stewardship update focusing on monitoring visits, project review requests, and violations.

- 712 Properties
- 46,954 Protected Acres
- 9 New Easements Recorded, 362 Acres Newly Protected
- 347 Monitoring Visits Completed (Annual goal is 40% of the portfolio or 284 visits)
- 157 Individual Project Review Requests Processed
- 5 Violations: 2 Technical, 2 Minor, and 1 Willful

Board Comments Summary: No comments.

Easements Recorded Since the March 19, 2026, BHR Meeting

Mr. McDonald briefed the Board about the following recently recorded easements:

1. French Tract, Fisher's Hill Battlefield, Shenandoah County

Easement Donor: Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation

Acreage: ±146.078

Recorded: April 8, 2026

2. Woodworth Cottage, Shenandoah County

Easement Donor: Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation

Acreage: ±0.267

Recorded: May 18, 2026

Board Comments Summary: Chair Rutherford complimented the recent blog post written by Kyle Edwards on the French Tract.

Adjournment

With a motion to adjourn the meeting by Vice Chair Jorjani and a second by Mr. Hartley, all members voted in the affirmative.

Chair Rutherford adjourned the meeting of the Board of Historic Resources at 1:49 p.m.

STATE REVIEW BOARD

Collections Room, Virginia Department of Historic Resources
2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, VA 23221

State Review Board Members Present

Dr. Eleanor Breen, Chair
Dr. Larissa M. Smith, Vice Chair
Dr. Jody Allen
John Mullen
Carol Shull
Greg Rutledge
Dr. Jeffrey E. Klee

State Review Board Members Absent

None

Department of Historic Resources Staff Present

Elizabeth Tune, Deputy Director
Jolene Smith
Joanna McKnight
Sara Wilson
Michael Pulice
Aubrey Von Lindern
Angel Williams*
Mae Tilley*
Austin Walker

**denotes virtual attendance*

Other State Agency Staff Present:

None

Guests (from attendees list in Teams and sign-in sheets): Kayla Halberg, Faith Hamann, Elizabeth Nowak, Ivy Whitlatch, Paula Whitacre, Dara Friedberg, Ross Grogg, Ted Pulliam, Susan Dolinar, Carrie Hancock

Chair Breen called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. for discussion and consideration of the Preliminary Information Forms (informal guidance session).

The Preliminary Information Forms (PIFs) on the Consent Agenda were considered first. SRB members may request that PIFs on the Consent Agenda be switched to the meeting's Discussion Agenda. They also can email DHR staff with questions about any of the PIFs in advance of the meeting (emails between DHR staff and up to two SRB members do not violate the Virginia FOIA).

The Board approved the Consent Agenda by voice vote, with the following items on this portion of the meeting's agenda.

Consent Agenda:
Nomination Update

1. Clermont 2026 Update, Clarke County, DHR File No. 021-0019 >

Eastern Region

1. Amelia Court House Historic District, Amelia County, DHR File No. 004-0055
2. Pamunkey Indian School House, King William County, DHR File No. 050-1110 # \ **
3. Old St. John's Cemetery, Lancaster County, DHR File No. 051-0228 Δ
4. Hon. Armistead Stokolas Nickens Family Cemetery, Lancaster County, DHR File No. 051-5386 Δ
5. Shorter's Chapel A.M.E. Church, Northampton County, DHR File No. 065-0447 Δ \$
6. Allied Chemical and Dye Organic Research Center, City of Hopewell, DHR File No. 116-5213 **
7. Fire Station No. 11, City of Norfolk, DHR File No. 122-1023 **
8. James Madison School, City of Norfolk, DHR File No. 122-6498 **
9. Granite Schoolhouse, City of Richmond, DHR File No. 127-8293 Δ \ **
10. Bienvenue, City of Richmond, DHR File No. 127-8296 **

Northern Region

1. Old Whitewood Farm, Fauquier County, DHR File No. 030-0561
2. Montcalm Farm, Loudoun County, DHR File No. 053-0925 **
3. Meander Farm, Madison County, DHR File No. 056-0010
4. Wilkes Street Cemetery Complex, City of Alexandria, DHR File No. 100-5752 **
5. Rosenwald Community Center, City of Waynesboro, DHR File No. 136-5054-0067 Δ \

Western Region

1. Mansfield Cottage, Town of Chatham, Pittsylvania County, DHR File No. 187-5007

Prior to a vote on the Consent Agenda PIFs, Chair Breen invited anyone in attendance to comment on any of the agenda items:

- Faith Hamann, Preservation Planner for the City of Norfolk, spoke in support of the PIF for Fire Station No. 11.
- Paula Whitacre, a member of the Alexandria Archaeological Commission, spoke in support of the PIF for the Wilkes Street Cemetery Complex and noted the enthusiasm from both the City and the stewards of the cemeteries.

The board voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda PIFs as presented.

Discussion Agenda:

Eastern Regionpresented by Joanna McKnight

1. Pamunkey Pottery School, King William County, DHR File No. 050-5120 # \ **

Ms. Shull asked whether there is a recognizable Pamunkey style of pottery, recommending that visual material related to the works themselves could bolster a nomination. Dr. Smith noted the influence of the popular "southwest" aesthetic on Pamunkey pottery during the Great Depression, which provided a means of preserving tradition while adapting to market tastes. Dr. Breen asked whether the school's level of significance exceeds local. Mr. Rutledge noted the building's similarity to Rosenwald schools and wondered if there was any link to the program. Ms. Halberg, who has previous experience with the building, stated that it was built with state funding and likely utilized a standardized plan. Dr. Klee asked about the end date for the period of significance; Ms. McKnight said that it is tentatively the 50-year cutoff (1976) but remains open-ended pending additional research. The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.

2. Ellis Farm, Louisa and Goochland Counties, DHR File No. 054-5650 Δ

Ms. Shull asked if there were any current efforts to stabilize the standing dwelling; Ms. McKnight said that there is definite interest but noted the difficulty in funding opportunities for preserving resources on private property. Dr. Klee noted that Henry Glassie's book *Folk Housing in Middle Virginia* focuses on Louisa and Goochland Counties but overlooks resources such as this property, which could be a worthwhile citation in a future nomination. Dr. Klee recommended reaching out to members of the Chesapeake Chapter of the Vernacular Architecture Forum about documenting buildings and resources on the site. Dr. Breen asked about the level of documentation of the cemetery; Ms. McKnight shared a cemetery marker survey prepared by the PIF author. The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.

Northern Regionpresented by Aubrey Von Lindern

1. Sherwood Hill, City of Harrisonburg, DHR File No. 115-5184

Dr. Klee noted that some of the hardware in the house appears so specialized that it could potentially be linked to an identifiable blacksmith. The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.

2. Grand United Order of Odd Fellows Lodge Hall #2121, Town of Madison, Madison County, DHR File No. 256-0004-0078 Δ

Ms. Shull noted that it could be worthwhile to separately update the nomination for the Madison County Courthouse Historic District (DHR ID# 256-0004; VLR, NRHP 1984) to correct the misidentification of this building as a store. Ms. Von Lindern noted that the district nomination could benefit from a update for a number of reasons. The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.

Western Regionpresented by Mike Pulice

1. Court House Hill-Downtown Historic District 2026 Update and Boundary Increase, City of Lynchburg, DHR File No. 118-5766 **

Dr. Klee asked whether the resources within the boundary increase area, particularly the Fidelity National Bank Building, were constructed as part of urban renewal. It was determined that the bank tower replaced an earlier commercial building, and that the area in general has historically been commercial in nature. Dr. Klee recommended examining the context of Modernism in Virginia's downtowns as a forward-thinking effort to encourage commerce during the late 1960s and 1970s, which often saw the decline of these areas in the face of increasing suburbanization. The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.

Chair Breen adjourned the SRB meeting at 2:52 p.m.

*	Cost Share Sponsored Project
**	Certified Local Government
***	Certified Local Government Grant Sponsored Project
Δ	Associated with African American History
#	Associated with Virginia Indian History
^	ESHPP Grant-Funded Project
%	State Stewardship
>	National Park Service Grant-Funded Project
}	Sponsored by Local Government (no grants utilized)
<	Threatened Sites state grant
{	African American Outreach state grant
	National Trust for Historic Preservation private grant
\	BIPOC application
\$	Associated with a Multiple Property Documentation Form