

JLARC Meeting
September 8, 2026 – MINUTES

JLARC Members Present:

Senator Mamie E. Locke, chair; Delegate Betsy B. Carr, vice chair; Senator R. Creigh Deeds; Senator Ryan T. McDougle; Senator Jeremy S. McPike; Senator Mark D. Obenshain; Delegate Charniele L. Herring; Delegate Marcia S. Price; Delegate Sam Rasoul; Delegate Marcus B. Simon; Delegate Joshua E. Thomas; Delegate Tony O. Wilt; and Staci A. Henshaw, auditor of public accounts.

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Senator Locke, who welcomed the Commission and gave an overview of the meeting agenda. Mr. Hal Greer, JLARC director, then introduced two new JLARC staff members.

Agricultural Cost-Share Program to Improve Water Quality

Mr. Greer gave an overview of the agricultural cost-share program to improve water quality study, then introduced Ms. Lauren Axselle, who addressed the Commission and presented the report. During and following her presentation, there were several questions from Commission members. Ms. Axselle then introduced Mr. David Bulova, secretary of natural and historic resources, who addressed the Commission. At the conclusion of his presentation, there were comments and questions from Commission members.

JLARC Recommendations for Legislative Action

Mr. Greer introduced a VCU fellow who will be with JLARC for the upcoming academic year, then gave a presentation of 20 key unimplemented recommendations and opportunities for action from nine JLARC studies over the past four years. During and following the presentation, there were several questions from Commission members.

Demonstration of JLARC's Website interactive Components

Mr. Greer introduced Ms. Kimberly Sarte and Mr. Nathan Skreslet, who gave the Commission members a presentation of JLARC's website and its interactive components, including a recommendation status site that shows the implementation status of JLARC recommendations from studies over the previous four years.

Adjournment

Mr. Greer announced the next JLARC meeting on Tuesday, October 13th, at 10:00 a.m., with a subcommittee topic selection meeting just prior, at 9:30 a.m.

Senator Locke then announced Mr. Greer's intent to retire at the end of his current appointment in January 2027. She will be appointing a subcommittee to discuss how to move forward and make recommendations to the full Commission at the next JLARC meeting in October. There being no further business, Senator Locke adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m.

Approved by: Hal E. Greer
Hal E. Greer, JLARC Director

Date: 9/11/26

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