FINAL MINUTES
VIRGINIA SOYBEAN BOARD MEETING

Virtual Teams Meeting
May 18, 2026

I. **Attendance**

Board Members Present	Board Members Absent
Lynn P. Gayle, *Chairman*	Chuck McGhee
Robert Harper, *Vice Chairman*	Colin Whittington
Harrison A. Moody	Robert White, Jr.
Tom Taliaferro	
Ray Keating	
Bill Henley	
Michael Bryant	
Susan Watkins	

Staff
Laura Maxey-Nay, Program Director, VDACS

Guests
Ms. Rachel M. Gresham, Virginia Soybean Association, Goochland, VA
Mr. Jayson Gill, Farmer, Tappahannock, VA
Mr. Ronnie Gill, Farmer, Tappahannock, VA
Ms. Kathy Shamblin, Hanover-Caroline Soil & Water Conservation District, Hanover, VA

II. **Call to Order** - Chairman Gayle called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

III. **United Soybean Board Nominees**- The Board convened to name their nominees for USDA's appointment to the United Soybean Board, filling the currently vacant Virginia position. Maxey-Nay discussed the recent history of the Virginia Soybean Board's appointment to the United Soybean Board and walked attendees through the nomination process. The successful appointee will hold the position for the remainder of the two years of the vacant position's three-year term. Maxey-Nay listed her efforts in recruiting for the nominations. At the March 9, 2026, Board meeting, it was stated that other soybean groups have provided letters of recommendation from their congressman for some of the successful appointments. The Board Members discussed the option and unanimously decided that the Virginia Soybean Board is apolitical and does not wish the Virginia Soybean Association to seek letters of recommendation from politicians.

Maxey-Nay presented the Board with two individuals who were recommended by the Virginia soybean industry and who agreed to be considered for nomination: Susan Watkins and Ronnie Gill.

H. Moody made the motion that the Virginia Soybean Board name Susan Watkins as their primary nominee for USDA's appointment to the United Soybean Board and to name Ronnie Gill as their alternative. B. Henley seconded and the motion passed unanimously via roll call.

IV. **Adjournment** – There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:27 pm.