James J. L. Stegmaier recently retired as the Chesterfield County Administrator. The Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors selected him for that position in July 2007. At that time, the county, along with the nation, was faced with the greatest economic downturn in years. With a focus on fiscal stability and partnerships creating a high-performance, values-driven workplace, he built a team to produce a nationally heralded record of being one of the best communities in which to live, work and play. Stegmaier’s leadership and financial skills have made Chesterfield County a model for other local governments navigating the challenges of providing quality public services with less. Stegmaier has overseen the county’s strongest period of economic development, highlighted by the 2014 announcement of a $2 billion investment by Chinese firm Shandong Tranlin Paper Co., the largest greenfield project ever undertaken by a Chinese company in the U.S.

Prior to being named county administrator, Stegmaier served as deputy county administrator for Management Services since 1997, and, before that, directed the county’s Budget and Management Department from 1986 until that time. He earned his baccalaureate degree from the Catholic University of America in 1976,
with scholarships in engineering and psychology. He holds a master of arts degree (M.A.), in public administration from the University of Virginia where he received a Public Service Education Program Fellowship. He also attended the Government Finance Officers Association Executive Finance Institute at Georgetown University, Leadership Metro Richmond and the Senior Executive Institute at the University of Virginia.

In 2002, Stegmaier became a credentialed manager with the International City/County Management Association and has been a member of the American Society for Public Administration, among other professional affiliations.

Stegmaier has served on the boards of the Metro Richmond Convention Center Authority, United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg, The First Tee Richmond and Chesterfield, the Appomattox River Water Authority, the South Central Wastewater Authority, and the Innovation Council of Virginia Biotechnology Research Park, and was a founding member of the Capital Region Collaborative.

Stegmaier and his wife, Margot, have three adult children who attended Chesterfield County schools.