

County of Dinwiddie

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FOUNDED 1752

February 25, 2022

Dearest Citizens and Friends of Dinwiddie County:

I pray this letter finds you and your families healthy and happy.

First and foremost, as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, I want to assure you that universal broadband is our top priority. Dinwiddie County was awarded a grant through the Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) and is partnering with RuralBand to complete a universal fiber-to-the-home broadband project. Fiber is the gold standard for broadband. The project is possible due to the support from VATI, RuralBand, Dominion Energy, Southside Electric Cooperative, The Cameron Foundation, and The Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission. Working together, Dinwiddie County will enjoy universal broadband by the end of 2024.

COVID-19 has taken a significant toll on Dinwiddie County. Despite our best efforts to increase awareness and implement mitigation practices, we amassed 5,161 positive cases over the past two years, and suffered 80 deaths related to the virus. As we continue to monitor health data, we are cautiously optimistic that things are improving. It is important to protect the health and safety of citizens and staff as we move forward and remain open for business.

Dinwiddie County values its workforce and works hard to ensure they feel appreciated. As such, we just implemented a class and compensation process, which will help make salaries of Dinwiddie County employees comparable to those of neighboring localities.

The Board of Supervisors is also committed to following the activities of the General Assembly and Congress. By working closely with the Virginia Association of Counties as well as the National Association of Counties we are lobbying to protect local government from unfair mandates and laws that would be detrimental to the citizens of Dinwiddie County.

I have spent my life farming in Dinwiddie County and have a great appreciation and respect for our natural resources. My colleagues on the Board recognize the delicate balance between protecting natural resources, respecting property rights, and providing for economic development. We are working to ensure that Dinwiddie County continues to be an extraordinary community in which to spend a lifetime.

I, and my fellow Board members, am proud of Dinwiddie's recognition for transparency in local government. We strive to continue providing clear and helpful information to citizens through public meetings, a robust website, social media pages and a Countywide newsletter. We encourage citizens to contact us before registering complaints on social media, as this is often counterproductive and breeds misinformation. Our staff is available and eager to assist as needs arise.

One of our most important responsibilities as a Board is to balance the needs of the County against the current tax rate. I am proud of the fact that we pass a balanced budget each year. This is not always easy, but is the result of dedication and teamwork among all County departments. We are stewards of the public trust and place that role above all else.

In closing, it is my honor to serve as Chairman of your Board of Supervisors. Great things are happening in Dinwiddie County, and we give all the glory to God.

Sincerely,

Harrison A. Moody, Chair
Dinwiddie County Board of Supervisors