

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

The Mathews County Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) is a five (5) member board consisting of Mathews County residents. The BZA hears and considers requests for variances and exceptions to the Mathews County Zoning Ordinance and appeals of the Zoning Administrator's decisions.

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Mathews County Planning Commission is a seven (7) member board which reviews issues related to community growth and development, and makes recommendations to Board of Supervisors on zoning and subdivision policies and land development requests, including Rezoning and Conditional Use Permits. They also make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on the County's Capital Improvement Program and the Comprehensive Plan.

WETLANDS BOARD

The Mathews County Wetlands Board reviews requests for permits for the use, alteration or development of tidal wetlands, and enforces the regulations of the Mathews County Wetlands Ordinance. The Board's jurisdiction concerns non-vegetated tidal wetlands between mean low water and mean high water, and vegetated tidal wetlands from mean low water to an elevation one and one-half times the mean tide range.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

In Virginia, Economic Development Authorities (EDA's) are authorized under §15.2-4900 of the Code of Virginia, 1950 as amended. Generally, EDAs provide for financing of economic development projects and activities, as they are allowed to provide for the issuance of bonds. In addition, EDAs have often expanded their roles to act as the economic development "office" for smaller localities.

In Mathews County, the EDA has financed the Liberty Square courts and office facility for the county. In addition, the EDA has financed a number of tax-exempt projects outside of the county. The EDA earns fees for this activity, which are then used to assist with other economic activities within the county. Most recently, the Mathews County EDA has provided small grants to organizations that provide products or services that encourage economic growth in the county.

LIBRARY BOARD

The Commonwealth of Virginia places the governance of public libraries with citizens of the community, organized as a library board of trustees appointed by the local governing body. As such, the board serves as a vital link between the library and the community, bringing the public's point of view and the needs of the community to the development of responsive library service. Library boards have both legal and practical responsibilities. Board members are generally responsible for (1) Selecting a library

director, (2) Developing and proposing a budget for adoption by local governing body and (3) Developing and adopting policy governing the operation of the library.

Local Dept. of Social Services Board

Mathews County DSS has an Administrative Board which is responsible for making local agency policy decisions --setting the standards, reviewing them and revising them as needed. They are responsible for administering the provisions of Code 63.2 of the Code of Virginia, 1950 as amended. They work with the local director to prepare and submit the annual budget to the board of supervisors. The board members are responsible to the community and are expected to represent the general population. The Board has the duty to and shall interest itself in all social service related matters needed by its citizens and served by the agency. The members direct the activities of the Director and assist the Director with program and personnel issues. Members are subject to all confidentiality guidelines relevant to social services policies and regulations.